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Healthlink : SCLAXTON

Patient Name

Address

Phone

Date Of Birth (dd/mm/yy)

Refer For :

- Consult
 Sleep study +/- consult
 Spirometry
 Bronchial provocation test
 6-min walk test
 Comprehensive lung function

Clinical History

Referrer Details

Name

Provider Number

Practice

Phone

Signature _____

Date _____

Joondalup

Suite 115, Medical
Centre West
Joondalup Health Campus
Shenton Ave

Subiaco

Suite 102, SJOG Medical
Centre
25 McCourt St

Murdoch

Suite 20, Wexford Medical
Centre, SJOG
Barry Marshall Parade

Mandurah

Suite 6, Peel Specialist
Centre
34-36 Minilya Parkway
Greenfields

Duncraig

Suite 6, 64 Arnisdale Rd

Test Descriptions

SPIROMETRY

This is a test to measure the size of the airways in your lungs. The test measures how fast you can blow out with maximal effort. If there is narrowing in the airways, the air comes out more slowly. Often the test is repeated after using salbutamol (Ventolin) to see if any narrowing is reversible. It is a test that is useful for airway diseases such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

COMPREHENSIVE LUNG FUNCTION

This test comprises 3 parts-spirometry, lung volumes and gas transfer. Lung size can vary, being reduced in lung fibrosis or abnormally enlarged in COPD. Lung volumes can be measured in one of two ways. One way is to sit in an airtight box while breathing in and out through a mouthpiece. The change in the lung volumes during inspiration and expiration changes the pressure in the box so the lung volume can be measured. The other technique involves breathing a mixture of helium and oxygen. The change in the concentration of helium can be used to measure lung capacity. Gas transfer measures the function of the membrane that the oxygen and carbon dioxide cross to get into and out of the blood. This membrane is damaged in emphysema and fibrosis. The test is done by breathing in air containing very small amounts of helium and carbon monoxide. The change in the concentration of these gases allows calculation of how the membrane works.

BRONCHIAL PROVOCATION TEST

This test is used to show if there is any irritability in the airways that can cause narrowing. The test involves breathing in increasing concentrations of an airway irritant (usually mannitol) and then doing a spirometry manoeuvre after each inhalation. The test is continued until either at least a 15% decrease in lung function or the maximum dose is reached. At the end of the test, salbutamol is given to reverse any narrowing. A drop in lung function is an indicator of asthma.

6-MINUTE WALK TEST

In some diseases such as COPD, pulmonary hypertension and pulmonary fibrosis, exercise can cause oxygen levels to drop as well as causing breathlessness. The walk test is used to assess this drop and to test whether oxygen used with exercise is beneficial.

