

# THORACOTOMY

*Meaning: Thoracotomy is a surgical procedure involving an incision into the chest wall to access the thoracic cavity, often for operations on the lungs or heart.*

1. A thoracotomy is often performed to access the lungs for surgical procedures.
2. The surgeon explained that a thoracotomy would allow for better visualization of the heart.
3. Patients undergoing a thoracotomy should be aware of the potential risks involved.
4. After the thoracotomy, the recovery process can be quite extensive and requires careful monitoring.
5. In emergency situations, a thoracotomy may be necessary to relieve pressure from a collapsed lung.

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