

STS Measure – Air Leak Greater than Five Days

Title	Lobectomy – Air Leak Greater than 5 Days
Description	Percentage of patients who underwent lobectomy surgery for lung cancer who have a post-operative air leak greater than 5 days.
Denominator	Number of patients who underwent lobectomy surgery for lung cancer.
Denominator Time Window	12 months
Numerator	Number of patients who underwent lobectomy surgery for lung cancer who have a post-operative air leak greater than 5 days.
Exclusions	None
Rationale	Air leak following lobectomy is associated with more patient complications and a longer length of stay.
Evidence	<p>Benchmark: 11.5% (STS Spring 2017 report)</p> <p>Air leak occurrence following lobectomy is not uncommon, with a prevalence of 58%. When air leaks occurs they can lead to additional complications and a longer length of stay. While self – limiting in most patients they are associated with more complications (30% vs 18%, $p = 0.07$) and protracted hospital course ($p = 0.02$).</p> <p>The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, Characterization and Importance of Air Leak After Lobectomy Ikenna Okereke, MD, Sudish C. Murthy, MD, PhD, Joan M. Alster, MS, Eugene H. Blackstone, MD, Thomas W. Rice, MD April 2005 Volume 79, Issue 4, Pages 1167–1173</p>