

Clearing blocked airways: A Dutch study on a new bronchoscopy treatment

Submission date 31/01/2025	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	☐ Prospectively registered ☐ Protocol
Registration date 28/02/2025	Overall study status Ongoing	☐ Statistical analysis plan ☐ Results
Last Edited 18/02/2026	Condition category Respiratory	☐ Individual participant data ☒ Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Central airway obstruction occurs in the trachea and main bronchi and can occur due to malignant and non-malignant causes. It can lead to severe respiratory symptoms. Treatment is often physician-dependent due to a lack of standardized guidelines. This study aims to systematically document the clinical, anatomical, and procedural characteristics of central airway obstruction patients undergoing therapeutic bronchoscopy in the Netherlands. Secondary objectives include evaluating procedure-related complications and identifying prognostic factors.

Who can participate?

Patients diagnosed with central airway obstruction who require therapeutic bronchoscopy, as determined by their treating physician, will be eligible for inclusion. Both flexible and rigid bronchoscopies will be considered.

What does the study involve?

Participants will undergo bronchoscopy, with data collection including patient demographics, obstruction characteristics, treatment details and outcomes. The study will follow standardized definitions and protocols to ensure consistency across participating centers.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

This is a registry study that will document the possible benefits and risks based on real-life data.

Where is the study run from?

The study will be conducted across eight Dutch interventional pulmonology centers, including Amsterdam UMC, Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Hospital, Radboud UMC, Amphia Hospital, UMC Groningen, Erasmus MC, Maastricht UMC and Leiden UMC.

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

January 2025 to February 2027. The study will start recruiting on February 1st, 2025, and run for 12 months, followed by three months for data analysis and publication.

Who is funding the study?

The study is institutionally approved and governed by The Netherlands Cancer Institute - Antoni van Leeuwenhoekziekenhuis (NKI-AVL)

Who is the main contact?

Dr. I. Smesseim, i.smesseim@nki.nl

Contact information

Type(s)

Principal investigator

Contact name

Mr Jacobus A Burgers

Contact details

Netherlands Cancer Institute
Plesmanlaan 121
Amsterdam
Netherlands
1066 CX
+31 20 512 9111
s.burgers@nki.nl

Type(s)

Public, Scientific

Contact name

Ms Illaa Smesseim

Contact details

Netheralnds Cancer Institute
Plesmanlaan 121
Amsterdam
Netherlands
1066 CX
+31 20 512 9111
i.smesseim@nki.nl

Additional identifiers

Study information

Scientific Title

Therapeutic bronchoscopy for central airway obstructions: a Dutch multicenter prospective registry study (NVALT36)

Acronym

NVALT36

Study objectives

To describe the clinical, anatomical, and procedural characteristics of CAO patients treated with therapeutic bronchoscopy

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 27/01/2025, Institutional Review Board (IRB) of The Netherlands Cancer Institute (Plesmanlaan 121, Amsterdam, 1066 CX, Netherlands; +31 (0)20 51291; IRB@nki.nl), ref: IRBd23-334

Primary study design

Observational

Study design

Multicenter observational prospective registry study

Study type(s)

Diagnostic

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Central airway obstruction (defined as an obstruction in the trachea, right or left main bronchus, or bronchus intermedius on imaging or by direct visualization during bronchoscopy) necessitating therapeutic bronchoscopy

Interventions

When the patient gives consent to participate in the study, only information (patient characteristics, demographics, airway obstruction characteristics and symptoms, procedure, characteristics of airway obstruction and symptoms) will be recorded. The patient will not receive any additional treatment and will not notice anything further from participating in the study.

Data analyses

Differences between groups will be estimated using chi-square, Fisher's exact, and independent two-sample t-tests. The chi-square test and Fisher's test will be used to compare the incidence of complications between two or more groups. A multivariate logistic regression model will be performed using logistic regression to identify prognostic factors associated with procedure-related complications.

Intervention Type

Other

Primary outcome(s)

Clinical, anatomical, and procedural characteristics at baseline of patients with central airway obstruction treated with therapeutic bronchoscopy measured using data collected during the procedure at one timepoint

Key secondary outcome(s)

The following secondary outcome measures are assessed using data collected during the procedure at one timepoint:

1. Procedure-associated complications
2. Prognostic factors associated with the procedure

Completion date

01/02/2027

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Central airway obstruction (defined as obstruction in the trachea, right or left main bronchus, or bronchus intermedius on imaging or by direct visualization during bronchoscopy) as determined by the treating physician necessitating therapeutic bronchoscopy
2. Adults (≥ 16 years)

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Mixed

Lower age limit

16 Years

Upper age limit

120 Years

Sex

All

Total final enrolment

0

Key exclusion criteria

<16 years

Date of first enrolment

01/02/2025

Date of final enrolment

01/02/2026

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Netherlands

Study participating centre

Antoni van Leeuwenhoek hospital / NKI

Plesmanlaan 121

Amsterdam

Netherlands

1066 CX

Study participating centre

University Medical Center Groningen

Hanzeplein 1

Groningen

Netherlands

9713 GZ

Study participating centre

Radboud University Medical Center

Geert Grooteplein Zuid 10

Nijmegen

Netherlands

6525 GA

Study participating centre

Amsterdam University Medical Centers

De Boelelaan 1117

Amsterdam

Netherlands

1081 HV

Study participating centre

Amphia Hospital

Molengracht 21

Breda

Netherlands

4818 CK

Study participating centre

Leiden University Medical Center

Albinusdreef 2

Leiden
Netherlands
2333 ZA

Study participating centre
Maastricht University Medical Center
P. Debyelaan 25
Maastricht
Netherlands
6229 HX

Study participating centre
Erasmus Medical Center
Dr. Molewaterplein 40
Rotterdam
Netherlands
3015 GD

Sponsor information

Organisation
The Netherlands Cancer Institute

ROR
<https://ror.org/03xqtf034>

Funder(s)

Funder type
Hospital/treatment centre

Funder Name
Netherlands Cancer Institute

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are/will be available upon request from Dr. I. Smesseim, i.smesseim@nki.nl.

Data management plan

- What data are you going to collect?

The data we want to collect are as follows: Age, gender, comorbidities, smoking history, pack years, ECOG performance status, cause of interventional pulmonology procedure, cause of central airway obstruction, type of airway obstruction, respiratory symptoms, MRX dyspnea scale, emergency of procedure, type of anesthesia, type of ventilation during the procedure, type of bronchoscope, Meyer Cottons stenosis grade, debulking technique, complications during the procedure, complications within 24hrs, stent placement, stent material, stent shape, stent characteristics, procedure time.

- Where and how are you going to store your data?

All participating center will register the information in a national database (Castor)

- Who will have access to your data? When? How will you manage that access?

The researcher from AVL and the Principal Investigator (PI) will have access to the data.

- Which data will be archived at the end of the project? Where, and for how long?

The previously mentioned data that we want to collect (see the first question) will be archived for ten years after the publication of the data.

- Will the archived data become available to others? When? Under which license?

The archived data will not be available to others. If there is a new research question that requires (part of) the database to be used, we expect a physician-researcher from AVL to submit a new IRB application clearly describing the data they wish to use. This must be evaluated by the IRB.

- Who is the owner of your data? Who is responsible for managing your data?

The researcher (NKI) and principal investigator of the study (NKI)

- Which resources are needed for this plan?

Castor Database

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request, Stored in non-publicly available repository

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Other files			13/02/2025	No	No