Spirometry Quality Criteria

Acceptability Criteria

- No hesitation or false starts
- No coughing or hiccupping in first second
- No glottis closure
- No mouthpiece obstruction by tongue or dentures
- No extra breaths
- No leaks
- The volume of back extrapolation (V_{ext}) < 5% of the FVC, or 150 ml, whichever is greater
- Volume/time curve plateaus within 6 seconds of exhalation

Repeatability Criteria

- The two largest FVC values should agree within 150 ml
- The two largest FEV1 values should agree within 150 ml

All 3 trials should look like this

When you have 3 trials that look like this:

- Compare the 2 largest FVC values – are they within 150 ml?
- Compare the 2 largest FEV1 values – are they within 150 ml?