Mayo Clinic Minute

Blood-based lung cancer test shows promise

VIDEO	AUDIO
	You're looking at what could be the future of lung cancer screening.
David Ahlquist, M.D.	"This is the first study, but we were very pleased."
	Mayo Clinic researcher Dr. David Ahlquist is pleased with study results that show high accuracy for a lung cancer blood test used to look for trace amounts of specific DNA.
Title: David Ahlquist, M.D. Gastroenterology/Hepatology Mayo Clinic	"We have found markers that, at the tissue level, are perfect. They are always positive in the presence of lung cancer."
David Midthun, M.D.	"We know that we can save lives if we find it early enough."
Graphic: Blood test Early detection Improve current tests	Mayo Clinic pulmonologist Dr. David Midthun says more research is needed, but the blood test has the potential to reveal early lung cancer – when it's more treatable. And he says a blood test could improve current screening
	that uses CT scans of the lungs to check for the disease.
Title: David Midthun, M.D. Pulmonology/Critical Care Medicine Mayo Clinic	"If you have a positive CT scan, a concern on the CT, then a blood test might help sort out, "Is there a cancer present or not?"
	Dr. Ahlquist says a blood test might even be used after chemotherapy to monitor the effectiveness of a patient's treatment.
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Jeff Olsen.