

02 June 2026

Spirometry Investigations

1. The number of spirometry investigations undertaken by Belfast Trust over past 12 months

Unfortunately, EPIC does not currently provide the level of detail required to fully answer all aspects of this request. The system records activity under a PFT order (PFT 13), which includes spirometry alongside other investigations. The majority of these patients will have undergone spirometry, but this cannot be isolated with full accuracy from the existing data.

The approximate estimate of spirometry activity over the past 12 months is 9,294 tests.

2. The number of spirometry investigations undertaken for new respiratory patients over past 12 months

We are unable at present to differentiate between new and review patients within the available EPIC reporting.

3. The number of new COPD diagnoses confirmed by the Belfast Trust.

We have undertaken 180 diagnostic bronchodilator reversibility spirometry and FeNO tests this year. Other patients have DNA'd their appointment and some spirometry has been contra-indicated so not performed. Approximately 50 % of patients have then been diagnosed with COPD and have then been commenced on initial treatment, given smoking cessation, pulmonary rehab referral and self-management advice. Other patients have been referred for additional investigations.

4. Current pathways for GPs to refer patients to Belfast Trust for Spirometry.

For our Tuesday afternoon COPD Diagnostic clinic we receive referrals from GP practices direct to ourselves rather than through CCG.