

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU QUIT SMOKING?

Within 20 Minutes of Last Cigarette: Blood pressure, pulse, body temperature return to normal.	<u>2 Weeks to 3 Months:</u> Circulation improves. Walking is easier. Lung function increases up to 30 percent.
<b>8 Hours:</b> Oxygen and carbon-monoxide levels in blood return to normal.	1 to 9 Months:  Coughing, sinus congestion, fatigue and shortness of breath decreases. Cilia in lungs regrow, which leads to healthier lungs. Body's overall energy level increases.
<b>24 Hours:</b> Chance of heart attack decreases.	<u>5 Years:</u> The lung-cancer death rate for an average former smoker (1 pack/day) decreases by almost half. Stroke risk is reduced to that of a non-smoker 5-15 years after quitting. The risk of cancer of the mouth, throat and esophagus is half that of a smoker's.
48 Hours:  Nerve endings start regrowing. Senses of taste and smell improve.	10 Years: The lung-cancer death rate is similar to that of a non-smoker. The precancerous cells are replaced. The risk of cancer of the mouth, throat, esophagus, bladder, kidney and pancreas decreases.
<b>72 Hours:</b> Bronchial tubes relax increasing lung capacity and making breathing easier.	<u>15 Years:</u> Your risk of heart disease is now the same as a non-smoker.

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