



## UNIPORTAL VIDEO ASSISTED THORACOSCOPY IN PEDIATRICS

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**OBJECTIVES:** Single port thoracoscopic surgery is developing, enhancing the advantages of multi-portal VATS. Although becoming a well-recognised approach for adult patients, Extremely Limited literature exists concerning uniportal VATS in the pediatric population. This study aims to present our 4 years experience with this approach in a single tertiary hospital and extrapolate its feasibility and safety in this specific context.

**METHODS:** Preoperative parameters, operative details and surgical outcomes of Pediatric patients aged below 18 years who underwent an intercostal or subxiphoid uniportal VATS surgery in a 4-year period reviewed retrospectively. The median length of follow-up was 13 months.

**RESULTS:** 188 pediatric patients underwent different uniportal VATS operation for different types of pathology. The median age was (3.5 y). Median operating time was 116 minutes. 6 cases were converted to open thoracotomy. The mortality rate was zero. The median length of stay was five days. Three patients presented complications. Three patients lost from follow up.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Despite literature data heterogeneity, these results provide support to the feasibility and applicability of uniportal VATS in the pediatric population. Further studies are required to explore the benefit of uniportal over multi-portal VATS (including chest wall deformities, cosmesis and quality of life).