



Gold Coast Lung Function Laboratory



COVID-19 Update

All lung function testing resumed – with provisos

The Australian Thoracic Society issued a statement on the 30th April permitting the resumption of all lung function testing with the expectation that –

- Body temperature is measured on all patients prior to testing
- Patients must be afebrile and have no symptoms of viral illness
- Infection control measures, such as PPE and disinfection of equipment between patients, are to be carried out
- Adherence to social distancing guidelines
- Pulmonary function equipment to use **inline** viral grade filters

Our laboratory implemented these guidelines at the outset of the pandemic. We continue to put the safety of our patients and staff at the foreground and, although the provision of PPE has been costly, we continue to

bulk-bill all routine lung function tests referred to our laboratory.



Should there be a spike in COVID-19 cases on the Gold Coast, we have an alternate technology to measure airway function called Airwave Oscillometry. Unlike spirometry, Airwave Oscillometry uses simple unforced quiet breathing as a gauge for peripheral and central airway function. This technique will be used automatically should the need for aerosol limiting tests arise.

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Further information, interactive and pdf referrals available at www.lungfunction.com.au

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