

Why Should I be Doing Spirometry Testing?

COPD Facts

- COPD is the 3rd leading cause of death in the USA
- An individual dies every 4 minutes of COPD in the United States
- The best single test for detecting early COPD is a breathing test called spirometry
- Treatment is more effective if given before symptoms occur

Asthma Facts

- Asthma accounts for one-quarter of all emergency room visits in the U.S. each year.
- With 2 million emergency room visits Asthma is the #1 cause of school absenteeism among children accounting for more than 14 million total missed days of school.
- An estimated 20 million Americans suffer from asthma. (1 in 15 Americans)

Clinical Indications

- Evaluation of Smokers over the age of 45
- Dyspnea (shortness of breath)
- Chronic Cough
- Chest Tightness or Cough with Exercise
- Frequent "Colds" or "Hay Fever"
- Dust or Chemicals Inhaled at Work
- Pre-surgical Testing
- Staging an Acute Asthma Attack
- Documentation of Pulmonary Disability
- Management of Patients Receiving Bronchodilators
- Monitoring Congestive Heart Failure

ICD-9 Coding

Indication	ICD9-CM Code*
Shortness of Breath	786.05
Cough	786.2
Chronic Bronchitis	491.x
Emphysema	492.x
Asthma	493.x
COPD	496.x
Pre-operative Respiratory Exam	V72.82**
History of Tobacco Use	V15.82**
Bronchitis due to chemical fumes or vapor	506.x
Special screening for other and unspecified respiratory conditions	V81.4
Encounter for therapeutic drug monitoring	V58.83

*Codes should always be assigned to the highest level of specificity

**Should not be assigned as principal diagnosis

CPT Coding

Code	Description	Average Reimbursement
94010*	Spirometry, including graphic record, total and timed vital capacity, expiratory flow rate measurement(s), with or without maximal voluntary ventilation	\$33.00
94014	Patient initiated spirometric recording per 30 day period of time; includes reinforced education, transmission of spirometric tracing, data capture, analysis of transmitted data, periodic recalibration and physician review and interpretation	\$43.00
94015	Patient recorded spirometry; Recording (includes hook-up, reinforced education, data transmission, data capture, trend analysis, and periodic recalibration)	\$23.00
94016	Patient recorded Spirometry; Physician review and interpretation only	\$25.00
94060*	Bronchospasm evaluation: spirometry as in 94010, before and after bronchodilator (aerosol or parental)	\$57.00
94200	Maximum breathing capacity, maximal voluntary ventilation	\$22.00
94375 *	Respiratory flow volume loop	\$37.00
94620	Pulmonary stress testing; simple (eg, prolonged exercise test with pre- and post-spirometry)	\$65.00

* Codes most commonly used in primary care