



Texas Children's Hospital
Pulmonary
Chronic or Recurrent Cough Educational Materials

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