

- WHAT:** In honor of World Lung Cancer Day on August 1, 2015, the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS) and its global members including the American Thoracic Society have united to create an educational movement around its *World Lung Cancer Day 2015: Honor, Unite, Inspire* campaign.
- ABOUT:** World Lung Cancer Day is a grassroots effort, started by a lung cancer survivor and embraced by the lung cancer community. It is a day to celebrate survivors, remember those who have passed and spread awareness to the general public about lung cancer. It is a day created by, and for, people with lung cancer.
- GOAL:** The campaign aims to raise awareness about the global impact of lung cancer and encourages deeper understanding of lung cancer risk factors beyond smoking, as well as the importance of early treatment. Lung cancer is one of the deadliest cancers, and understanding this disease is key to preventing future deaths.
- STATISTICS:** The impact of lung cancer is widespread; global statistics include:
- Lung cancer is the most common cancer worldwide, accounting for 1.8 million new cases in 2012, and is responsible for nearly one in five cancer deaths.
 - Lung cancer claims more lives yearly than breast, colon, and prostate cancers combined.
 - Tobacco use is the most significant risk factor for cancer causing an estimated 70 percent of global lung cancer deaths.
 - The risk of getting lung cancer increases with age and is greater in men than in women.
 - The highest incidence of lung cancer is in North America and Europe; and the lowest incidence is in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.
- RISK FACTORS:** While smoking is widely recognized as a risk factor for lung cancer, other lesser known risks are also important:
- A history of cancer in another part of the body increases your risk.
 - If one of your parents or siblings has had lung cancer, your risk of developing lung cancer may be increased.
 - Radiation increases the risk of developing lung cancer.
 - Radon, asbestos, arsenic, beryllium and uranium have all been linked to lung cancer.
 - Diseases such as emphysema, chronic bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and TB may increase lung cancer risk by 50 percent to 100 percent.
- PARTICIPANTS:** More than 70,000 global FIRS members have united for World Lung Cancer Day, including:
- American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST)

- Asociación Latinoamericana del Thorax (ALAT)
- American Thoracic Society (ATS)
- Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology (APSR)
- European Respiratory Society (ERS)
- International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union)
- Pan African Thoracic Society (PATS)

MORE INFO:

Free resources are available to download at:

<http://www.thoracic.org/patients/patient-resources/topic-specific/lung-cancer.php>.

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