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**USING THE METHOD OF VIDEO-ASSISTED THORACOSCOPIC SURGERY IN VARIOUS SPHERES OF MEDICINE**

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Pulmonolog**y** is a medical specialty that deals with diseases involving the respiratory tract. The term is derived from the Latin word *pulmō, pulmonis* ("lung"). Pulmonology is synonymous with pneumology, respirology and respiratory medicine.

Pulmonology is known as chest medicine and respiratory medicine in some countries and areas. Pulmonology is considered a branch of internal medicine, and is related to intensive care medicine. Pulmonology often involves managing patients who need life support and mechanic ventilation. Pulmonologists are specially trained in diseases and conditions of the chest, particularly pneumonia, asthma, tuberculosis, emphysema and complicated chest infections. Treatment and surgery of the most modern methods and equipment (ultrasound, video-endoscopic examinations, laser, radiofrequency)

Examination of lungs includes:

* inspection, palpation, percussion, auscultation;
* electrical impedance tomography (EIT);
* computed tomography (CT);
* video assisted thoracic surgery (VATS).

Video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS) is a minimally invasive surgical technique used to diagnose and treat problems in your chest. During a video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery procedure, a tiny camera (thoracoscope) and surgical instruments are inserted into your chest through several small incisions. The thoracoscope transmits images of the inside of your chest onto a video monitor, guiding the surgeon in performing the procedure.

Surgeons use the video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery technique to perform a variety of operations, such as:

* biopsy to diagnose lung cancer, mesothelioma and other chest cancers;
* esophagus surgery (esophagectomy);
* hiatal hernia;
* lungs surgery, such as surgery to treat lung cancer and lung volume reduction;
* thymus gland removal surgery (thymectomy);
* procedures to remove excess fluid or air from the area around the lungs;
* surgery to relieve excessive sweating.