

Awake VATS can be safe option for some lung cancer patients

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(HealthDay)—Awake video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (AVATS) is

a safe and feasible technique for patients with poor lung function and lung cancer, according to a study presented recently at the annual meeting of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, held from April 28 to May 1 in San Diego.

Ara Klijian, M.D., from Sharp Grossmont Hospital in La Mesa, Calif., described outcomes for 246 patients with [lung cancer](#) who underwent AVATS.

The researchers found that the length of stay for lobectomy via AVATS was 1.6 days, even in patients with a forced expiratory volume in one second (FEV1) under 0.6. Multiple comorbidities were reported in these patients, including diabetes, chronic [obstructive pulmonary disease](#), atrial fibrillation, hypertension, and hepatic and/or renal dysfunction. Two hundred three of the 246 patients undergoing resection had FEV1

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