Mark B. Orringer, MD
Biography of Mark B. Orringer, M.D.

Mark B. Orringer, MD, attained both his bachelor’s and medical degrees at the University of Pittsburgh, after which he completed residencies in general and thoracic surgery at The Johns Hopkins University in 1973. During his residency, he developed his interest in the surgical treatment of esophageal cancer as a senior registrar for the world-renowned thoracic surgeon, Mr. Ronald Belsey, at the Frenchay Hospital in Bristol, England.

Dr. Orringer was recruited by then Section Head, Professor Herbert Sloan, as assistant professor of thoracic surgery in 1973. By 1980, Dr. Orringer was promoted to Professor of Surgery. Reflecting his exemplary patient care and talent as an educator, Dr. Orringer was appointed as Section Head of Thoracic Surgery, remaining in this position until 2011.

Dr. Orringer challenged the paradigm for the treatment of esophageal cancer, for which patients had long-term survival of 15%. He rediscovered and refined the technique for transhiatal esophagectomy with cervical esophagogastric anastomosis, without thoracotomy (opening the chest), with the aim of reducing the complications and mortality associated with standard surgical approaches for esophagectomy, which required thoracotomy. Dr. Orringer also recruited Dr. David Beer to study the biology of thoracic malignancies, particularly both lung and esophageal cancer, and together they have built a research team that is internationally renowned for its contributions to esophageal and lung cancer biology.

Dr. Orringer has authored or co-authored over 250 peer-reviewed journal articles and 110 book chapters, edited five books and served on the editorial boards for several journals. He has served as president of both the Thoracic Surgery Directors Association and the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, as well as director of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

In addition to his distinguished academic and medical career, Dr. Orringer is known for his deep compassion and commitment to
patient care and education. In 2014, the University of Michigan bestowed upon Dr. Orringer its highest professional title, the Cameron Haight Distinguished University Professorship, in recognition of his academic contributions to the University and the nation. He has and continues to mentor generations of students, young surgeons and faculty.

The Transhiatal Esophagectomy Procedure
("THE")

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RESOURCES

For more information about esophageal cancer and resources for patients and caregivers, please see the websites below.

**National Cancer Institute, at the National Institutes of Health**
http://www.cancer.gov

**Department of Surgery, Thoracic Surgery at the University of Michigan**
http://surgery.med.umich.edu/thoracic/patient/what_we_do/esophagus_cancer.shtml  
(Short version of link: http://bit.ly/1KT94iw)

**Esophagectomy Support Group, Thoracic Surgery at the University of Michigan**
http://surgery.med.umich.edu/thoracic/patient/support_group.shtml  
(Short version of link: http://bit.ly/1Kx5dWX)

**CarePages**
https://www.carepages.com