Interventional Pulmonology

Its Key Role in Diagnosing and Managing Lung Cancer and Pulmonary Nodules

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Interventional Pulmonology is a subspecialty of pulmonology

- Trained in pulmonology (lung medicine) and critical care (ICU medicine)

- Additional focused in procedures with a emphasis in cancer patients
Interventional Pulmonologist
Interventional Pulmonologist

Palliation of symptoms
“There’s a nodule in your lungs and I want you to see someone”

♦ First referrals from
  • Family physicians
  • Emergency room discharges
  • Other pulmonologists
  • Other physicians
Goals of a first time visit with us

- What have you been told and what questions do you have?

- What do I think this lesion could be and how can we be more sure
Most lung nodules are NOT malignant

“Watchful Waiting” vs Biopsy

- Shared decision making
Bronchoscopy is a camera procedure similar to a endoscopy or colonoscopy

- Safe, fast, effective
- Help diagnose and stage
- Guides treatment options
After results return

- Discussion of results
  - Diagnosis
  - Stage
  - Next steps?

- Coordination of care
  - Additional scans
  - Surgery
  - Radiation Oncology
  - Oncology
Bronchoscopy can help relieve breathlessness due to tumor within the airways
We can also help manage fluid build up around the lung

- **Trachea (windpipe)**
- **Pleura (lung lining)**
- **Lung**
- **Pleural effusion (fluid between pleural space)**
We help manage complications of lung cancer treatment

- Lung injury and scarring from radiation
- Lung injury from chemotherapy
- Infections
- Management of other lung diseases
  - COPD
  - Asthma
Thank You