Refractory Treatment Options

Please complete the survey below.

Thank you!

By completing this survey, you are consenting to	ts use in research. Once you have submitted
your responses for this survey, your answers will	be put into a database and will not be
identifiable to you.	
What is your institution?	
	
About how many total cardiac surgeries are performed at your institution annually?	
What is your role?	 Physician (ICU) Physician (interventional) Physician (other) Advanced Practice Provider Dietician Pharmacist Other
Other, please describe:	
I am responding to this survey because (check all that apply)	 □ I am the recognized institutional clinical expert in managing chylothorax □ I was designated by medical director to respond □ I am the medical director
Refractory Treatment Options	
Does your institution have an established team or program for managing lymphatic disorders?	YesNo
How does your institution define refractory chylothorax?: (Please be as specific as possible, including the duration of chylothorax and/or output volumes if relevant)	
Is there a designated treatment protocol at your institution for patients who have refractory chylothorax?	○ Yes ○ No
In patients with refractory chylothorax, if there was no improvement after a trial of NPO, do you re-start feeds?	○ Yes ○ No
How soon do you restart feeds (i.e. how long is your NPO trial)?	



Do you restart a regular or fat-modified diet? Comments?	
Do you use prophylactic anticoagulation in chylothorax patients?	○ Yes ○ No
Indication for prophylactic anticoagulation (check all that apply):	☐ All chylothorax patients ☐ Based on chest tube output volume (high output) ☐ History of clot ☐ Cardiac lesion-specific
What do you routinely use for prophylactic anticoagulation in chylothorax patients? (check all that apply)	☐ Heparin ☐ Lovenox ☐ Bivalirudin ☐ Warfarin ☐ Apixaban ☐ Other
Other anticoagulation utilized:	
In the past 2 years have you referred patients to a lymphatic center or outside hospital for lymphatic interventions?	YesNo
Which center or centers?	
When in the clinical course do you typically refer? (i.e. certain duration of chylothorax, failure of other therapies, etc.):	
Do you experience any barriers to referral?	○ Yes ○ No
What barriers have you perceived in referring patients to a lymphatic center?	
	
When are you usually INITIATING the following ch	ylothorax therapies.
Octreotide	 Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis 10-20 days after diagnosis >20 days after diagnosis Never used
Steroids	○ Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis○ 10-20 days after diagnosis○ >20 days after diagnosis○ Never used

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Propranolol	 Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis 10-20 days after diagnosis >20 days after diagnosis Never used
Midodrine	 Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis 10-20 days after diagnosis >20 days after diagnosis Never used
Sildenafil	 Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis 10-20 days after diagnosis >20 days after diagnosis Never used
Sirolimus	 Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis 10-20 days after diagnosis >20 days after diagnosis Never used
MEK inhibitors	 Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis 10-20 days after diagnosis >20 days after diagnosis Never used
Pleurodesis	 ○ Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis ○ 10-20 days after diagnosis ○ >20 days after diagnosis ○ Never used
What pleurodesis agent or agents do you use?	
Blood patch (sterile injection of patient's blood into their chest tube)	○ Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis○ 10-20 days after diagnosis○ >20 days after diagnosis○ Never used
Surgical thoracic duct ligation	 ○ Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis ○ 10-20 days after diagnosis ○ >20 days after diagnosis ○ Never used
Is diagnostic lymphatic imaging routinely performed prior to performing a thoracic duct ligation?	○ Yes ○ No
Thoracic duct decompression (surgical and/or percutaneous)	 Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis 10-20 days after diagnosis >20 days after diagnosis Never used
How has your institution performed thoracic duct decompression? (select all that apply)	☐ Surgical (innominate vein turndown)☐ Transcatheter/Stent based

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Pleuroperitoneal shunt	○ Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis○ 10-20 days after diagnosis○ >20 days after diagnosis○ Never used
Peritoneovenous (Denver) shunt	○ Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis○ 10-20 days after diagnosis○ >20 days after diagnosis○ Never used
Lymphovenous anastomoses	○ Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis○ 10-20 days after diagnosis○ >20 days after diagnosis○ Never used
Percutaneous lymphatic interventions	○ Within 10 days of chylothorax diagnosis○ 10-20 days after diagnosis○ >20 days after diagnosis○ Never used
What lymphatic imaging methods are utilized to inform your percutaneous lymphatic interventions? (select all that apply)	□ DCMRL□ standard lymphangiogram□ other
Please describe other lymphatic imaging methods:	
Do you routinely include mesenteric and/or hepatic access points when imaging the lymphatic system?	○ Yes ○ No
Which team or teams perform percutaneous lymphatic interventions at your center? (select all that apply)	☐ Interventional Radiology ☐ Interventional Cardiology
Which percutaneous lymphatic interventions are performed at your institution? (select all that apply)	☐ Lipiodol embolization ☐ Total thoracic duct embolization ☐ Selective lymphatic channel embolization
Please comment on how patient size, underlying diagnosis, or other clinical considerations might impact your decision to perform a lipiodol embolization:	
Please comment on how patient size, underlying diagnosis, or other clinical considerations might impact your decision to perform a total thoracic duct embolization:	
Please comment on how patient size, underlying diagnosis, or other clinical considerations might impact your decision to perform a selective lymphatic channel embolization:	
Other treatment options utilized for the treatment of chylothorax (please also describe timing of use):	

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Free text: Please add any comments you have regarding	
the above treatment modalities (i.e. dosing, if/when	
to start or stop a medication, if/when to proceed with	
an intervention, etc).	

