

Mayo Clinic Minute

Under pressure with pulmonary hypertension

Video	Audio
Charles Burger, M.D. Pulmonology Mayo Clinic	“When folks say hypertension, they immediately think of high blood pressure in the arm.”
Vivien Williams	But Mayo Clinic’s Dr. Charles Burger says pulmonary hypertension is totally different. It means the pressures inside the lung are elevated. Eventually, the right heart enlarges and starts to fail.
Charles Burger, M.D.	“And often the patients are symptomatic — short of breath, fatigue — even at rest.”
Vivien Williams	There are five different categories of pulmonary hypertension, so it can be hard to diagnose and treat. Some patients require a heart or lung transplant. Others may benefit from less invasive surgery. There is no cure for pulmonary hypertension, but the key to feeling better is for patients to get an accurate diagnosis.
Charles Burger, M.D.	“Making a correct diagnosis and getting proper treatment to improve their quality of life and, of course, how long they live.”
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Vivien Williams.