Lung Cancer: The 4 Key Types

Each type has a patient profile, a location and associated syndromes that identify it

AD — **Adenocarcinoma**
the most frequent · non-smokers · peripheral · pleural effusion, hypertrophic osteoarthropathy · EGFR or ALK testing for targeted therapy

SCLC — **Small cell**
central · very aggressive · paraneoplastic SIADH and ectopic ACTH · superior vena cava syndrome · chemoradiotherapy

SCC — **Squamous cell**
smokers · central · hypercalcemia from PTHrP (high Ca, low P) · Pancoast tumor

LCC — **Large cell**
peripheral · fast-growing

Non-smoker + peripheral	**Central + hormonal**	**PTHrP + Pancoast**
Adenocarcinoma	syndrome: small cell	Squamous cell

Small cell is almost never operated because it spreads early; localized non-small cell can be resected · Pancoast can cause Horner syndrome and shoulder pain