

# Request title: Lungs

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Date of Response: 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015

Further to your Freedom of Information request, the Trust has answered your questions in the order they appear in your request.

## Request and reply

1. Please tell me in which hospital department/s are the procedures called Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy usually in?  
Bronchoscopy: the majority are performed in the endoscopy suite. Some are performed in the Intensive Therapy Unit (ITU) and very rarely in theatres.  
Thoracocentesis can be performed on all wards, in the acute medical admissions ward, in radiology and in ITU.
2. Please tell me if Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy could be done by nurses, for example in Resus or Acute departments?  
Potentially yes . Bronchoscopy requires at least 3 years of training to become independently competent. Thoracocentesis requires ultrasound training and competence.
3. Please tell me if Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy could be done by Resus or Acute department doctors?  
Thoracocentesis: Yes, and is currently done by those competent in the technique with appropriate ultrasound skill.  
Bronchoscopy is not done in these departments. Need for an emergency (same day) bronchoscopy is very rare and can be carried out by respiratory team.
4. Please tell me what specialised qualification and training is required by nurses and doctors to conduct Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy?  
Competence in the technique as assessed by trainers based on multiple observations. Level 1 training in ultrasound required for Thoracocentesis.
5. Please tell what circumstances / conditions are required before Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy?  
Assessment of patient and balance of risk benefit.
6. Please tell me if Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy helps against aspiration developing into aspiration pneumonia and bronchopneumonia?  
Probably not. Rarely it might be indicated where inhalation of a foreign body that can be retrieved is suspected, but it may make things worse.
7. Please tell me how many times chest x rays, chest ct scans, chest mri scans and chest ultrasound scans of a patient is advisable inside 10 days?  
This is impossible to answer as it entirely depends on the clinical situation.
8. Please tell me how many times Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy in a patient is advisable inside 10 days?

As above, it would be rare to perform more than 2 of each procedure inside 10 days, but there may be situations where this is indicated.

9. Please tell if sedation can be used to ease patients for Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy?  
Yes, sedation can be used, and is almost always used for bronchoscopy ('conscious sedation') but is rarely needed for Thoracocentesis.
10. Please tell me the lead times / time it takes after a callout / 'beep' and referral for Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy and Chest Physiotherapy (if this depends on urgency then please tell time it takes on different urgency levels?)  
This would be dependent entirely on the urgency. Thoracocentesis can be done within 30 minutes in extreme cases (very rare). Bronchoscopy is likely to be several hours (though on ITU it can be done more or less immediately). Physio 30 minutes if urgent.
11. Are Thoracentesis and Bronchoscopy only available in ITU / ICU departments?  
No.
12. Where does your Critical Care Outreach Team sit - do they sit in ITU / ICU departments?  
The Trust does not have a Critical Care Outreach Team.