

HEART & HEALTH MEDICAL



Pulmonary Function Tests



What you need to know.

WHAT?

Pulmonary function tests (PFTs) are a complete evaluation of the respiratory system including patient history, physical examinations, and noninvasive tests that show how well the lungs are working.

WHY?

Pulmonary function tests are done as part of a routine physical or to diagnose certain types of lung disease that are causing shortness of breath such as: allergies, asthma, bronchitis, and emphysema. They can also be used prior to surgeries or procedures to check lung function in people with lung or heart problems.

HOW?

While you are sitting, you breathe into a sterile mouthpiece that is connected to an instrument called a spirometer. A spirometry test, measures how much air you exhale, and how quickly you exhale. A spirometry can evaluate a broad range of lung diseases. The patient will take a deep breath in, wrap their mouth around the mouthpiece, and breathe out as hard as possible. Often times, there is a pre and post trail, with the use of an inhaler or nebulizer in between to see if lung function is improved.

WAYS TO PREPARE:

Prior to the breathing test, the patient should not smoke or eat a heavy meal. The healthcare provider could potentially advise the patient to stop taking certain medications before, as well.

WHERE?

Heart & Health Medical

We use a caring and supportive approach for all of our patients offering a broad range of health and wellness care, including PFTs to help investigate or diagnose possible health conditions.

We put our hearts into your health.

