

New bronchoscopic option used for severe emphysema

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(HealthDay)—Temple University Hospital has become the first center in

the U.S. to perform bronchoscopic lung volume reduction using implantation of the Zephyr Endobronchial Valve (Zephyr EBV) to treat hyperinflation associated with severe emphysema. The hospital is also the first to offer training to U.S. physicians for care and management of patients who undergo this procedure.

The Zephyr EBV is placed using a bronchoscope and flexible delivery catheter. It functions as a one-way valve allowing the damaged lobe of the lung to deflate, reducing hyperinflation. The first procedure, lasting 45 minutes, was performed on Aug. 10.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted pre-market approval to the Zephyr EBV, manufactured by Pulmonx Corp., on June 29 under its breakthrough devices designation.

"This first [procedure](#) post-FDA approval is a turning point in our capabilities to treat severe [emphysema](#) using a minimally invasive bronchoscopic option," Gerard J. Criner, M.D., chair of thoracic medicine and surgery at Temple University, said in a statement. "We are very excited to be able to clinically offer this therapy to patients with [severe emphysema](#) who remain symptomatic despite optimal medical care."

More information: [More Information](#)

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