



Lakeway Regional Medical Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery Offered at Lakeway Regional Medical Center

Lakeway, TX (February 28, 2014) — Surgeons at Lakeway Regional Medical Center have introduced an advanced approach to surgery for lung cancer that uses minimally invasive techniques to eliminate the need for traditional, large incisions. Removal of a lobe of the lung that contains lung cancer, often referred to as “open” lobectomy, is commonly performed through a large chest incision, with associated pain and extended recovery.

In contrast to the “open” approach, Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery (MITS) uses specialized optical equipment and instruments to remove the lung cancer, surrounding lung, and lymph nodes through small incisions that do not require rib-spreading or major division of chest muscles. A significantly different approach to the traditional technique, MITS offers a shorter recovery time, less pain, and fewer potential complications.

LRMC thoracic surgeons have been using the MITS approach since the hospital opened, and most recently, minimally invasive, video-assisted lobectomy for lung cancer has become the latest addition to the innovative service line. Dr. Mark L. Jayawant, thoracic surgeon and participant in LRMC’s LUNG Health Program, has overseen the development of the LRMC MITS program.

“Minimally invasive lobectomy is a safe, effective, and less painful alternative to traditional surgery. Standard approaches with larger incisions are not necessary in many cases,” says Dr. Jayawant.

Lakeway Regional Medical Center has launched a LUNG Health Program for the Lake Travis community. The program is a collaborative effort that brings together LRMC experts in thoracic imaging, pulmonary medicine, medical oncology, radiation oncology and thoracic surgery and is designed to assess patients at high risk for developing lung disease.

Dr. Jayawant says that, in addition to the treatment of lung cancer, his team uses minimally invasive approaches to treat many different lung processes, avoiding the need for rib spreading, larger incisions, and a longer hospitalization.

For more information about the LUNG Health Program and how to get screened for Lung Cancer, please call (512) 571-LUNG.

About Lakeway Regional Medical Center

Lakeway Regional Medical Center brings experience, advanced technology and best practices to provide high-

quality care for patients. Since opening in April 2012, LRMC has been providing comprehensive, compassionate and modern medical treatment. As a full-service hospital with board-certified physicians, LRMC manages everything from emergencies to outpatient procedures. Ranked among the top 10 percentile of hospitals nationwide by Healthstream, an independent research company for outpatient services in 2012. For more information about LRMC, visit lakewayregional.com or call 512-571-5000.