

## Thoracic Surgery Subcommittee

Co-chair: Rory Beattie (Trauma and NI Rep.)

Executive Co-chair: Doug West (Hon Sec, GIRFT, NCIP Rep)

Deputy Co-chair: Tom Combellack

Karen Redmond	Former Chair/Treasurer	Joel Dunning	Robotics/Pectus Rep
Nizar Asadi	Elected Member	Gerard Fitzmaurice	ROI Rep
Leanne Ashrafian	Robotics Rep	Kandadai Rammohan	Data Chair
Elizabeth Belcher	Education Rep	Malgorzata Kornaszewska	Wales Rep
Nathan Burnside	Data Rep	Xiao Liu	AHP Rep
Jee Soo Choi	Trainee Rep	Guillermo Martinez	ACTACC Rep
Aman Coonar	NHSE Rep/ President	Babu Naidu	PSP/Research Rep
Syed Qadri	Lung Cancer Rep	Sridhar Rathinam	LVR/Com Rep
Mike Shackcloth	Education Rep	Mathew Thomas	Scotland Rep
Edward Carauna	Diaphragm Rep	Maninder Kalkat	Airway Rep
Aresu Guisepppe	Charity/Transplant Rep	Josh Lodhia	Coopted for Database

Rory Beattie took over from Karen Redmond as Chair early in 2026. He's doing his best to emulate her energy, vision and admin skills! Doug West continues as Executive Co-Chair and Tom Combellack has been appointed Deputy Co-Chair in June 2026. The thoracic subcommittee continues to meet via Teams on a monthly basis, with a face to face meeting at the Annual Meeting. With twenty-four members representing various subspeciality interests, roles and countries, they continue to be very productive meetings.

### Pectus Working Group

Joel Dunning has taken over from Karen as lead for the Pectus Working Group. The RESTORE Trial has now completed recruitment. The National MDT has just celebrated its third birthday, having discussed over 700 patients. Patient discussions are now recorded on a Pectus Database, and the group is considering the ideal organisation of pectus care nationally.

## **Priority Setting Partnership**

Babu Naidu has led on the PSP, collaborating with the James Lind Alliance. Through a series of questionnaires and workshops, engaging patients, their families and clinicians, the group launched the [Top 10 Questions for Cancer and Non Cancer](#) at the 2026 SCTS Annual Meeting. These provide a fantastic map for thoracic research in the UK and Ireland over the next decade. The group is engaging with researchers to plan studies to address these important questions.

## **National Thoracic Database**

Kandadai Rammohan, Nathan Burnside, and Josh Lodhia have put a tremendous amount of work into creating a National Thoracic Database. After exploring the various options, SCTS has teamed up with Epic to create a fully bespoke database for all operations in thoracic surgery. Interested groups designed the desired and essential fields for each operative category, and Epic has completed the database build. Data storage is being finalised but is likely following the cardiac model through the University of Bristol.

The next step will be further engagement with data leads and database managers in each unit, mapping current databases to the national database, and supporting units through the submission process. Units will be able to submit either using their own Dendrite database, or through a mapped spreadsheet. Units submitting data will be able to submit proposals to use the national level data for research purposes. Funding has been agreed for a Thoracic Database Manager (6 hours/week), which is due to be advertised once banding is finalised.

## **Thoracic Returns**

Nathan and Ram presented the 2025/2026 Thoracic Returns at our March meeting. This is the most complete Thoracic Returns ever- they have gathered data from 37 of the 38 centres, and are still holding out hope for a 'Full House'. With over 11000 procedures performed, this represents 21% growth from the previous year. Mortality for minimally invasive lobectomy is now around 0.5%.

The roll out of the Thoracic Database is likely to change how our Returns are submitted and reported in future years. The Subcommittee is keen to engage with patient groups to create patient derived Quality Metrics that can be part of the Unit Reports, along with more robust processes for analysing and managing outliers.

## Other news

Rory Beattie has led the subcommittee's collaboration with British Orthopaedic Society, Regional Anaesthesia UK, Royal College of Emergency Medicine and others, for the **RIB-GUIDE Delphi Consensus on Management of Patients with Rib Fractures**. The draft is being finalised before ratification from the contributing societies.

Doug West is producing an **NCIP Thoracic Surgery: State of the Nation Report**. Syed Qadri has been collaborating with colleagues to create the soon to be published NHS England's **National Diagnostic Standards of Care and Optimal Pathways for Thoracic Oncology**. The subcommittee have also been engaging with the British Society of Gynaecology and Endometriosis UK to improve care for patients with **thoracic endometriosis**. Plans are to create GIRFT pathways for acute and elective presentations, outlining consensus opinions on investigations, management and organisation of services.