

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Methacholine Challenge Test

## What is this test for?

This test will help your doctor tell if your child has **asthma** or **reactive airway disease (RAD)**.

## Before the test

- Tell your child this test does not hurt.
- Read this, and tell your child how the test is done, and what your child will see, hear, and feel. Answer your child's questions, if you can.
- Two weeks before this test (starting date: \_\_\_\_\_) do not give your child these medicines: \_\_\_\_\_
- Two days before this test (starting date: \_\_\_\_\_) do not give your child any these medicines: \_\_\_\_\_
- On the day of this test (date: \_\_\_\_\_), do not give your child these medicines: \_\_\_\_\_
- On the day of this test (date: \_\_\_\_\_), your child should not drink coffee, tea, or cola, and should not be around cigarette smoke.
- If your child is wheezing, coughing, or has trouble breathing on the day of the test, call the Pulmonary Function Lab at 602-546-0339 to have the test on another day.

# Come to the hospital

Date of test: \_\_\_\_\_ Time to be at the hospital: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of test: \_\_\_\_\_

Where to go:

Phoenix Children's Hospital at 1919 East Thomas Road.

You may park for free in the garage. Go to the 3rd floor of the **Outpatient Building**, to the **Pulmonary Function Lab**.

- If you are more than 30 minutes late, your child may have to have the test on another day.
- The Methacholine Challenge Test takes about 1 hour.

## During the test

1. Your child will be asked to blow into a tube attached to a machine. This will measure how well he or she can breathe out.
2. Your child will be asked to breathe in some mist that has a medicine called methacholine in it.
3. Your child will then be asked to blow into the tube attached to a machine again. This is to see if the medicine changed how well your child could breathe out.
4. This will be done a few more times. Your child will get a little more medicine, and then will be asked to blow into the machine again.
5. At the end of the test your child will be given medicine (Albuterol) to relax the breathing tubes, and blow into the machine one more time.



**Your child will be asked to breathe in some mist with medicine.**

## After the test

- yes  no After the test, you may give your child his or her medicines, like usual.
- The doctor will talk to your about the test results.

## Now that you've read this

- Tell your nurse or doctor what you will tell your child about this test. (Check when done.)
- Tell your nurse or doctor which medicines you may give your child before this test. (Check when done.)
- If there are medicines you should not give your child before this test, what are they, and when is the last time you can give them? (Check when done.)



If you have any questions or concerns,  
 call your child's doctor or  call \_\_\_\_\_

If you want to know more about child health and illness,  
visit our library at The Emily Center at Phoenix Children's Hospital  
1919 East Thomas Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85016  
602-546-1400  
[www.phoenixchildrenshospital.com](http://www.phoenixchildrenshospital.com)

#### Disclaimer

The information provided at this site is intended to be general information, and is provided for educational purposes only. It is not intended to take the place of examination, treatment, or consultation with a physician. Phoenix Children's Hospital urges you to contact your physician with any questions you may have about a medical condition.

Tuesday, November 15, 2005 • DRAFT to family review  
#436 • Written by Ron Evans, RCP • Illustrated by Dennis Swain



# The Emily Center

## Methacholine Challenge Test

### Diagnostic Test/Exam

Si usted desea esta información en español,  
por favor pídasela a su enfermero o doctor.

Name of Health Care Provider: \_\_\_\_\_ Number: 436  
For office use: Date returned: \_\_\_\_\_  db  nb

## Family Review of Handout

**Health care providers:** Please teach families with this handout.

**Families:** Please let us know what you think of this handout.

Would you say this handout is hard to read?  Yes  No

easy to read?  Yes  No

Please circle the parts of the handout that were hard to understand.

Would you say this handout is interesting to read?  Yes  No

Why or why not?

Would you do anything differently after reading  
this handout?  Yes  No

If yes, what?

After reading this handout, do you have any  
questions about the subject?  Yes  No

If yes, what?

Is there anything you don't like about the drawings?

Yes  No

If yes, what?

What changes would you make in this handout to make it better or easier to understand?

Please return your review of this handout to your nurse or doctor or send it to the address below.

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Phoenix, AZ 85016-7710

602-546-1395

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**Thank you for helping us!**