

Roadmap to Restarting Pulmonary Operations during COVID-19

1. Review ERS and ATS *expected* recommendations resuming testing during COVID-19.

	Hospital / Clinic Based	Private Practice / Research Facility
2. Assess prevalence in your area? High/Low	Ask Infection Control to categorize	Ask local public health department
3. Do you need approval to increased testing?	Consult with medical direction/propose plan Obtain approval	Consult with medical direction
4. Adopt pre PFT screening tool or script.	EMR integrated if possible	Develop a simple worksheet
5. Develop written plan on what pulmonary tests require a negative PCR nasal swab test prior to a visit and within 72 hours.		
6. Determine process how tests are scheduled:	Drive up local testing	Testing referred to _____ facility.
7. Determine if you will accept PCR testing from outside facilities if test results are documented in writing.		
8. PPE needs assessment during PFTs: refer to ATS or ERS recommendations for appropriate PPE during testing, develop plan to conserve PPE		
9. Determine ventilation characteristics of testing rooms. _____ Negative flow, _____ standard room, _____ operating window		
10. Do you know the # of room air exchanges per hour? _____ Ask hospital plant engineering/facilities		Consider consult with HVAC contractor
11. Consider HEPA filtration.	Ask plant engineering if you can borrow devices Consider purchase	Consider purchase
12. Ensure adequate supply of high efficiency PFT filters are in stock.		
13. Ensure adequate supply of other consumables and gas supplies.		
14. Ensure adequate supply of disinfection supplies and tissues.		
15. Post visible reminders in testing room regarding hand hygiene cough etiquette and mask use.		
16. Consider alternative barriers or distance between patient and technologist.		
17. Order adaptors for spiro devices if needed (nidd, Midmark)		
18. Review manufactures instructions on equipment cleaning process and frequency.		
19. Post a calendar indicating when equipment cleaning is due.		
20. Develop written plan on equipment cleaning, agreed upon down times between each patient visit and/or HEPA filtration times.		
21. Encourage /educate staff regarding the need to self-monitor and to call in sick if symptoms develop.		
22. Stay current regarding changes in ATS/ERS/CTS recommendations.		
23. Modify / update procedures as needed.		

Matt O'Brien, Kevin McCarthy: MGC Diagnostics Restarting Pulmonary Operations Update--- Go to Webinar Presentation June 8, 2020.

Link to May 5, 2020 presentation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pSxCEGUKCS0&feature=youtu.be>