

Talk to Your Patients about Radon

Accessible link: https://www.cdc.gov/radon/talk-to-your-patients.html

Radon is the leading environmental cause of cancer deaths in the United States. Long-term exposure to high radon levels can cause lung cancer, including in people who have never smoked. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that 21,000 people die from radon-associated lung cancer each year.

Patients can prevent radon-associated lung cancer by testing their homes and installing radon reduction systems, if needed. Unfortunately, there is a lack of awareness about radon in the general population. As a clinician, you can help protect your patients from this risk through education and recommendations based on their specific situation.

Below is a decision tree to help guide your patient interactions about radon. You may want to begin by telling your patient about the health effects from radon exposure, or sharing educational materials. Free resources are available on CDC's Radon Communication Materials webpage (www.cdc.gov/radon/communications/index.htm).

