

COPD Units of Learning

<p>Title of overarching NOS: CHS60 Assess individuals with long term conditions CHS 39 Assess an individual with a suspected health condition</p>	<p>Unit of learning to demonstrate competence: Undertake an assessment of need for nebuliser use</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 undertaking an assessment of need for the use of prescribed nebulisation therapy for an individual with diagnosed COPD and other respiratory diseases</p>
<p>Outcomes: The individual will know and understand:</p> <p>Indicative Level</p>	<p>Assessment criteria To be competent the individual will be able to:</p> <p>Level 1 (Expert/specialist) Level 2 (Experienced practitioner) Level 3 (Novice new to respiratory disease management (including COPD))</p>
<p>The importance of an individual's identity and consent</p>	<p>Check the individuals identity their gain consent for the assessment</p>
<p>The range of nebulisers and associated equipment available within the organisation and their use in COPD and other respiratory disease management</p>	<p>Evaluate the availability, application and use of the range of nebulisers, associated equipment in acute, emergency and domiciliary settings</p> <p>Work collaboratively with the individual to explore their symptoms and indicators for nebuliser therapy</p> <p>Describe to the individual the rationale for achieving optimal lung function parameters relevant to their stage of COPD and other respiratory diseases</p>
<p>Your role and responsibilities</p>	<p>Clearly explain your role and responsibilities in the assessment process and that of the individual/carer</p>

The rationale for the assessment/reassessment	<p>Explain to the individual/carer the purpose of the assessment techniques and tools and select appropriate tools and techniques to accurately assess their current lung function</p> <p>Briefly outline to the individual the significance of normal, obstructive and restrictive patterns of lung disease assessments that inform the need for nebulisation</p> <p>Clearly describe to the individual/carer the type of nebuliser assessment to be carried out and check their understanding</p>
Relevant guidelines, policies and protocols	Demonstrate the application of relevant and current guidelines, policies and protocols for undertaking an assessment of need for nebulisation for individuals with COPD and other respiratory diseases e.g. NICE COPD guidelines
How to evaluate the individuals understanding of the assessment process and readiness to undertake an assessment/reassessment	Take account of the individuals age, maturity and mental capacity and assess their readiness to engage
Risk assessment	<p>Work collaboratively with the individual to undertake a risk assessment taking into consideration any contributory factors that may affect their COPD and other respiratory disease assessment process</p> <p>Identify situations and demonstrate appropriate actions for the assessment process in light of changes to the individuals situation and level of risk</p>
Health, safety and infection measures	Apply the range of health, safety and infection control measures required during the assessment process

Information sources	<p>Work with the individual and colleagues to obtain the required information to inform nebuliser therapy assessments</p> <p>Work collaboratively with the individual to explore their main presenting features, any differentiating factors related to co morbidities or other pulmonary condition</p> <p>Where any information is conflicting or lacking, take steps to obtain the information from the individual or professional colleagues</p> <p>Where information is unavailable, request the range of appropriate investigations to inform the assessment process</p>
The range of equipment , devices and accessories available to undertake nebuliser assessment	<p>Select the most appropriate equipment and assessment tools for the nebuliser assessment</p> <p>Check the equipment is clean and fit for use prior to and following the assessment</p> <p>Describe the actions required if the equipment is not fit for use</p>
How to undertake a assessment of need for nebulisers	<p>Demonstrate an understanding of optimal inhaled therapy and ensure all methods have been trialled before nebulised therapy is considered</p> <p>Throughout the assessment process, observe and monitor the individual and use appropriate questioning and probing techniques and monitoring tools/tests to assess the need for nebulisation</p> <p>Encourage and support the individual /carer to participate during the assessment process Carry out the assessment process in the correct sequence in line with locally agreed criteria</p> <p>Undertake or refer to recent spirometry results to assess lung function to inform the need for nebuliser therapy</p> <p>Take appropriate and prompt action where indicated</p>

<p>Interpretation of data</p>	<p>Document key points of the assessment and clearly identify any specific influencing factors</p> <p>Accurately interpret, evaluate and record the data from the assessments</p> <p>Respond appropriately to findings and emerging data, seek prompt assistance from colleagues when the findings are outside your scope of practice and level of responsibility</p> <p>Working collaboratively with professional colleagues draw conclusions for the need of nebulisation therapy to help restore the individual's lung function</p>
<p>Next steps following assessment of need</p>	<p>Work collaboratively with professional colleagues to identify the required nebuliser therapy</p> <p>Work collaboratively with the individual to assess their health goals and to identify any factors that might aid or prevent them from achieving their goals</p> <p>Work collaboratively with the individual to discuss the nebuliser treatment offered, its operation and prescribed times for use</p> <p>Clearly explain to the individual the expected advantages and any disadvantages of nebulisation</p> <p>For individuals needing long-term nebulised therapy ensure regular reviews are organised and maintenance of nebulised equipment is organised and undertaken.</p> <p>Allow time for the individual to reflect and consider the recommendations and check their understanding</p> <p>Respect the individuals freedom of choice and seek their agreement for the prescribed nebuliser option</p>
<p>Handle information and maintain records</p>	<p>Obtain the range of information in a format appropriate to the individual</p> <p>Document key points from the assessment, any influencing factors, action plans and/or decisions</p> <p>Record information clearly and accurately in line with local protocols in a timely manner</p>

How to communicate in an effective manner	Communicate in a manner that meets the individuals needs and respects dignity, confidentiality and values their contribution
The importance of liaising and working collaboratively with individuals/carers and professional colleagues	<p>Collaboratively work with professional colleagues to identify and justify the reasons for nebulisation therapy to meet the individual's clinical requirements</p> <p>Present and discuss the outcomes of the review of nebulisation assessment with key stakeholders, individuals/carers in a timely manner</p> <p>Consult with appropriate health professionals on the best options available to meet the individuals current and future needs</p>
How to make appropriate and timely referral	Seek advice and support from competent individuals when concerns, issues or information sources are outside your level of competence or scope of practice
Endorsement of the unit by a sector or other appropriate body (if required)	COPD Strategy Group/DH England; respiratory education providers