

# Cancer Surgery Thoracotomy/ Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery and Lobectomy

## Actual Patient Waits for Procedures Performed (01JUL2023 to 31DEC2023)

Area of Service	Patients completed	Within 3 weeks	4-6 weeks	7 weeks-3 months	4 - 6 months	Longer than 6 months	Patients Waiting on 31DEC2023
03 Saskatoon	65	34%	55%	11%	0%	0%	8
06 Regina	14	Data suppressed	because < 20	procedures	performed.		< 5
99 All SK hospitals	79	46%	46%	9%	0%	0%	9

† 90% of cases were performed within 42 days (6.0 weeks).

### Notes:

- ◆ These procedures are performed by thoracic or cardiothoracic surgeons. These surgeons are listed under cardiovascular surgery in Regina and general surgery in Saskatoon.
- ◆ A thoracotomy is an incision into a chest wall to gain access to the chest cavity. The most common cancer to require a thoracotomy is lung cancer.
- ◆ Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery (VATS) is a less invasive procedure than a thoracotomy. VATS uses small incisions and the ribs are spread apart to access the lungs.
- ◆ A lobectomy is the removal of a section (lobe) of a lung. It can be performed by open chest surgery (thoracotomy) or through VATS.
- ◆ Cancer surgery data is based on procedures performed in hospital operating rooms. 65% of all these lung procedures performed in operating rooms over this time period were categorized as cancer surgeries. Only cancer surgeries are included in this table.
- ◆ 57% of these lung procedures reported here were categorized with a surgeon priority of three weeks. The remainder have a surgeon priority of six weeks or three months. Emergency procedures are excluded. Some further work has to be done to ensure that the cancer categories are being consistently interpreted.
- ◆ Time periods where patients specify that they are unavailable for surgery are subtracted from the wait time.
- ◆ Postponed cases are included, regardless of whether the reason for postponement is patient or system related.
- ◆ The results are based on the Jan 21, 2024 refresh of the Saskatchewan Surgical Patient Registry data mart and are subject to minor changes as data is added or corrected.