



## Important BTMed Updates

At BTMed, we thank our medical providers for continuing to help protect the health and safety of our participants. This program would not be possible without your support and dedication to BTMed and to former DOE construction workers and we look forward to working together this coming year.

### Has your clinic completed the BTMed Provider Readiness Questionnaire?


PROVIDER READINESS QUESTIONNAIRE	
PROVIDER/CLINIC NAME:	
PROVIDER STAFF/CONTACT INFORMATION:	
GENERAL INFORMATION	YES/NO
Clinic is in compliance with the <a href="#">CDC Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic</a> (September 10, 2021) and the <a href="#">OSHA COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard for Healthcare workers</a> .	
Clinic staff screened or instructed to self-monitor for COVID-19?	
Are patients screened for COVID-19 symptoms at facility point of entry or check in?	
Will staff be wearing medical/surgical procedural masks at all times?	
Are masks required for patients?	
SPIROMETRY RELATED	YES/NO
Is the space where you perform spirometry physically separated from other patient areas? For example: in a specific room or in an isolation tent?	
Are you using bacterial-viral filters on your spirometry equipment?	
Do you wait at least 30 minutes after performing spirometry before bringing a new patient into the clinical space where spirometry is being performed?	
ADVERSE EVENT NOTIFICATION	YES/NO
Confirm that you know to report adverse events, including possible COVID-19 exposure, or complaints from BTMed participants within 24-hours of the event to Kim Cranford, BTMed Nurse Manager, <a href="mailto:KCranford@zenith-american.com">KCranford@zenith-american.com</a> , 865-481-8027. If the event occurs after	

BTMed has resumed medical screening exams and CT scans and currently has a backlog of participants waiting for screening services. As we navigate the pandemic, we want to be sure that both our medical providers and our participants are taking appropriate measures to remain safe. In order for us to schedule exams, providers must complete the BTMed Provider Readiness Questionnaire and meet readiness standards. If your clinic has yet to complete the questionnaire or has questions about resuming screenings, please contact Leighanne Bickham at **800-866-9663** and [lbickham@zenith-american.com](mailto:lbickham@zenith-american.com).


### Check out our new website!

We are excited to announce the launch of our redesigned and expanded website. The new website is easier to navigate, provides more information on program benefits, features testimonials from BTMed participants, and has a responsive design that works across all devices. Visit us at [www.btmed.org](http://www.btmed.org).


**Building Trades National Medical Screening Program**   HOME   ABOUT   PROGRAM BENEFITS   RESOURCES   PUBLICATIONS   COMPENSATION




The Building Trades National Medical Screening Program (BTMed) provides free medical screening exams to construction workers formerly employed at Department of Energy (DOE) nuclear weapons research and production sites, who may be at increased risk for occupational illnesses. The medical screening exams are designed to identify work-related health conditions at an early, more treatable stage and contribute to the health and well-being of these workers. [Learn more](#)



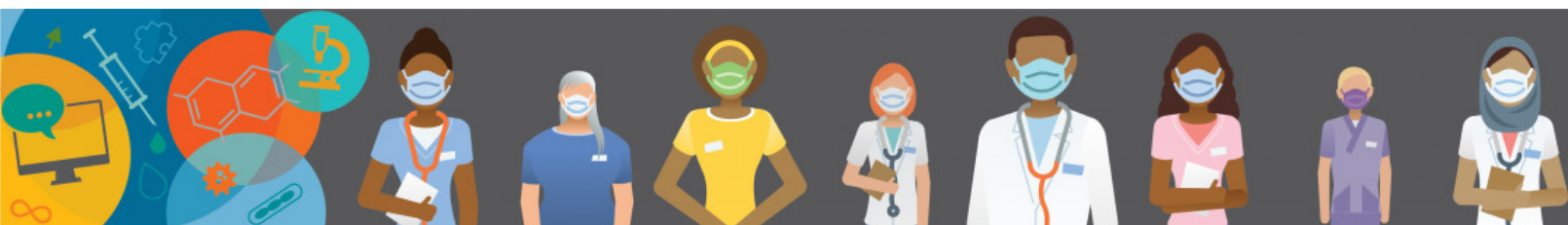
LEARN MORE



LEARN MORE



LEARN MORE



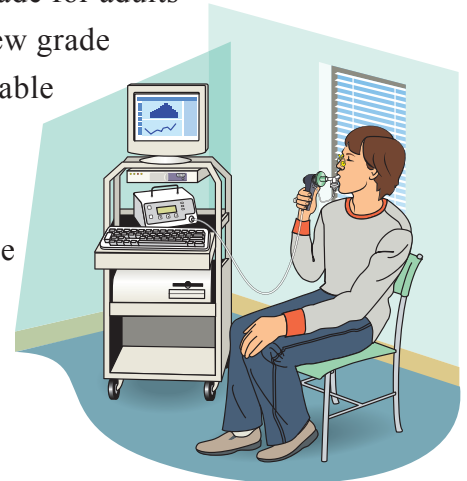
## Updated BTMed Spirometry Handbook

BTMed recently updated the BTMed Spirometry Handbook to incorporate updates from the American Thoracic Society (ATS) and the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) which came out in 2019 and 2020. The updated handbook acknowledges the current recommendations by ATS and the ACOEM on performance of spirometry during the pandemic. Because occupational lung disease is such an important risk in our worker population, it is critical to obtain spirometry results that meet quality criteria. You can find the handbook in the BTMed provider portal at [www.btmed.org/ProviderDocs/Spirometry/BTMed-Spirometry-Handbook.pdf](http://www.btmed.org/ProviderDocs/Spirometry/BTMed-Spirometry-Handbook.pdf).

Updates have been made throughout the BTMed Spirometry Handbook, including the following list:

1. Guidance on Use of Occupational Spirometry During the COVID-19 Pandemic is included in the handbook and in Appendix 1, which summarizes the ACOEM 2021 Guidance on recommended exposure controls for safely performing spirometry during COVID-19.
2. Section III, Relative Contraindications is expanded based on the 2019 ATS/ERS Standardization of Spirometry Update.
3. There is no longer a minimum 6 second length of exhalation. Strive to achieve expiratory plateau but do not allow for exhalations longer than 15 seconds.
4. Use sex at birth when choosing whether reference values should be male or female.
5. Spirometry test quality has changed. FVC and FEV1 Quality Grade for adults now use the same scoring system but are graded separately. A new grade of U is included, which indicates that only usable but not acceptable measurements were obtained.

It is very important that spirometry testing procedures among clinics, including test quality, adhere to the clinical protocol and use of reference standards. These updates will assist you and your staff in performing reliable spirometry tests with the required three good quality trials. We hope this information is useful for you, not just for BTMed screening exams, but for the other programs you support with spirometry testing.



## Reporting Adverse Events

In the event of an adverse event, including possible exposure to COVID-19 or complaints from BTMed participants, providers are required to report it within 24-hours to Kim Cranford, BTMed Nurse Manager, at **865-481-8027** and [kcranford@zenith-american.com](mailto:kcranford@zenith-american.com). She can be reached after business hours at **865-437-0053**.