

BREATHE AGAIN: LA GENERAL IS TRANSFORMING LUNG CARE FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY



Lung disease doesn't wait—and neither does LA General Medical Center. With the launch of Breathe Again: A Flagship Lung-Health Initiative, LA General is redefining what equitable, advanced lung care looks like for some of California's most vulnerable communities.

At the center of this initiative is robotic bronchoscopy with 3D imaging, a groundbreaking technology that functions like a GPS for the lungs. This system allows physicians to navigate deep into lung tissue and biopsy even the smallest lesions with unprecedented precision. LA General is the first county health system in California to deliver this level of high-acuity lung care in-house—reducing costs, accelerating diagnosis, and offering patients a critical opportunity for early, life-saving treatment.

In just two years, LA General's interventional pulmonology team has performed more than 250 life-saving procedures, fast-tracked genetic testing, and built a model of care designed for the patients who need it most—from people experiencing homelessness to those in custody.

A dedicated service coordinator guides each patient through the entire care pathway, ensuring timely appointments, reducing unnecessary emergency visits, and helping patients access the follow-up treatment they need. The result: a streamlined, patient-centered system that breaks down barriers and brings specialty care directly to communities who have historically been left behind.

Advancing Care While Training the Next Generation

Breathe Again is not only transforming patient care today—it is shaping the future of lung health. LA General is training the next generation of interventional pulmonologists in cutting-edge, minimally invasive techniques that detect lung cancer earlier and with greater accuracy than ever before. This work reinforces LA General's commitment to innovation, equity, and exceptional care, proving that high-tech, high-touch medicine can thrive in a public hospital setting.

A New Vision for Lung Health

At LA General, we're not just treating lungs—we're reimagining what advanced, equitable care can look like. Through Breathe Again, we are delivering world-class innovation to the communities that need it most and ensuring every patient has a fair chance to breathe easier, heal faster, and live longer.