

SPIROMETRY FUNDAMENTALS

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Introduction, Summary or Focus: Primary care physicians and their staff would benefit from this distance learning program on lung function testing and implementation. The program covers all aspects of administering the test, interpretation, and incorporating the equipment and procedure into a clinical practice. This training is delivered in a uniquely clear and concise fashion using today's technologies; it is appropriate for all levels of staff working in primary care.

Abstract: Asthma and COPD are common lung disorders that can be diagnosed and managed by primary care physicians. However, many primary care physicians and their staff lack the necessary knowledge and skills to perform routine lung function testing on patients with these conditions or being screened for these conditions. Without objective lung function measurement, the healthcare provider relies on symptoms, peak flow monitoring, and history of the patient to diagnose and monitor treatment. Microprocessors have made portable spirometry equipment inexpensive and easy-to-use. Spirometry Fundamentals delivers the necessary knowledge, skills, and resources to administer spirometry, interpret the results for quality and clinical utility, and incorporate spirometry into the clinical practice. Spirometry Fundamentals is broken into eleven small modules, each only a few minutes in length to encourage review and fit the hectic life of today's healthcare professional. Each module starts with clear objectives and ends with a quiz that reinforces key points. Using Flash technology, the teaching is delivered in audio, video, animation, and minimal text at a level appropriate for all levels of staff, medical assistants through physicians.