



Report Date: dd/mm/yyyy
Time: xxxx

PATIENT: First Name, Last Name
Physician: First Name, Last Name, MD

DOB: dd/mm/yyyy
Physician Fax: xxx-xxx-xxxx

Sample Collection date	time	Symptom	Breath pH	Reference	Normal Range
dd/mm/yyyy	xxxx	Cough	x.x	(N,L,E,QNS)	>7.4
dd/mm/yyyy	xxxx	Cough	x.x	(N,L,E,QNS)	>7.4
dd/mm/yyyy	xxxx	Cough	x.x	(N,L,E,QNS)	>7.4
dd/mm/yyyy	xxxx	Cough	x.x	(N,L,E,QNS)	>7.4
dd/mm/yyyy	xxxx	Cough	x.x	(N,L,E,QNS)	>7.4
dd/mm/yyyy	xxxx	Cough	x.x	(N,L,E,QNS)	>7.4

N = Normal
L = Low;
E= Equivocal (borderline)
QNS= Quantity not sufficient for analysis
Breath pH = Exhaled breath condensate pH measured after gas-standardization.

SUMMARY: Breath pH profile is **(Negative, Positive)**. (No) Abnormal breath acidity detected.

INTERPRETATION GUIDELINES

Any one breath pH less than 7.4 is low and is indicative of an abnormally acidic airway.

POSITIVE: One or more low breath pH values temporally associated with cough symptoms along with a normal breath pH value regardless of symptoms is interpreted as a positive test profile. A positive result supports that transient airway acidification is contributing to the patient’s symptoms. Even with related transient airway acidification it is common to have several normal pH values when coughing. This is understood in that extrinsic acid challenges to the airway may be brief, low volume, and rapidly neutralized, or the patient may take too much time before starting the breath collection. Lingering irritation from these acid challenges can also cause cough even if the airway acidity at the time of cough is normal. Published studies have shown that persistently coughing patients with some associated transient airway acidification respond well to gastric acid suppression therapy.

NEGATIVE: A profile of all normal breath pH values is interpreted as a negative test result. A negative test result indicates that transient airway acidification is not occurring in association with the coughing episodes. A negative test result substantially decreases the chance that the patient will benefit from gastric acid suppression therapy.

INDETERMINATE: A profile of all low breath pH values is considered indeterminate. These results may be related to chronic persistent airway acidification from profound inflammation from other causes. Low breath pH can also be associated with acute severe exacerbations of asthma and COPD, lung transplant rejection, as well as onset of the common cold. An indeterminate test is uncommon and further evaluation is warranted.

This interpretation guideline is derived from peer-reviewed publications including: Hunt JF, Yu Y, Burns J, Gaston BM, Ngamtrakulpanit L, Bunyan D, Walsh BK, Smith A, Hom S. *Identification of Acid Reflux Cough Using Serial Assays of Exhaled Breath Condensate pH; Cough.* 2006 Apr 11;2(1):3.