Thoracic surgeons at Rush are nationally recognized leaders in both minimally invasive and traditional approaches to diagnosing and treating cancer and other disorders of the lungs, esophagus, pleura, chest wall and mediastinum.

Rush thoracic surgeons take a multidisciplinary approach by working closely with colleagues in gastroenterology, oncology, pulmonology, radiation oncology, ENT and primary care to ensure that our patients receive comprehensive, innovative and supportive care.

Why refer your patients here?

Nationally recognized clinical care: *U.S. News & World Report* ranks Rush University Medical Center 28th in the nation for pulmonology and lung surgery.

Experts in thoracic surgery: The expertise of our doctors enables us to offer personalized patient care with highly effective treatments and individual approaches. We perform more than 1000 lung surgeries each year, and have the most experience in Chicago using video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS), a minimally invasive surgical procedure to diagnose and treat lung cancer and other thoracic conditions.

Rush has received the highest rating possible of three stars for lobectomy by The Society of Thoracic Surgeons. This honor is given to only the top 5% of thoracic surgery programs in the United States and Canada.

Surgeons at Rush perform 92.4% of lobectomies for stage I lung cancer in a minimally invasive fashion, compared to less than 60% nationally.

Immediate access for your patients: We are often able to book an appointment for your patient within 24-48 hours of receiving a referral and, in many cases, the same day. We offer convenient locations around Chicago and provide in-person consultations, video visit consultations and multidisciplinary conferences.

Locations: Our providers are available to see patients at a number of convenient Rush locations in Chicago, Aurora/Fox Valley and across the suburbs.

Learn more:
rush.edu/thoracic-surgery-services
Conditions treated

- Achalasia
- Barrett’s esophagus
- Benign tumor
- Chest wall tumors
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Esophageal cancer
- Esophageal strictures
- Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD)
- Hemothorax
- Hyperhidrosis
- Lung cancer
- Lung nodules
- Mediastinal masses
- Mediastinal tumor
- Mesothelioma
- Myasthenia gravis
- Paraesophageal hernias
- Pectus excavatum
- Pleural effusion
- Pleurisy
- Pneumothorax
- Subglottic stenosis
- Thoracic outlet syndrome
- Tracheal tumors
- Tuberculosis (TB)

Tests and treatments

- Bronchoscopy
- Decortication
- Diaphragmatic plication
- Endobronchial ultrasound
- Esophagoscopy
- Lobectomy
- Lung resection
- Magnetic sphincter augmentation (LINX Procedure)
- Mediastinoscopy
- Nissen fundoplication
- Pericardial window
- Pneumonectomy
- Robotic surgery
- Stent replacement
- Sympathectomy
- Reconstructive surgery
- Robot-assisted thoracic surgery
- Thoracotomy
- Tracheal resection
- Transoral Incisionless
- Fundoplication (TIF)
- Tube thoracostomy
- Video-Assisted Thorascopic Surgery (VATS)

Our team

- Michael Liptay, MD
- Gillian Alex, MD
- Nicole Geissen, DO
- Justin Karush, DO
- Christopher Seder, MD