

UPDATE ON SUSPENSION OF LUNG FUNCTION TESTING

30/04/2020

On the 25th March 2020, the TSANZ in conjunction with the ANZSRS recommended suspension of all lung function testing because of the COVID-19 pandemic, unless it was deemed clinically essential.

Updated recommendations: Following the recent recommendation from the Federal Department of Health to restore some categories of elective surgery and endoscopy on 27th April 2020, the TSANZ in conjunction with the ANZSRS now recommend the following:

- All Pulmonary Function Testing including cardiopulmonary exercise testing and bronchoprovocation testing can now be performed in patients who are afebrile, and who have no symptoms of a viral illness.
- In such patients, infection control measures (such as level of PPE and cleaning of equipment between patients) in line with respective Federal and state health departments, and physical distancing in public areas is still required.
- It is recommended that Body Temperature is measured on all patients prior to testing to ensure they are afebrile.
- Pulmonary Function Testing is NOT recommended in patients who are febrile, or who have an escalating acute respiratory condition.
- We also recommend that testing only be performed using lung function equipment that utilise inline filters.

These recommendations are subject to ongoing review.



Prof. Bruce Thompson
TSANZ President



Mr Jarrod Warner
ANZSRS President