



Campbell County Memorial Hospital

CAMPBELL COUNTY HEALTH

CARDIOPULMONARY

Pulmonary Function Testing (PFT)

What is done during the routine pulmonary function test?

You will do a number of breathing tests repetitively depending on what tests are ordered. Spirometry can show how much air you can breathe in and out, and is also referred to as a Forced Vital Capacity or FVCs. It also shows how fast you can breathe in and out to complete maximum volume. This test is usually done before and after a bronchodilator medication is given to you. Lung volumes and airway resistance measurements can provide further information about how your lungs are functioning. Diffusing capacity can show how well your lungs move oxygen from the lungs to the blood. The results of pulmonary function testing can help your doctor find the best treatment plan for you.

The technician will explain what you need to do during each test. A good effort during the testing is important to get good results. The technician will coach you during each test to help you give a good effort.

You will be asked to sit in a booth while you are being tested. This booth is called a body box or plethysmograph. You will do different breathing techniques, blowing into a tube, while in the booth. Each breathing technique is often repeated to make sure the test is reliable.

How long will the test take?

A Complete Pulmonary Function Test (PFT complete – lung Vol + DLCO) often takes 1 ½ hours to complete. If just a PFT Pre & Post BD test is all that is ordered that could take about 30 to 45 minutes. A Bronchoprovocation Study–Methocholine challenge is a test used to assist in the diagnosis of asthma. This test will be done using the same booth and tube as described above. This test may provoke bronchoconstriction, or narrowing of the airways. People with conditions like asthma will react to lower doses of the drug. The technician is able to track the volumes of your lungs through spirometry. This test will take up to four (4) hours.

Patient Directions

Please follow these directions when getting ready for this test.

- Refrain from bronchodilator medicines four (4) hours prior to the test. *If the medicine is not stopped before the test we may not be able to complete the breathing test as ordered.*
- Please wear comfortable, loose fitting, clothing so your ability to take big breaths will not be hindered during a test.
- Please hold caffeine intake [no coffee, tea, cola, chocolate, etc.] the day of testing (best if held 24 hours).
- Please do not smoke tobacco or do vigorous exercise within 6 hours of your test (best if held 12 hours).
- Fasting is not necessary; however, do not eat a large meal within several hours before your test.
- If you have dentures, wear them during the test.
- Please bring a list of all current medication that you are taking. Do continue to take all your other medicine as you usually do. If you are on supplemental oxygen therapy, do continue to use your oxygen.

How do you schedule your test?



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Cardiopulmonary services require an order to perform outpatient procedures. Please contact Cardiopulmonary Services at 307-688-2301 for questions regarding outpatient procedures or the steps to have your physician order your needed procedure; or visit www.cchwyo.org/CPS.

On the day of your scheduled test

Report to Patient Access/Registration on the first floor of Campbell County Memorial Hospital, 501 S. Burma Avenue, 20 to 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment to be checked in and registered. You will then be directed to the Cardiopulmonary Services Department on the Second Floor, North of the hospital.

Campbell County Memorial Hospital's Cardiopulmonary Services (CPS) Department strives to be your first choice for Cardiopulmonary Services by providing superior quality testing, procedures, and outstanding customer service.

For questions, please contact CPS at 307-688-2301.