LUNG CANCER SCREENING DECISION SUPPORT

PROTOCOL & PARTICIPANT REFERRAL PROCESS

1. Overview & Strategic Purpose

Building off the success of the NAQC-led Project CONNECT initiative, QFL has partnered with the American Lung Association (ALA) to seamlessly align tobacco cessation support with critical lung cancer prevention efforts.

This strategic collaboration empowers our Quit Coaches to proactively identify at-risk participants, deliver evidence-based clinical information, and seamlessly coordinate screening resources in a way that directly reinforces ongoing cessation goals.

Clinical Note: Screening is an enhancement to—not a substitute for—quitting smoking. Cessation remains the single most effective way to lower lung cancer risk. Participants are continuously guided to complete their Phone Quit or Web Quit programs.

2. USPSTF Eligibility Criteria

In strict alignment with the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force guidelines, participants must meet all of the following criteria:

- **Age:** 50 to 80 years old.
- **Smoking History:** *≥20* pack-year history (e.g., 1 pack/day for 20 years, or 2 packs/day for 10 years).
- **Current Status:** Currently smoke or have quit smoking within the past 15 years.

3. Assessment

Quit Coaches evaluate specific intake data during enrollment to automatically calculate cumulative pack-years and verify eligibility:

DATA POINT	CONTEXT / CLINICAL PROMPT
Current Age	Confirms the participant falls within the target 50-80 range.
Cigarettes/ Day	"How many standardized cigarettes per day do you consume?"
Age Started	"At what age did you start using tobacco regularly?"
Prior Screening	Determines if an LCS was performed within the past year.

4. Participant Connection Pathway & Next Steps

When an eligible individual is identified within a state partner's quitline program, the integrated clinical protocol is activated:

1	2	3	4	5
IDENTIFICATION System identifies eligible profile	**DASHBOARD** Action card surfaces on digital hub	**ONE-CLICK** Clicks through to Lung.org/LCS-Assistance	**CONTACT** Enters basic details securely	**NAVIGATOR** Connected to an ALA Health Navigator

Digital Experience & Dashboard Engagement

Eligible participants encounter a targeted "Stay Ahead with Screening" dashboard card prompting action. By default, this directs users seamlessly to **Lung.org/LCS-Assistance**.

With minimal inputs, participants gain access to trained ALA Lung Health Navigators who coordinate local low-dose CT scans, verify insurance coverage, and facilitate physician follow-up while maintaining continuous quitline engagement.

