

Applicant

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Project Title

The clinical implications of spirometric impairment in the elderly

Project Summary

Spirometry is a test that measures breathing capacity. This information is vital for the diagnosis of lung disease and in the assessment of lung health. Spirometry also provides important information on the likelihood of death, heart disease and strokes. The reason for this association is unclear. One possible explanation is that the spirometry measurements are sensitive to the changes of aging, which is an important risk factor for the development of heart and circulatory diseases. We propose that spirometry can be used as an important marker for the underlying severity of the aging process, and the risks for chronic diseases. We plan to study this, by looking at spirometry measurements and relating these to other measurements of aging and health consequences. Also, we will be developing normal spirometric reference values for age, height and sex that will allow meaningful interpretation of spirometry data.

Keywords

Spirometry, reference values, predictors of morbidity and mortality