



HOW MEDICAL SCIENTISTS CAN HELP PEOPLE WITH COPD

TIP:

Ensure any testing is performed and evaluated by a registered competent professional

- Patients with COPD may be unable to breathe in (inspire) sufficient oxygen and breathe out (expire) carbon dioxide
- Analysis of a blood sample to measure the concentrations of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the body is often used in assessing people with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. This test evaluates how well your lungs can move oxygen into the blood and carbon dioxide out of the blood
- A sample of blood is usually drawn from an artery in your wrist using a needle and syringe and analysed immediately in specialised equipment - a blood gas analyser
- Medical Scientists evaluate the correct analytical performance of this equipment (ISO 22870) and supervise the ongoing maintenance of this equipment
- Medical Scientists provide the training and competency assessment for any non-scientific staff operating this equipment and are trained and provide training in the interpretation of your results and ensure adherence to National Guidelines for the operation of Blood Gas equipment used outside of the laboratory, in ward and clinic areas