# WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU QUIT SMOKING?

### **20 MINUTES**

- Blood pressure drops to normal
- Pulse rate drops to normal
- Body temperature of hands and feet increases to normal

#### 8 HOURS

- Carbon monoxide level in blood drops to normal
- Oxygen level in blood increases to normal

## 24 HOURS

Chance of heart attack decreases

#### **48 HOURS**

- Nerve endings start regrouping
- Ability to smell and taste is enhanced

### 2 WEEKS to 3 MONTHS

- Circulation improves
- Walking becomes easier
- Lung function increases up to 30 percent

### 1 to 9 MONTHS

- Coughing, sinus congestion, fatigue, and shortness of breath decrease
- Cilia regrow in lungs, increasing their ability to handle mucus, clean the lungs, and reduce infection
- Body's overall energy increases

### 1 YEAR

• Excess risk of coronary heart disease is half that of a smoker

### **5 YEARS**

- Lung-cancer death rate for average former smoker (one pack a day) decreases by almost half
- Stroke risk is reduced to that of a non-smoker 5 to 15 years after quitting
- Risk of cancer of the mouth, throat, and esophagus is half that of a smoker's

### **10 YEARS**

- Lung-cancer death rate is similar to that of a non-smoker
- Precancerous cells are replaced
- Risk of cancer of the mouth, esophagus, bladder, kidney, cervix, and pancreas decreases

# **15 YEARS**

Risk of coronary heart disease is that of a non-smoker



# WHAT'S IN CIGARETTE SMOKE?



Acetone (nail polish remover) Acetic Acid (hair dye) Ammonia (floor/toilet cleaner) Arsenic (rat poison) **Benzene** (rubber cement) Butane (cigarette lighter fluid) **Cadmium** (rechargeable batteries) Carbon Monoxide (car exhaust fumes) **DDT/Dieldrin** (insecticides) Ethanol (alcohol) Formaldehyde (used to embalm bodies) Hexamine (barbecue lighter) Hydrazine (jet and rocket fuels) Hydrogen Cyanide (gas chamber poison) Methane (swamp gas) Methanol(rocket fuel) Napthalene (mothballs) Nicotine (insecticide) Nitrobenzene (gasoline additive) Nitrous Oxide Phenols (disinfectant) **Phenol** (plastics) **Polonium** (radiation) Stearic Acid (candle wax) **Toluene** (industrial solvent) Vinyl Chloride (garbage bags and PVC2)



Acrylonitrile Arsenic Benzene **Butadiene** Cadmium **Carbon Moanoxide** Chromium Copper DDT/Dieldrin Formaldehyde Lead Magnesium Mercury Nickel Styrene Titanium Toluene Vinyl Chloride



#### **CANCER CAUSING AGENTS**

B-Napthylamine Benzo(a)pyrene Cadmium Crysenes Dibenz Acidine Nickel Nitrosamines Nitrosonornicotine Polonium 210 Toluidine Urethane



Aluminum Copper Gold Lead Magnesium Mercury Silicon Silver Titanium Zinc