The Division of Pulmonary Medicine at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center performs lung function tests such as Plethysmography.

**What is Plethysmography?**
Plethysmography measures how much air your lungs hold. Some disorders decrease or increase this measurement.

**How is the test done?**
Plethysmography is done with your child sitting in an enclosed plexi-glass chamber allowing your child and therapist to see in and out. Your child will place padded nose clips on their nose and place their mouth around a clean filtered mouthpiece. Your child will place his / her hands on their cheeks, breathe normally and "pant like a puppy". After panting, your child will go back to breathing normally, blow out their air and then take a deep breath in.

**How long does it take?**
Plethysmography is performed along with a spirometry test. Both tests combined take 40 to 60 minutes.

**How does my child prepare for this test?**
If at all possible, your child should not use any short acting asthma medications / bronchodilators for 12 hours prior to testing. If you have any questions about which medications to hold, please check with your child's physician or call the pulmonary function lab at 513-636-8049.

**Are there any side effects?**
There are no side effects and your child may resume normal activities and medications after testing.