Ready to start planning your care? Call us at 800-525-2225 to make an appointment.

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Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

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ABOUT US

Our mission, vision & core values

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Annual report

Give to MSK

Thoracic Surgical Oncology

Lung Cancer

Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma

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Dr. Rusch's Office Information

Languages: English & French

About Me

What I Do at MSK

- Vice Chair for Clinical Research, Department of Surgery
- Miner Family Chair in Intrathoracic Cancers

Get To Know Me

I am a thoracic surgeon who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of people with cancers of the lung, airways (trachea and bronchi), esophagus, mediastinum, chest wall, and pleura (malignant pleural mesothelioma). I have 25 years of experience as a thoracic surgeon, and was among the first women in the country to be board certified in this specialty.

Read more
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My Role at MSK

A thoracic (thor-A-sik) surgeon is a doctor with special training in surgery on the chest, lungs, trachea (windpipe), and thymus.

Areas of Expertise

My Specialties

Thoracic Surgical Oncology

Lung Cancer

Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma

Esophageal Cancer

Mediastinal Tumors

Tumors of the Chest Wall

Pulmonary and Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Tracheal and Bronchial Disease and Resections

Education & Honors

Education

MD, Columbia University

Residencies

General Surgery - University of Washington

Cardiothoracic Surgery - University of Washington

Awards and Honors

Top Doctors New York Metro Area, Castle Connolly (2023)

Exceptional Women in Medicine Award, Castle Connolly (2023)

Castle Connolly: America's Top Doctors (2023)

Castle Connolly: New York Magazine Top Doctors (2002-2004, 2013-2020)

Fellowships

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

Board Certifications

Surgery

Thoracic Surgery

Insurance Information

Understanding your insurance options is an important part of managing your cancer care. We have relationships with many common healthcare providers and plans.

Enter your insurance provider

Don't see your carrier or plan? We can help you understand your coverage.

If you don't have health insurance or are worried that your care may not be fully covered, our financial assistance programs may be able to help.

If you have questions about insurance, call us at 646-497-9176.

Contact and Location

Dr. Rusch sees patients at two locations.

Office Phone

212-639-5873

Location

New York, NY

Rockefeller Outpatient Pavilion
160 East 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022
Get Directions

David H. Koch Center for Cancer Care at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
530 East 74th Street
New York, NY 10021
Get Directions

Looking to see a doctor at a different location? See all MSK locations.

Colleagues

Doctors at Memorial Sloan Kettering work as teams, with specialists from all different areas. This allows us to consider all your needs together, and to give you the best possible care.

See all Surgery doctors →

See all Thoracic Service doctors →

Clinical Trials



Find a Clinical Trial for You

Memorial Sloan Kettering's doctors and scientists are constantly developing new treatments for cancer. MSK is typically running hundreds of clinical trials at a given time.

You may be able to participate in a clinical trial even if you are new to MSK. Search our online directory to find trial information and see more about who can participate.

Search clinical trials →

Research and Publications

Books

Esophageal Tumors: Principles and Practice. Jobe B, Hunter J, Thomas C, Rusch VW, eds. New York: Demos Medical Publishing; 2011.

Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma. O'Byrne K, Rusch V, eds. Oxford, UK: Oxford UP; 2006.

Selected Book Chapters

"Lung" and "Mesothelioma." Rusch VW, AJCC Lung, Esophageal and Mesothelioma Task Force. In: *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual*. 7th ed. Edge SB, Byrd DR, Compton CC, Fritz AG, Greene FL, Trotti A, eds. New York: Springer; 2009: Chapters 25-26.

"Diffuse malignant mesothelioma." Rusch VW. In: *General Thoracic Surgery.* 7th ed. Shields TW, LoCicero J, Reed CE, Feins RH. Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins; 2009: 847-859.

Read more
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Publications on PubMed

Visit PubMed for a full listing of Dr. Rusch's journal articles. Pubmed is an online index of research papers and other articles from the US National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health.

See all on PubMed →

Disclosures

Doctors and faculty members often work with pharmaceutical, device, biotechnology, and life sciences companies, and other organizations outside of MSK, to find safe and effective cancer treatments, to improve patient care, and to educate the health care community.

MSK requires doctors and faculty members to report (“disclose”) the relationships and financial interests they have with external entities. As a commitment to transparency with our community, we make that information available to the public.

Valerie W. Rusch discloses the following relationships and financial interests:

National Cancer Institute

Professional Services and Activities

If you’re a patient at MSK and would like more information about your doctor’s external relationships, please talk with your doctor.

The information published here is for a specific annual disclosure period. There may be differences between information on this and other public sites as a result of different reporting periods and/or the various ways relationships and financial interests are categorized by organizations that publish such data.

This page and data include information for a specific MSK annual disclosure period (January 1, 2022 through disclosure submission in spring 2023). This data reflects interests that may or may not still exist. This data is updated annually.

Learn more about MSK’s COI policies here. For questions regarding MSK’s COI-related policies and procedures, email MSK’s Compliance Office at ecoi@mskcc.org.

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