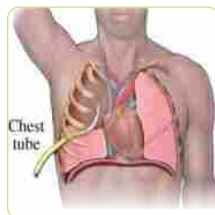


What Happens on the Day of Surgery?

Starting the night before surgery, the patient will be advised not to eat or drink anything until after the surgery. The patient should avoid wearing any make-up, nail polish, contact lenses, or dentures. Once the surgery is over, the patient will be in the recovery room for about two hours, then taken to his/her hospital room.

How quick is the recovery process after lung cancer surgery?

Immediately after the surgery, the doctor will insert chest tubes, or drains, to help remove the fluid from the patient's chest. Pain after surgery can be well-controlled because of the medicines given to the patients for pain management.



Patients will probably be in the hospital for a week, but it could be a shorter stay. Certain activities are restricted for six to eight weeks following surgery, patients are not allowed to lift anything for four weeks after the surgery, and then they can gradually increase the weight they can lift.



Shortness of breath may persist for several months following surgery and the patient may have to practice some breathing exercises. The patient may have to perform exercises once returned home to get the arms moving to prevent pain and stiffness in the shoulders.



Some patients may have to undergo further lung cancer treatment perhaps radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or a combination of both to make sure that all the cancer cells are destroyed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONSULT THE SURGEON.

When to call the surgeon

- Fever over 101.5 degrees
- Persistent, increasing pain
- Increased redness or drainage from an incision.
- Swelling in operated areas
- Difficulty in breathing
- Uncontrolled bleeding from the incision
- Persistent vomiting
- Change in mental status

DOs



Breathing exercises



Positive attitude



Diet as given by the surgeon

DON'Ts



Smoke



Lift weights

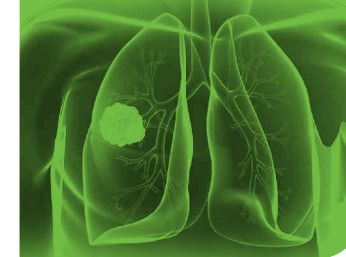


Wear any make-up, nail polish, contact lenses, or dentures on the day of surgery

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ALL YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT
**LUNG CANCER
SURGERY**

What is lung cancer?

Lung cancer is the uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells in one or both the lungs. It interferes with lung functions and may spread to other organs.



How can lung cancer be treated?

Various therapies are used for the treatment of lung cancer e.g. removal of the tumour by surgery, killing cancer cells with drugs (chemotherapy) or radiation (radiotherapy). The doctor will decide on the treatment depending on the type (non-small-cell lung cancer or small-cell lung cancer), severity, size and position of the cancer and the condition of the patients.

What is the lung cancer surgery?

Surgery is used to diagnose, stage and treat cancer, and to manage certain cancer-related symptoms. Surgery is an option for some patients depending on the type and stage of their lung cancer. It involves removal of the tumour along with the diseased part of the lung. When the cancer has not spread, removing the tumour with surgery is the most common option. Surgery may be used after other treatments or be the first step in lung cancer treatment.

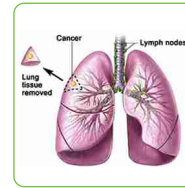
Surgery is mostly used to treat non-small cell lung cancer. Surgery is not normally used to treat small cell lung cancer, except if it is at a very early stage.

What are the types of lung cancer surgery?

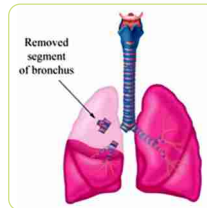
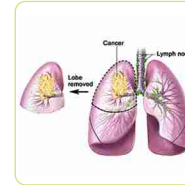
The types of lung cancer surgery differ by how much lung tissue is removed. These operations require general anaesthesia (where patients are in a deep sleep) and are usually done through a surgical cut between the ribs on the side of the chest (called a thoracotomy).

Segmentectomy or wedge resection:

in patients who have very early lung cancer, only a very small amount of the lung is removed. This is called a segmentectomy or wedge resection.

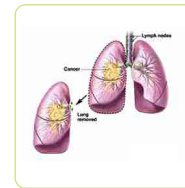


Lobectomy: The right lung has three lobes and the left lung has two. Removal of a lobe of the lung is called a lobectomy. Removal of two lobes is called a bi-lobectomy.



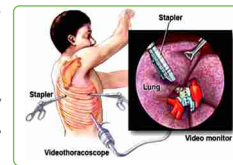
Sleeve Resection: Sometimes cancer grows in the bronchus, which is the part of the trachea (windpipe) that branches off into each lung. Surgery to remove part of the bronchus is called a sleeve resection.

Pneumonectomy: Here, the entire lung is removed. This is used when the cancer is located in the middle of the lungs or has spread throughout the lungs.



What is Video-assisted thoracic surgery?

Some early-stage lung cancers near the outside of the lungs can be treated with a procedure called video-assisted thoracic surgery (VATS), which requires smaller incisions than a thoracotomy.



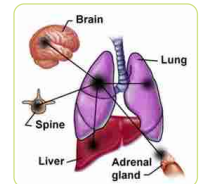
During this operation, a thin, rigid tube with a tiny video camera on the end is placed through a small cut in the side of the chest to help the surgeon to see inside the chest on a TV monitor. One or two other small cuts are created in the skin, and long instruments are passed through these cuts to do the operation.

What are the possible risks and side effects of lung surgery?

Complications during and soon after surgery depend on the extent of the surgery and the person's health before surgery. Serious complications can include excess bleeding, wound infections, and pneumonia. In case of thoracotomy, activity of the patients will be limited for at least a month or two. People who have VATS instead of thoracotomy have less pain after surgery and tend to recover more quickly.

What is a role of surgery in case of metastasis?

If the lung cancer has spread to the brain or adrenal gland and there is only one tumor, the patient may benefit from having the metastasis removed. This surgery should be considered only if the tumor in the lung can also be completely removed. Even then, not all lung cancer experts agree with this approach, especially if the tumor is in the adrenal gland.



Which tests are done before lung cancer surgery?

Several tests will be performed prior to the lung surgery so that the doctor can learn more details about the cancer & the patient's overall health. Tests such as a physical exam, medical history, blood tests, a pulmonary function test, computed tomography (CT) scan, Electrocardiogram (ECG) etc. will be performed prior to the lung cancer surgery.

