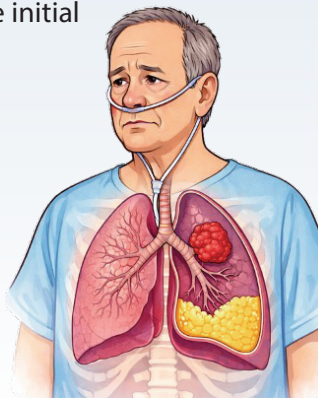


## What Proportion of Patients With Symptomatic, Rapidly Recurrent Malignant Pleural Effusion Receive Guideline-Consistent Early Definitive Management?

### STUDY DESIGN

- Retrospective, single-center study between 2018 and 2022
- 133 patients with malignant pleural effusion (MPE) and rapid recurrence within 14 days of the initial thoracentesis



### RESULTS

- Only **39%** of patients received early definitive management (EDM).
- Compared with patients with no EDM, patients with EDM had significantly fewer total pleural procedures, a lower rate of MPE-related emergency department visits, a lower rate of MPE-related hospitalizations, and substantially lower MPE-related hospitalization costs.
- No significant difference in survival.

Pleural Procedure	EDM (n = 52)	No EDM (n = 81)	P Value
Thoracentesis	54	210	< .01
Chest tube drainage	2	19	< .01
Indwelling pleural catheter	44	48	.99
VATS decortication	3	4	.58
VATS pleurodesis	5	3	.92

The results of this study show that < 50% of eligible patients received guideline-consistent EDM for rapidly recurrent MPE and those not receiving EDM required more health care resources, including pleural procedures, emergency department visits, and hospitalizations.