

2026

FUTURE
READINESSRespiratory
Diagnostics
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AGENDA

DAY
1

Tuesday 3rd November

Time	Topic	Speaker
08:00 – 08:30	Registration and coffee	
08:30 – 08:45	Welcome and Introductions	Adrian Fineberg
08:45 – 09:30	Keynote: The Importance of Pulmonary Function Tests in the Respiratory Patient Pathway Overview of the role of PFTs and respiratory physiologists in the patient pathway.	Dr. Karl Sylvester
09:30 – 10:15	Session 1: What is Normal? What is Abnormal? Understanding methods of PFT interpretation, including z-scores and reference equations	Dr. Julie Lloyd
10:15 – 11:00	Session 2: Spirometry Review of spirometry, focusing on refining technique and obtaining accurate results in accordance with the latest guidelines Practical applications of spirometry for different conditions and settings Coaching techniques for optimal patient efforts and results	Joanna Purvis
11:00 – 11:15	Break	
11:15 – 11:45	Workshop 1: Spirometry Participants will refine their spirometry and coaching technique through this practical session, focusing on error recognition and correcting patient technique	comPAS Clinical Specialists (Tasmin Johnson & Charlene Mhangami)
11:45 – 12:30	Panel Discussion 1: Negotiation and coaching techniques for maximising patient results Understanding the barriers patients may face during testing (e.g. anxiety, fatigue, comprehension) Negotiation techniques to encourage patient cooperation without causing distress Coaching strategies: How to guide patients through complex and demanding tests in a comprehensible manner depending on their needs	
12:30 – 13:15	Lunch	
13:15 – 14:00	Session 3: Gas Transfer (DLCO/TLCO) Review of DLCO testing and its importance in assessing efficiency of gas exchange in different conditions and settings	Dr. Adrian Kendrick
14:00 – 14:30	Workshop 2: Gas Transfer Participants will refine their gas transfer and coaching technique through this practical session, focusing on error recognition and correcting patient technique Troubleshooting difficult cases, such as patients with low lung volumes, cough, poor coordination	comPAS Clinical Specialists (Tasmin Johnson & Charlene Mhangami)

14:30 – 15:30	Session 4: Lung Volumes Techniques Overview of lung volumes measurements and its clinical utility. Overview of the techniques available and discussion on the pros and cons of the different techniques	Dr. Karl Sylvester
15:30 – 15:45	Break	
15:45 – 16:15	Workshop 3: Lung Volumes Participants will refine their lung volumes and coaching technique through this practical session, focusing on error recognition and correcting patient technique Troubleshooting difficult cases, such as patients with poor coordination, cough, claustrophobia	comPAS Clinical Specialists (Tasmin Johnson & Charlene Mhangami)
16:15 – 17:00	Panel Discussion 2: The Evolution of Pulmonary Function Testing in Respiratory Medicine Latest developments & controversies in respiratory diagnostics.	
17:00 – 17:10	Close	

DAY

2

Wednesday 4th November

Time	Topic	Speaker
08:25 – 08:30	Welcome back	Adrian Fineberg
08:30 – 09:15	Pro/Con Debate: Should we follow the ATS/ERS lung function standards?	
09:15 – 09:45	Session 5: Quality Control in Lung Function Testing Why this is important, best practices for ensuring high-quality, accurate and reliable lung function testing including calibration, biological QC and equipment maintenance	Joanna Purvis
09:45 – 10:30	Session 6: Oscillometry Introduction to oscillometry and its role in detecting small airway dysfunction in asthma and COPD. Understanding the parameters, graphs and displaying results in a comprehensible manner	Dr. Adrian Kendrick
10:30 – 10:45	Workshop 4: Oscillometry Participants will practice their oscillometry and coaching technique through this practical session, focusing on error recognition and correcting patient technique Troubleshooting difficult cases, such as patients with variable tidal breathing	comPAS Clinical Specialists (Tasmin Johnson & Charlene Mhangami)
10:45 – 11:00	Break	
11:00 – 11:45	Session 7: Respiratory Muscle Function Overview of respiratory muscle strength testing (MIP, MEP, SNIP) and its role in monitoring diseases like neuromuscular disease and diaphragmatic weakness and paralysis. The use of other tests, such as spirometry, seated & supine VCs, PCF and MVV for patients with respiratory muscle weakness Participants will observe a practical demonstration of MIP/MEP/SNIP and coaching technique, focusing on error recognition and correcting patient technique	Dr. Julie Lloyd
11:45 – 12:15	Session 8: Who owns your PFT data? Understand the practicalities of the data collected by PFT systems and the evolving NHS requirements around data ownership, governance and accessibility Recognise the risks associated with limiting certain access to PFT data, including impacts on long-term patient monitoring and continuity of care Understand how to evaluate the capabilities of your system in providing data that is secure, usable, accessible and transferable in line with NHS and GDPR requirements Recognise how improved data accessibility can support more efficient reporting, serial monitoring and clinical decision making and research, audit and service evaluation	Tasmin Johnson
12:15 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 13:40	Session 9: Field Exercise Testing Introduction to field exercise tests (6MWT, ISWT) and their use in evaluating COPD, ILD, PH, and ambulatory oxygen assessments	Dr. Karl Sylvester
13:40 – 14:25	Session 10: Investigating Airway Inflammation and Hyperresponsiveness Understanding the role of FeNO in detecting airway inflammation and its use in asthma diagnosis and management Overview of bronchial challenge tests (direct vs. indirect, methacholine, histamine, mannitol, exercise) and their role in diagnosing asthma	Joanna Purvis

AGENDA

14:25 – 14:40 Break

14:40 – 15:25

Panel Discussion 3: Future-proofing your respiratory physiology service

This panel discussion focuses on the real-world actions required to future-proof respiratory physiology services. Rather than exploring what might happen, it will address what leaders, clinicians, and physiologists must implement now to remain relevant, efficient, and high-quality in the face of rising demand, workforce pressures, and rapid technological change

15:25 – 15:35

Closing session: Q&A and final remarks

SPEAKERS



Dr. Karl Sylvester

Consultant Healthcare Scientist/
Head of Joint Respiratory Physiology
Services (CUH & Royal Papworth)/ARTP
President



Joanna Purvis

Physiological Sciences Service Manager,
George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust.



Dr. Adrian Kendrick

Senior Lecturer, Health Science
(Respiratory & Sleep) University of the
West of England.



Dr. Julie Lloyd

Consultant Clinical Scientist, BSol ICS
Physiological Science Lead