

# Cardiothoracic Surgery

## Chair

- Kalpaj Parekh

## Interim Director, Perfusion Technology

- Shahna Helmick

**Undergraduate certificate:** perfusion technology

**Website:** <https://medicine.uiowa.edu/perfusion/>

The University of Iowa cardiothoracic surgery program is the third oldest program of its kind in the United States. Since its establishment in 1948 as a division within the Department of Surgery, it is now its own department providing operative interventions for patients with diseases of the chest and performing a broad range of the most current and innovative surgical procedures.

Cardiothoracic surgery's facilities are located at University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics. Each year cardiothoracic surgeons at the hospitals perform more than 500 adult and pediatric heart surgeries, including coronary bypasses, transplants, and placement of mechanical cardiac assist devices; minimally invasive procedures such as mitral valve replacement and epicardial lead placement; and more than 600 general thoracic surgeries with emphasis on esophageal and lung diseases. Preparations are underway for providing coronary artery bypass grafting using robotics.

The Perfusion Technology Program is a 20-month program of study. For more information about the Perfusion Technology Program, visit the Perfusion Technology Program website.