



The Medical **Bulletin**

In Pulmonology

Sudden, Effortless Smoking Cessation May Indicate Lung Cancer

When a patient with long-term nicotine addiction, such as the three-pack a day smoker, spontaneously decides to stop smoking in the absence of a vigorous tobacco cessation effort by the physician, **suspect lung cancer**.

Spontaneous smoking cessation may be a presenting feature of lung cancer.

She speculates that the cause is tumor secretion of a factor interfering with nicotine addiction.

These were not coughing, wheezing, dyspneic patients.

Of the 55 patients reported to quit before being diagnosed with lung cancer, 49 (89%) were asymptomatic at the time.

In another study regarding smoking cessation and lung cancer, “preliminary evidence that smoking cessation after diagnosis of early-stage lung cancer improves prognostic outcomes.”

This seems to affirm the truism that it is never too late to stop smoking

Ref (Campling, reporting at the 13th World Conference on Lung Cancer, San Francisco, July 31–August 4, 2009)

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