

FVC Testing Forced Vital Capacity

FVC testing is used to determine lung capacity and is an important indicator of lung health. It measures how much air you can breathe in and out of your lungs, as well as how easily and fast you can blow the air out of your lungs.

Why am I having this test? FVC tests are used to determine pulmonary function. Within neurology, a decline in pulmonary function due to respiratory muscle weakness is a major prognosis factor for patients with neuromuscular diseases that can affect breathing. In addition, a FVC test is sometimes required before specific drugs can be prescribed.

What can I expect? Testing is performed by taking a big breath and blowing into a single use tube. You will blow into the tube 3-8 times. You may sit up straight or stand during the test.

Who performs the test? The test will be conducted by an electroneurodiagnostic technologist and will be reviewed and interpreted by your neurologist.

How long will it take? Expect to be in our office for 30-45 minutes to allow for check in, testing and check out.

How do I prepare for test? Please do not use your inhaler or do a breathing treatment the day of the test. You may take medications as prescribed and eat/drink like normal. You do not need anyone to accompany or drive you; if you choose to have someone accompany you, they may wait in the waiting area. Please make prior arrangements for childcare as we don't recommend children be in the testing room for their safety as well as yours.

How do I get results? The report will be submitted to your doctor the same day as the test, and you can expect a call from our medical staff within 48 hours. Your doctor will use this report along with his knowledge of your symptoms and history in order to determine the next step in your care plan.

What does it cost? Insurance coverage of testing varies; it may be covered under your office visit co-pay. The maximum out of pocket for this test is \$55. We will file with your insurance and send you a bill once we know your portion.

If you have any questions concerning your test, please contact us via the patient portal (a link is available at the top of our webpage) or call us at 817-267-6290.