Assessed for eligibility (n=258)

Excluded on preoperative (n=81)
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (n=25)
- Previous cardiac surgery (n=11)
- Incapable to perform spirometry (n=10)
- Unstable angina (n=3)
- Refusal to participate in the study (n=9)
- Ejection fraction < 50% (n=19)
- Pulmonary restriction (n=4)

177 undergoing CABG

Excluded on intraoperative (n=42)
- Cardiopulmonary bypass (n=14)
- Myocardial ischemia (n=9)
- Bilateral pleural opening (n=10)
- Death (n=3)
- Protocol violation of the surgery (n=6)

Allocated into two groups (n=135)

Group I - (n=77) Pleural drain in the subxyphoid position

Lost to follow-up (n=39)
- Abandonment of the study (n=10); Death (n=5)
- Early hospital discharge (n=8); Stroke (n=3); Instable hemodynamic (n=9); Ventricular tachycardia (n=4)

Analyzed – Group I (n=38)
- Pleural drain in the subxyphoid position

Group II - intact pleural cavity (n=58)

Lost to follow-up (n=25)
- Abandonment of the study (n=6); Death (n=3); Early hospital discharge (n=6); Instable hemodynamic (n=10)

Analyzed - Group II (n=33)
- Intact pleural cavity.