Description:
- Persistent or recurrent cough with or without other symptoms inadequately responding to current medical therapy and/or interfering with quality of life such as daytime functioning or sleep.

Data Needed:
Brief Clinical Summary or Recent Clinic Note that includes:
- Chief concern
- Previous treatments and response
- Respiratory history including birth history
- All chest x-ray reports (copy of images if done outside TCH)
- Sinus x-rays (if done outside TCH)
- Sweat test (if done – use CF Center accredited lab)
- Other lab results

Initial Work:
- Chest x-ray
- Consider sinus x-rays
- Spirometry (pre/post bronchodilator if age ≥ 6)
- Trial of bronchodilator
- Sweat test (consider if poor growth, recurrent infection, positive family history – see CF)

Referrals:
- Symptoms interfering with daily activities
- Frequent school absences
- Cough lasts more than 1 month despite treatment
- Recurrent symptoms despite treatment
- Question of vocal cord dysfunction or cough tic (typically daytime only)
- Abnormal chest x-ray or spirometry

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Educational recommendations are made from the best evidence, expert opinions and consideration for the patients and families cared for by the service. This is NOT intended to impose standards of care preventing selective variation in practice that are necessary to meet the unique needs of individual patients. The physician must consider each patient’s circumstance to make the ultimate judgment regarding best care.