

Surf Report... June 2004

Drs Robert Crapo and Robert Jensen have published an article important to us in the [Respiratory Care](#) journal. It is titled "Standards and Interpretive Issues in Lung Function Testing" and you can download it here ([article](#)) The authors write ... *"Pulmonary function tests are most useful when performed with good technique and with an accurate system. Using standard techniques in performing the tests minimizes diagnostic and therapeutic errors. This report discusses the rationale and limits of standardization and offers practical suggestions for using available standards to increase confidence in test results."* If you haven't seen this article then make sure you do.

The RCJournal is made available on-line to the members of the [AARC](#) (the ANZSRS equivalent in the USA) ...but it is possible to download articles by going through the Table of Contents and then using the [Keyword Search](#). You may find this will work with many other "members only" sites.

Further to my last column in April, in the same vein as *alternative therapies*, did you know that **Histamine** is supposed to be **an effective treatment for asthma** and that this important information has been withheld deliberately by western medicine? You can read more at the website (and even buy the book) written by [Dr Felix Ravikovich](#), and learn that... *"what allergy medicine hides, is the fact that histamine is an autacoid, a self-remedy, and can thus rectify its own production."* It would be interesting to hear any comments from you on this theory/ practice, and any other websites that seem strange or odd BUT relevant to us.

The [ARTP](#) have posted on their website that they are very quickly approaching voluntary registration with 219 days to go. Will this also be our path soon? I was interested to find out here that two members had to be suspended from the online forum the ARTP runs. After apologies all round and re-promulgating the rules all was forgiven. It seems to have related to criticisms about suppliers.

Discussions on bulletin boards generally have been slow. Nothing to report from the RespiratoryScience_Australasia group, but from the [RC World](#) forum, discussions have included 1) Annual Spirometry for Asthma: NIH Guidelines and 2) Cleaning Pari Nebulizers for Tobi for CF.

News for Queenslanders and of general interest to all is that [Consent forms](#) for challenge tests (Bronchoprovocation, Histamine, and CPET) are now available on the Queensland Health website.

That's all for now.
Happy surfing...
Andrew Coates, CRFS

