

# Your Lungs

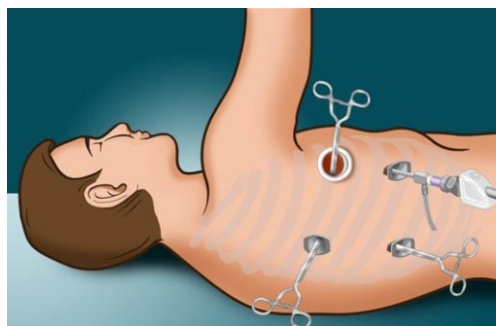
## The benefits of performing minimally invasive thoracic procedures

These are immense compared to the traditional way of working within the chest (known as a thoracotomy.) Not only are the incisions much smaller, causing much less tissue trauma, but one also avoids spreading the ribs apart with a heavy metal retractor. This causes markedly less pain and reduces the length of recovery; promoting a much quicker return to active life, work and driving. Furthermore, the incidence of chronic pain, seen in approximately 20% of patients with a traditional thoracotomy, is rarely seen after minimally invasive thoracic surgery.

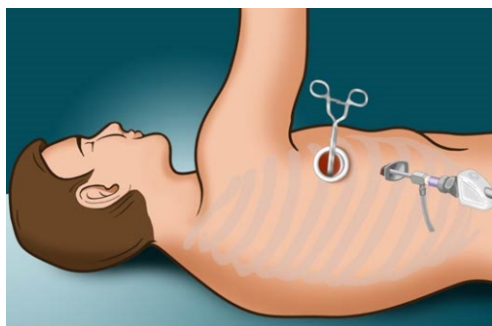
Please note: Although Dr Davidson always strives to perform his thoracic work using a minimally invasive technique; this may not always be possible. There are occasions where one has to convert to a traditional thoracotomy; either due to technical difficulties or to control bleeding. The risk of conversion to a major thoracotomy is in the order of 5%.

At your first consultation, Dr Davidson will discuss in depth the possibility of performing your operation utilising a minimally invasive technique. He will also inform you of the more common risks and benefits of the procedure. Please feel free to discuss any treatment options, worries or concerns with him during this consultation.

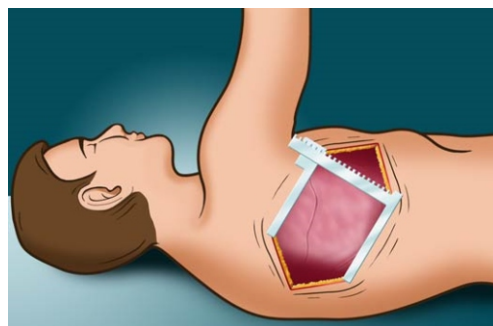
## Difference between a traditional thoracotomy vs VATS incisions (Minimally invasive lung work)



Multi-Port VATS



Uniportal VATS



Traditional Thoracotomy

## Different Lung Resections



Wedge Resection



Segmentectomy



Lobectomy



Pneumonectomy