

Spirometry

Obstruction asthma copd common

Fev 1 reduced VC ok so Fev1/VC reduced below 70% or below 80% of normal for age

FVC will be lower than VC if obstructed so use VC

Restriction uncommon may be from fibrosis edema of HF or external from severe obesity or chest wall problem

Fev 1 reduced VC reduced so Fev1/VC will be normal or over normal

F25 50 75 are unreliable and of doubtful use in assessing obstruction

Asthma

Reversibility with Salbutamol won't show the asthma if it is not present at the time!

PF good for assessing asthma only no good at estimating copd as copd affects smaller airways and needs Fev1 check

From Vital Lung Function

Notes on technique are essential reading for doing both PF and Spirometry