



**Administrative  
Policies and Procedures**

**Originating Venue:** Infection Control  
**Title:** Pulmonary Function Test Policy and Procedure  
**Date Issued:** 06/15  
**Date Reviewed:**  
**Date: Revised:**

**Policy No.:** IC2346  
**Cross Reference:**

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**Purpose:**

To provide guidelines for proper handling of pulmonary function testing equipment, cleaning, disinfection, and storage, and protecting patients, clinicians, and equipment from contamination. All personnel will follow Universal Precautions with all patients. Barriers and personal protective equipment (PPE) will be selected based on the likelihood of exposure.

Pulmonary function testing (PFT) instruments are used to measure lung volumes, capacities, flow rates, and diffusion rates.

Pulmonary function tests are a group of tests that measure how well the lungs take in and release air and how well they move gases such as oxygen from the atmosphere into the body's circulation.

Microorganisms can be transmitted to the patient from contact with a mouthpiece, tubing, or nose clips. Low resistance, high efficiency filters, placed between the mouthpiece and spirometer, minimize contamination between a device and a patient.

**Policy:**

It is Premier Medical Group (PMG) policy that all personnel will follow the manufacturer's guidelines when performing PFT equipment calibration and procedures, to ensure that the test is validated by calibration, and that the risk for potential transmission of infection is mitigated. Disposable one time use mouthpieces will be used for each patient.

Patients with the following contraindications will not have PFT's performed at the office:

- Myocardial infarction within the last month
- Unstable angina
- Recent thoracic or abdominal surgery
- Recent ophthalmic surgery
- Thoracic or abdominal aneurysm
- Current pneumothorax

**Procedure:**

- Personnel must adhere to Hand Hygiene Guidelines.
- Calibration of equipment will be performed and recorded daily prior to the start of any scheduled tests.
- Contaminated items and equipment will be separated from clean/sterilized materials and equipment.
- Disposable items are not reprocessed; they are for single use and are to be disposed of following use.
- The CDC does not recommend routine disinfection of internal machinery of PFT machines.
- External devices that have contact among patients should be cleaned, disinfected, or sterilized per manufacturer's instructions.
- Patients who are on isolation should not be tested in the office setting.
- Universal precautions must be followed for all patients.
- All equipment is cleaned after each patient use.
- When a patient is tested in the exam room, the equipment and the exam room including countertops will be washed down with a hospital grade disinfectant prior to leaving the room.
- Failed calibrations and equipment problems will result in the PFT device being removed from service and sent for repair following notification of the nursing and site supervisor.
- All staff responsible for performing PFT's will maintain annual infection control training as well as competencies for the pulmonary function testing procedure and equipment.

**Date Policy to be reviewed:** 06/17