

Preface

Treatment of End-Stage Emphysema



Stephen R. Hazelrigg, MD Traves D. Crabtree, MD
Editors

Surgical management of end-stage emphysema has been and continues to be both interesting and ever changing. The modern-day surgical treatment began in the early 1990s using laser techniques to try to cause some volume reduction. This was followed by more effective stapled resection of the emphysematous areas and better understanding of proper patient selection. More recently, we have seen the introduction of endobronchial valves and other novel treatments trying to achieve results less invasively. This issue of *Thoracic Surgery Clinics* attempts to provide the most current data available and opinions on surgical options and the most appropriate treatments.

The most recent and up-to-date literature is provided in this issue, and it includes discussions on outcomes as well as indications for lung volume reduction surgery, endobronchial valves, and other novel treatments. Economic considerations are explored, and we attempt to provide a glimpse into what our experts see in the future for the treatment of emphysema.

Areas such as how best to treat emphysema patients with the various options, particularly trying to decide between lung volume reduction surgery and endobronchial valves, are continually evolving. Having a cohesive and comprehensive multidisciplinary program that offers all the options would appear to be an important step in providing the best treatment.

I think this issue provides a comprehensive review for those interested in the topic of emphysema and the options for intervention. I trust it will be both educational and entertaining.

I am very appreciative of all the authors for their contributions to this issue of *Thoracic Surgery Clinics*.

It is not hard to imagine that this area will see a large increase in both interest and treatment in the future.

Stephen R. Hazelrigg, MD
SIU Healthcare
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Department of Surgery
701 North First Street
PO Box 19679
Springfield, IL 62794-9679, USA

Traves D. Crabtree, MD
SIU HealthCare
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Department of Surgery
701 North First Street
PO Box 19679
Springfield, IL 62794-9679, USA

E-mail addresses:

shazelrigg@siumed.edu (S.R. Hazelrigg)
tcrabtree53@siumed.edu (T.D. Crabtree)