

Skynews journalist: Ken Collins has got a skip⁽¹⁾ in his stride⁽²⁾. He knows he's a very lucky man, but just a few months ago, things were very different. After being diagnosed with emphysema, Ken was told he'd need a double lung transplant and his health was rapidly deteriorating.

Ken: I was having problems climbing up the stairs, getting into the car, sitting in the car. I had to wait a couple of minutes to get me* breath back. In the end, I couldn't go shopping, I could sit in the car but that was all I could do.

Journalist: But Ken has now made medical history. In September, he became the first person in Britain to have a living lung transplant. These pictures show the lungs which are now inside his body. During the procedure, doctors removed the healthy lungs from a donor and then used a machine to pump them with blood and oxygen, effectively keeping them breathing outside the body for 16 hours. That gave them more time to assess⁽³⁾ whether the lungs were suitable⁽⁴⁾ before they were transplanted into Ken. Today, Ken and his wife Maggie are back at the hospital in Manchester to thank the doctors who carried out the transplant.

Surgeons here believe this pioneering procedure will enable them to save many more lives.

Nizar Yonan: 30% of patients on the transplant waiting list don't survive and by this technique we're going to increase hopefully the lung transplant numbers by 20 to 30%.

Ken: I feel absolutely fantastic, 10 to 15 years younger, I've got nothing but admiration for the doctors, the nurses, all the staff here at the hospital. They've been absolutely fantastic.

Journalist: They saved your life.

Ken: They certainly did.

Journalist: Ken will always be grateful to the doctors who saved him and hopes that in the future many others will benefit too.

Skynews.

* = my

Lexical helpline:

1. **a skip:** a small jump
2. **stride:** the way of walking
- 2bis. **Have a skip in his stride:** be full of vitality, energy
3. **assess (v):** evaluate
4. **suitable (adj):** corresponding