



It gives me great pleasure to report that the first implantations of lung volume reduction coils outside of the USA and Europe were performed in Cape Town in September 2014.

Dr Johan Theron (Panorama Hospital) and Prof. Koegelenberg (representing Stellenbosch University), in a private-public partnership, were trained and accredited by Pneumrx (Germany). The procedures (Fig. 1) were performed at Panorama Hospital and three

patients were successfully treated; Fig. 2 shows a successfully completed coil insertion. This was announced at a press conference on 10 March 2015 and received major local press coverage. IPSA is currently in the process of negotiation with the medical aids and is trying to get more centres accredited (once the medical funders come on board). More information on the procedure can be found online at [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxkWuvdIeRE>]

In an ongoing effort to teach interventional pulmonology to fellows, IPSA will hold a pre-

congress workshop in August 2015 (SATS, Cape Town), focussing on bronchoscopy and endobronchial ultrasound. More information can be found online at [<http://www.satsconference2015.co.za/>].

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Fig. 1. The first procedure was performed on 16 September 2014 at Panorama Hospital, Cape Town.

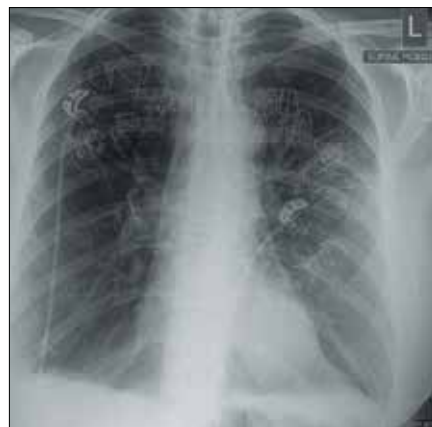


Fig. 2. A supine chest radiograph taken of one of the first two patients after her second procedure.



SOUTH AFRICAN THORACIC SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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