

“COVID has been a challenge and will continue to be a challenge. We are seeing patients facing the effects of COVID up to 18 months later.”

The Penn Highlands Post-COVID Care Center is based out of Penn Highlands DuBois and led by Dr. Bansal and his team. The Post-COVID Care Center offers patients treatment information and provides early intervention for possible long-term complications.

All post-COVID patients are initially seen by the COVID Practitioner at the Lung Center. Dr. Bansal and his team, continue to see these patients primarily via telemedicine service, however, when necessary, they may see the patient in person if that patient is 30 days out from a positive test. When patients meet the criteria to be seen outside of telemedicine services, they'll see a team at the Lung Center at Penn Highlands DuBois or at our satellite locations in Brookville, St. Marys, Clearfield, Philipsburg, Huntingdon, Punxsutawney, or Clarion.

PATIENT CARE BEYOND COVID

“Patients can be seen in any of the satellite clinics of the Lung Center, as well as seek telehealth options for those unable to travel.”

“There were not many centers in the country that were providing post COVID care. We would get calls from upstate New York and New Jersey. We get close to 30 new referrals each month. A patient can be seen in any of the satellite clinics of the Lung Center. Telehealth health offers the ability to seek COVID care if a patient cannot travel to seek treatment.”

—Sandeep Bansal, MD, FCCP, FACP
Medical Director, The Lung Center
& Interventional Pulmonologist at
Penn Highlands Healthcare



Penn Highlands Lung Center Locations

The Lung Center
100 Hospital Avenue
DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-3770

Penn Highlands Lung Center-Brookville
A Service of Penn Highlands DuBois
88 Hospital Road, 2nd Floor
Brookville, PA 15825
814-375-3770

Penn Highlands Lung Center-Clarion
A Service of Penn Highlands DuBois
265 Holiday inn Road, Route 68
Clarion, PA 16214
814-375-3770

Penn Highlands Lung Center-Clearfield
A Service of Penn Highlands DuBois
531 Hannah Street, Suite C
Clearfield, PA 16830
814-375-3770

Penn Highlands Lung Center- Huntingdon
A Service of Penn Highlands DuBois
820 Bryan Street, Suite 1
Huntingdon, PA 16652
814-375-3770

Penn Highlands Lung Center-Philipsburg
A Service of Penn Highlands DuBois
271 Railroad Street
Philipsburg, PA 16866
814-375-3770

Penn Highlands Lung Center- Punxsutawney
A Service of Penn Highlands DuBois
551 W. Mahoning Street
Punxsy Plaza
Punxsutawney, PA 15767
814-375-3770

Penn Highlands Lung Center- St. Marys
A Service of Penn Highlands DuBois
1100 Million Dollar Highway, Suite 3
St. Marys, PA 15857
814-375-3770

Penn Highlands Lung Center- State College
A Service of Penn Highlands DuBois
611 University Drive, Suite 212
State College, PA 16801
814-375-3770

**PENN HIGHLANDS HEALTHCARE
FUND DEVELOPMENT**

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Lung cancer is the number one cancer killer in the United States, causing more deaths than breast, colon and prostate cancer combined. New lung cancer screening tests and treatments for early stage lung cancer are saving lives. Penn Highlands Healthcare offers several tests to help detect lung cancer and start treatment as soon as possible.



LUNG SERVICES

“As our footprint expands within Penn Highlands Healthcare, we are happy to bring advanced technology services to small community hospitals.”

Penn Highlands DuBois was the first hospital in this region to offer **CT Lung Cancer Screening**, to detect lung cancer before symptoms begin. Detection of lung cancer utilizing the CT Lung Cancer Screening, gives 60-70 percent of cancers the ability to be diagnosed in stage one or two, prior to symptoms occurring. Without the CT Lung Screen, Dr. Bansal said, the patient outcome would be the opposite. Low-dose CT lung screenings are offered at Lung Center locations at Penn Highlands Brookville, Clearfield, DuBois, Elk and Huntingdon.

The addition of the **SPiN Access Catheter** to the Lung Center at Penn Highlands DuBois, allows physicians to diagnose and guide treatment of smaller, early-stage lung cancer lesions. The Lung Center at Penn Highlands DuBois, was the first hospital ever, to use this new technology, which makes early detection and treatment of lung cancer more likely, than with a traditional bronchoscopy procedure. A catheter is used to biopsy small lung nodules and offers a more accurate 3D map for navigation.

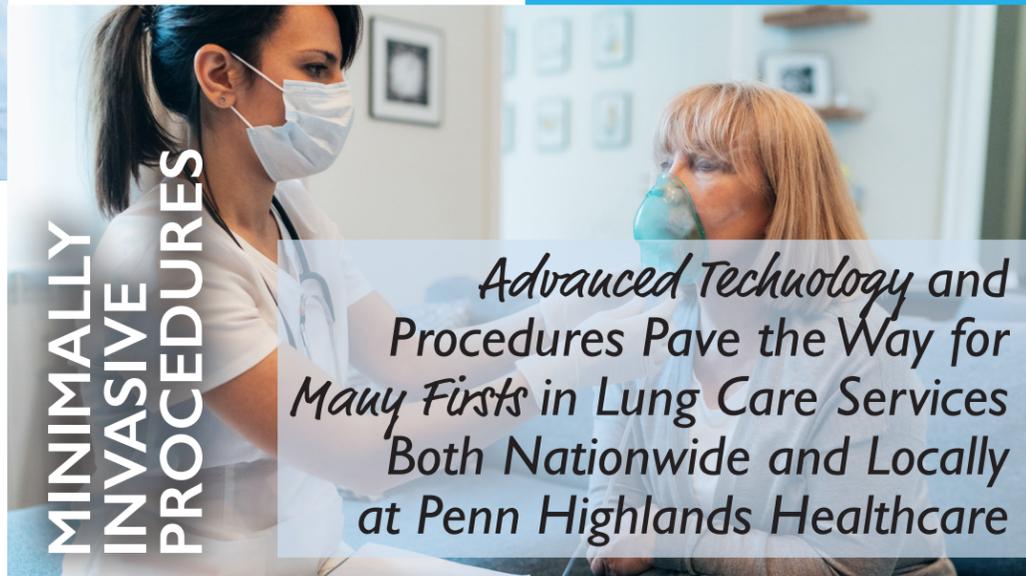
The Lung Center at Penn Highlands DuBois, was among the first hospitals in the United States to offer **Monarch robotic-assisted bronchoscopy**. This cutting edge technology, aides in the detection and treatment of lung cancer. The bendable bronchoscope, gives pulmonologists greater visualization, to identify access to a patient’s airway. During the procedure, the surgeon uses the camera and robotic controls, to navigate the small tube into the lungs, and then uses a needle to extract tissue for a biopsy.

Minimally Invasive Lung Procedure offers Potential to Improve Quality of Life

Penn Highlands DuBois was the first hospital in the region, to offer **bronchoscopic lung volume reduction**, using the first lung valve approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for helping emphysema patients breathe easier without major surgery. This minimally invasive option can offer an improved quality of life with excellent patient outcomes.

“We are always looking at expanding robotics and adding more technology to the existing platform. There is a lot of advancement coming on the genomics side, looking at genetic markers for more targeted treatment rather than a broad approach to chemotherapy. There will be more therapeutic modalities available as well. If early stage lung cancer exists and a patient cannot get surgery, there would be other advanced treatment options.”

—Sandeep Bansal, MD, FCCP, FACP
Medical Director, The Lung Center & Interventional Pulmonologist at Penn Highlands Healthcare



MINIMALLY INVASIVE PROCEDURES

Advanced Technology and Procedures Pave the Way for Many Firsts in Lung Care Services Both Nationwide and Locally at Penn Highlands Healthcare

There are few treatment options for most patients with emphysema and there is no cure. Until now, the only other options for these patients were highly invasive treatments such as lung volume reduction surgery or lung transplantation.

The **Zephyr Endobronchial Valve**, is a minimally invasive bronchoscopic treatment option that can improve patients’ quality of life by allowing them to breathe easier. The one-time procedure, is completed during a simple bronchoscopy that doesn’t require any cutting or incisions. During the procedure, tiny valves are placed in the airways, to block off the diseased parts of the lungs. Keeping air from getting trapped in the diseased parts of the lungs, allows the healthier parts of the lungs to expand and take in more air. This results in patients being able to breathe easier and experience less shortness of breath.

Bronchial Thermoplasty is a breakthrough procedure for severe persistent asthma in patients not well controlled with medication. To perform bronchial thermoplasty, the doctor places a standard flexible bronchoscope, or tube, into the lungs. He then expands the bronchoscope and applies radiofrequency heat energy to the airway wall. This reduces the smooth muscles in the airway, resulting in less constriction. Bronchial Thermoplasty is proven to reduce asthma attacks and respiratory-related emergency room visits. It also has been shown to decrease the number of missed days of work, school, or activity for people with severe asthma.



TREATMENT AND SURGERY OPTIONS

“I’ve seen people get a second lease on life, now they can spend more time with their families and be more productive”

Conditions treated by the Lung Center at PHH

The pulmonary care team at The Lung Center diagnose and treat various types of pulmonary conditions. The most common breathing problems or lung conditions include:

- Asthma
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Emphysema, a severe form of COPD
- Lung cancer
- Lung infections, such as pneumonia
- Shortness of breath, typically caused by one of the above conditions

Types of Lung Surgery Performed at the Lung Center

At the Lung Center, thoracic surgeons perform many types of surgery, including some minimally invasive procedures including:

- Surgery to treat cancer, esophageal cancer, and other cancers of the thoracic wall
- Surgery for gastroesophageal reflux
- Surgery for complex lung infections
- Bronchial Thermoplasty for patients with severe asthma
- Minimally invasive thoracoscopic procedures

