

2.20 Perceptions and knowledge of lung volume reduction procedures for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in the Republic of Ireland: a survey of respiratory healthcare professionals.

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Background: Lung volume reduction (LVR) procedures can improve quality of life and survival in appropriately selected individuals with emphysema [1,2]. LVR is recommended in national and international guidelines for the management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [3,4]. Between 2016 and 2023, less than 300 procedures were completed by the national LVR service in the Mater Hospital, Dublin. This survey of Irish Thoracic Society members aimed to explore respiratory healthcare professionals' knowledge of the LVR referral pathway and criteria, and to identify any obstacles which are currently limiting referral for LVR.

Methods: An online survey was developed and distributed in April 2023.

Results: There were 84 responses, with a 20% response rate. Most respondents are aware of the LVR service, with 30% reporting good knowledge of the eligibility criteria and 18% reporting good understanding of the referral pathway. Appropriate patient selection and surgical complications are the main concerns cited by respondents.

Conclusions: The survey data suggests that work is needed to develop the knowledge and understanding of LVR procedures and processes in ROI. There is need for educational resources with focus on the eligibility criteria and referral pathway for LVR.

Keywords: COPD, Lung Volume Reduction.

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