

# EDITORIAL COMMENT



**Cristina Rodrigues**

Thoracic Surgery Department, Hospital Pulido Valente,  
Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte

[drcrirodrigues@gmail.com](mailto:drcrirodrigues@gmail.com)

## SPCCTV and SECT: Iberic Thoracic Surgery alliance!

Thoracic Surgery was born from the fight against tuberculosis, in the late XIX century when general surgeons specialized in tuberculosis surgery. In the 1944 the discovery of streptomycin transformed tuberculosis into a medical illness. Soon after, the development of the heart–lung machine enhanced the development of Cardiovascular Surgery and most thoracic surgeons turned to Cardiac Surgery. However, a new plague in the rise, lung cancer, prompted the rebirth of Thoracic Surgery. In the late XXth century evolution in lung cancer medical therapy gave way to new perspectives for lung cancer cure. From then on, Thoracic Surgery has been developing alongside lung cancer research, into minimally invasive approaches and lung sparing techniques, requiring specific and specialized training, that has brought new advanced to the treatment of other thoracic pathologies.

In Portugal, the separation of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery residency into Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery in 2012 opened the chance for an increase in the number of specialists in this area, which has been growing each year!

Now, the Thoracic Surgeons of the Portuguese Society of Cardiac Thoracic and Vascular Surgery (SPCCTV – Sociedade Portuguesa de Cirurgia Cardíaca Torácica e Vascular) and the Spanish Society of Thoracic Surgery (SECT - Sociedad Española de Cirugía Torácica) are working in a partnership that intends to extend Thoracic



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Surgery cooperation on an Iberic scale, increasing scientific and clinical exchange in this area.

The agreement is to be formalized at the SPCCTV 4DVisions Congress and represents an opportunity for Thoracic Surgeons of both countries to go across the border to expand their knowledge and share their experiences.

May this cooperation flourish into an active interchange that brings forth new horizons for Thoracic Surgery!

**Cristina Rodrigues** | Associate Editor