

## What is esophageal resection?\*

The esophagus is the tube in the neck that connects the mouth to the stomach. An esophageal resection is an operation to remove a portion of this tube, usually to remove cancer.

See Healthwise for additional information on [esophageal cancer](#).

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## Detailed hospital comparisons

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## Technical documents

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## Hospital comments

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### What do these indicators mean?

**Volume.** The number of patients admitted for esophageal resection is displayed as the volume. Esophageal resection is a very specialized surgery, and staff at hospitals that perform more of these surgeries may be more familiar with possible complications that can occur. Therefore, performing more of these surgeries may lead to better outcomes. Volume is not a direct measure of the quality of care, but is useful in gauging how much experience a particular hospital has for this procedure.

Research indicates that performing at least 7 surgeries per year may lead to better patient outcomes. In Oregon, three hospitals performed seven or more esophageal resections in 2007.

