

## Local Physician Brings High Tech Lung Surgery Technique to High Country

Written by Administrator

Monday, 12 February 2007 14:00

---

A local physician has received specialized training that enables him to provide a new surgical solution for High Country residents fighting lung cancer. Dr. Tim Edmisten, a thoracic surgeon with the Watauga Surgical Group in Boone has completed a one-year fellowship in London. The Fellowship focused on advanced thoracic techniques, including a procedure called the thoracoscopic lobectomy. The surgery involves manipulating a video telescope and small instruments through small incisions on the side of the chest in order to remove the portion of the lung containing cancer. This technique spares muscles and ribs, so patients experience less pain, less time in the hospital, and a faster recovery. The procedure is typically used for those in earlier stages of lung cancer where the primary tumor is confined to one lobe of the lung. The technique can also be used on other parts of the body.