

## COPD Units of Learning

<p>Title of overarching NOS:  <b>CHS179: Advise on requirements for choice of therapeutic intervention;</b>  <b>CHS199: Evaluate new and existing products, equipment, medical devices and associated systems in healthcare</b></p>	<p>Unit of learning to demonstrate competence:            Undertake a review of inhaler therapy for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p>
<p>Details of the relationship between the unit to demonstrate competence and relevant national occupational standards (if appropriate)</p>	<p>Users will be able to demonstrate competence in reviewing the effectiveness of prescribed inhaler therapy for an individual with COPD and other respiratory diseases against a range of agreed criteria</p> <p>Users will be able to present recommendations for changes to inhaler therapy from evidence based research and evaluations</p>
<p>Outcomes:            The individual will know and understand:</p>	<p>Assessment criteria            To be competent the individual will be able to:</p>
<p>Indicative Level</p>	<p>Level 1 (Expert/specialist)            Level 2 (Experienced practitioner)</p>
<p>The current national and local guidelines policies and protocols for prescribed inhaler therapy relevant to individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p>	<p>Demonstrate an understanding of the current national and local guidelines, policies and protocols for inhaler therapy for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p> <p>Review evidence based research on current and emerging inhalers, delivery devices and medication for COPD and other respiratory disease management</p> <p>Work collaboratively with health professionals to integrate current policy, research and clinical guidelines into inhaler therapy for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p>

<p>Why a patient history is important to inform the review of effective therapy</p>	<p>Work collaboratively with the individual to obtain appropriate and necessary background information to allow the inhaler therapy review to proceed effectively using appropriate methodologies to identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) any pre-morbid capabilities of the individuals</li> <li>b) any pre-existing conditions that may influence the review of effective therapy;</li> <li>c) the circumstances that led up to the presenting condition requiring inhaler therapy support</li> <li>d) any home/care circumstances, recent changes in health and well being or other influencing factors</li> </ul>
<p>The importance of the individual's compliance with prescribed inhaler therapy</p>	<p>Demonstrate an understanding of the expected outcomes from medications used in inhaler therapies for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p> <p>Clearly demonstrate to individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases how to use the chosen inhaler device.</p> <p>Support the demonstration with pictorial/ written instruction depending on the needs of each individual.</p> <p>Check the individual's inhaler matches the prescription requirements e.g. type, dose of medication and expiry date</p> <p>Ask the individual to give details of their inhaler frequency to identify compliance with their prescription</p> <p>Identify any errors in use and instruct the individual/carer on the correct frequency of their inhaler therapy</p>

<p>The importance of reviewing Inhaler technique</p>	<p>Work collaboratively with health professional and individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases to evaluate the provision of learning tools and instructions for effective inhaler techniques across the organisation</p> <p>Observe the individual to review their inhaler technique to identify any errors in use and instruct the individual/carer on correct inhaler technique</p> <p>Make recommendations for any revisions to the learning tools and instructions regarding inhaler technique to ensure correct application by individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases and their carers</p>
<p>The importance of focusing on the individual with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p>	<p>Focus on the person as an individual through effective listening and feeding back to gain an understanding of their prescribed inhaler practices</p> <p>Ask the individual to explain their experiences, any side effects, problems or difficulties with their prescribed inhaler therapy</p> <p>Provide support and time to individuals who wish to express their worries, concerns and/or preferences about their inhaler therapy</p>
<p>How to evaluate inhaler therapy for individuals with COPD</p>	<p>Clearly explain the importance of using evidence based information when undertaking a review of current clinical practices</p> <p>Review the individual's clinical data to establish the efficacy of their inhaler interventions to detect any improvement or deterioration :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Balance the information obtained regarding the individual's inhaler experiences against their clinical needs and care management plans to inform ongoing decisions on inhaler therapy</li> <li>b) Consider the individual's compliance</li> <li>c) Review the information and clinical data to identify whether the inhaler therapy is meeting the expected clinical outcomes for the individual with COPD and other respiratory diseases</li> <li>d) Review any recorded side effects, complications and/or any adverse events regarding the individual's inhaler medication therapy</li> </ul>

	<p>e) Review information regarding poor/unplanned performance of inhalers and/or their associated delivery equipment</p> <p>f) Draw conclusions on the individual's inhaler therapy and their associated delivery systems</p>
Clinical guidelines for inhaler therapy in COPD and other respiratory disease management	<p>Work with health professionals to review the existing clinical guidelines for inhaler therapy for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases, making evidence based revisions where appropriate</p> <p>Work collaboratively with colleagues to agree any revised prescribing protocols for inhaler therapy for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p> <p>Work with colleagues to review the suitability of the prescribed inhaler therapy to meet the individual's health and well being needs and stage of COPD and other respiratory diseases</p>
Providing information, advice and guidance	<p>Share information on inhaler therapies prescribing protocols, reviews and findings with health professionals involved in COPD management in a timely manner</p> <p>Work collaboratively with colleagues on the suitability of information, advice and guidance available to individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases and their carers</p> <p>Make any necessary adjustments to the information for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases and check their understanding</p>
Handle information and maintain records	<p>Document key points and decisions arising from the review and evaluation, clearly identifying any specific influencing factors and action points</p> <p>Record information clearly and accurately in line with local protocols in a timely manner</p>
How to communicate in an effective manner	<p>Communicate in a manner that meets health professionals and the individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases needs, respects their dignity and values their contribution</p>

<p>The importance of working in partnership with individuals/carers and health professionals</p>	<p>Share the findings from the review of inhaler therapy with colleagues, multiprofessional teams and relevant healthcare sectors to inform decisions for any changes to existing inhalers, associated medications and their delivery devices for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p> <p>Work collaboratively with health professionals and suppliers to discuss the outcomes of the review of inhaler therapies in a timely manner</p> <p>Consult with key professional colleagues on any recommendations for changes to existing guidelines, policies and protocols to identify the best options for inhaler therapy to meet the current and future needs of individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases</p>
<p>Endorsement of the unit by a sector or other appropriate body (if required)</p>	<p>COPD Strategy Group/DH England; respiratory education providers</p>