

**NICOSIA GENERAL HOSPITAL
PULMONOLOGY CLINIC**
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BRONCHOSCOPY

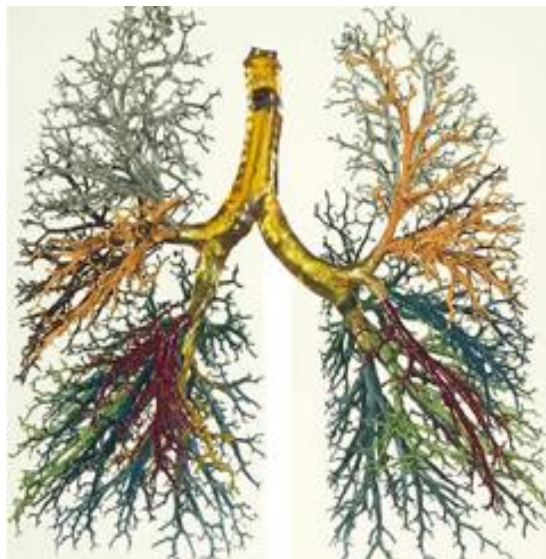


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**What we need to know about
the exam**

WHAT EXACTLY IS BRONCHOSCOPY?

Bronchoscopy is a medical examination of the respiratory system (including nose, pharynx, larynx, trachea, and lungs) performed using a specialized instrument called a bronchoscope. This device is a thin, flexible tube equipped with a light source at its tip, allowing the Pulmonologist to visually inspect internal structures of the respiratory tract.



In addition to visual observation, the bronchoscope enables the Pulmonologist to collect samples from the lungs for diagnostic purposes, such as secretions (sputum), biopsies, and to remove foreign bodies or clear the lungs of mucus or blood clots.

Within the aid of Laser technology, the Pulmonologist may also perform interventions on lung tumors, often allowing patients to avoid major surgical procedures.

Collected samples may be sent for microbiological, cytological or histological analysis, assisting the Pulmonologist in establishing a diagnosis.

In some cases, bronchoscopy may not reveal significant pathological findings, prompting the Pulmonologist to proceed with alternative diagnostic tests to reach a final conclusion.



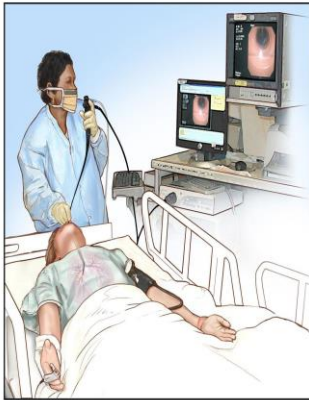
HISTORY OF BRONCHOSCOPE

The first official presentation of the Bronchoscope was made by Dr. Ikeda in 1970 in the United States, although the concept was introduced nearly a century earlier by Tundall. Since then, the instrument has undergone continuous refinement, offering Pulmonologists remarkable diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities.



WHEN IS BRONCHOSCOPY RECOMMENDED?

- **Presence of respiratory symptoms such as cough, shortness of breath, hemoptysis, excessive secretions (sputum), wheezing (breath wheezing or hoarseness**
- **Abnormal chest X-Ray findings**
- **Lung injury due to trauma, chemical exposure, or thermal burns**
- **Suspicion of a pulmonary tumor**
- **Monitoring the progression of lung cancer or response to treatment**
- **Suspected presence of a foreign body in the lungs**
- **Therapeutic purposes such as secretion removal, Laser application or electrocautery**
- **Placement of an endotracheal tube**



Trachea

Bronchi

Biopsy forceps

Bronchoscope



Are there Risks associated with Bronchoscopy?

Bronchoscopy is an invasive procedure and, as such, may involve certain complications, including:

- *Allergic reactions to medications used during the procedure, such as local anesthetics or sedatives*
- *Nausea or vomiting (patients must arrive fasting for the procedure)*
- *Blood pressure or heart rhythm disturbances. (Pulmonologist ensures these factors are well-controlled prior to the procedure)*
- *Intense anxiety*

Generally, bronchoscopy is considered a safe procedure with a low complication rate, as patients are carefully selected and any coexisting conditions – such as coronary artery disease, hypertension, diabetes, asthma, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease – must be well managed beforehand.

The Pulmonology Department at Nicosia General Hospital operates a dedicated Bronchoscopy Unit located on the hospital's first floor.