



Early answers, better outcomes: Ion robotic assisted bronchoscopy at MercyOne Northeast Iowa

At MercyOne it's our mission to combine next-level technology with compassionate care that is facilitated by our providers.

Facts:

- Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the United States for both men and women
- Iowa has one of the highest rates of new cancer cases in the United States, ranking second highest nationally
- The Ion is a major investment at MercyOne Northeast Iowa

What is Ion and how does it work?

- A minimally invasive procedure that uses robotic endoluminal technology to assist in diagnosing and treating lung conditions
- A thin, flexible catheter is used to navigate deep into the peripheral airways of the lungs to take tissue samples (biopsies) from hard-to-reach nodules
- Fiber optic shape sensing technology provides precise location, shape and orientation information throughout the navigation and biopsy

Ion benefits compared to traditional biopsy:

- Early detection/diagnosis, which can improve outcomes
- Minimally invasive
- Improved accuracy/precision
- Access to hard-to-reach areas
- Reduced risks
- Reduced recovery times
- Reduced complications such as pneumothorax (collapsed lung)
- Less pain and discomfort
- Shorter recovery time and less time off work

Accessibility:

Now here locally, currently this type of treatment requires travel for those living in Cedar Falls, Waterloo and surrounding communities

The MercyOne pulmonology team:

- Includes (left to right): John Sherret, DO, Colleen Overdorf, DO, Alhassan Badahman, MD and David Visokey, DO

