

Life-Extending Care for Patients With Lung Disease

The Northwestern Medicine Lung Transplant Program offers leading-edge therapy to patients with terminal lung illnesses. Lung transplant has an impressive record in prolonging life and improving quality of life for patients with end-stage lung diseases.*

The program is led by Rade Tomic, MD, and Ankit Bharat, MD, two of a select group of experts in lung transplant in the U.S.

Northwestern Medicine's multidisciplinary team of lung transplant physicians is experienced in all manner of advanced lung disease, including:

Adult cystic fibrosis
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
Interstitial lung disease
Primary and secondary pulmonary hypertension
Alpha 1 anti-trypsin deficiency
Bronchiectasis
Histiocytosis
Pulmonary fibrosis
Sarcoidosis
Scleroderma and other connective tissue diseases

Meet the directors



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To learn more about the Northwestern Medicine Lung Transplant Program at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, call 312.695.LUNG (5864) or visit lungtransplant.nm.org.

Life-Extending Care for Patients With Lung Disease (continued)

Among the leading-edge treatments we offer:

Lung volume reduction, performed by a thoracic surgeon, to improve quality of life in patients with COPD.

Interventional bronchoscopy with bronchial dilatations, stent placement and endobronchial laser procedures performed by an interventional pulmonologist.

Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), for sudden (acute) lung failure, in which an innovative device provides direct oxygenation to blood to extend life while awaiting a transplant. The ECMO allows patients to move, eat and even gain strength, in contrast to a traditional ventilator that can damage lungs by pushing air into them.

Additional innovations are in development:

Ex vivo lung perfusion may lead to better ways to keep lungs stable during transplant. It is FDA-approved, and we are ready to become one of the clinical trial centers.

We are conducting genomic studies and immunosuppression research that will ultimately lead to more successful lung transplant outcomes.

*Source: Thabut G, Mal H. Outcomes after lung transplantation. J Thorac Dis. 2017;9(8):2684-2691.

Multidisciplinary team approach

We have assembled an extraordinary team of specialists to care for patients and families before, during and after lung transplant.

Our team includes:

Renowned pulmonologists and lung surgeons

Consulting specialists in pulmonary, cardiac, renal, liver and infectious diseases

Primary care physicians

Cardiologists

Emergency medicine physicians

Nurse practitioners

Intensive care physicians

Social workers

Nutritionists

Patient liaisons

Pathologists

We believe in continual, open communication with referring physicians so that they may remain involved in every step of your care. Services are delivered at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, the No. 1 ranked hospital in Illinois with a nationally ranked Pulmonology program according to *U.S. News & World Report*, 2019-2020.

