





# THE BILATERAL APPROACH... IS IT A FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE FOR SOME PATIENTS?

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# Introduction

Bilateral lesions are frequent in thoracic surgery. Previously, patients underwent 2 surgeries to ensure recovery. Nowadays, the bilateral approach can be proposed for some patients. Aim Report the results of the bilateral approach.

### Material and Methods

\*We performed a retrospective study over 63 patients who underwent a bilateral surgery in the department of Thoracic Surgery of Abderrahmen Mami Hospital - Ariana over the period of 10 years.

# Results

The average age was 30 years  $\pm$  14.8 years [9-72years] with a sex ratio M/F of 0,7. Twenty-three patients (36,5%) underwent a bilateral surgery for bilateral lung hydatic cyst. Twenty patients (31,7%) were operated for thoracic sympathectomy for hyperhidrosis while eleven patients (17,4%) were operated for bilateral lung metastasis resection. The bilateral VTS were used for 29 patients (46%) and the bilateral VATS were the choice for 25 patients (39,7%). Five patients (7,9%) were operated with bilateral postero-lateral thoracotomy and 4 patients (6,4%) were operated with bilateral lateral thoracotomy. Post-operative course was uneventful for 95,2% of patients.

# Conclusion

The bilateral approach is an effective, safe and well-tolerated option with many surgical benefits and clinical outcomes. Carefull selection of the patients allows a low mortality and morbidity.