What Is Endobronchial Valve or EBV Therapy? A minimally invasive treatment option for patients with severe COPD or emphysema

Evidence: 2018 FDA approval, GOLD evidence level A

How does it work? EBV therapy is a one-way valve implant placed during Bronchoscopic Lung Volume Reduction. Implanted in the target bronchus during a bronchoscopy, the valve vents air out of the treated lobe during exhalation but does not allow refilling of this region of the lung during inhalation. This one-hour procedure reduces hyperinflation (trapped air) in the lung and eases symptoms of COPD without major surgery. The value is designed to be a permanent implant, but it can be removed, if necessary.

Key patient criteria:
- □ Confirmed diagnosis of severe COPD or emphysema
- □ Breathless despite optimal medical management (mMRC>2)
- □ FEV1 < 50% predicted
- □ Non-smoking or willing to quit smoking

4 out of 5 patients will have an improvement in one:
1. Shortness of breath
2. Exercise tolerance
3. Lung function

Risks: In clinical trials, 3 out of 10 patients had a pneumothorax.

Coverage: Most insurance companies, including Medicare, cover EBV therapy.

Learn more at Lung.org | 1-800-LUNGUSA