

## COPD admission checklist

### 1. Ensure correct diagnosis - acute exacerbation of COPD

The diagnosis of an acute exacerbation of COPD starts with a clinical assessment and is supported by review of an ECG and CXR. Investigations & treatment should be performed <4 hours of admission.

- |   | Performed?               |
|---|--------------------------|
| Chest Xray done (aim <4 hours of admission) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ECG done (aim <4 hours of admission)        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Record of spirometry in medical records     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

All medical wards have access to a spirometer.

### 2. Assess oxygenation and prescribe target range for oxygen

Early oxygen assessment is associated with improved prognosis. See Prescription Chart

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Observations (BP, T, RR, SpO <sub>2</sub> ), aim <1 hour of admission   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prescribe and sign for O <sub>2</sub> and SpO <sub>2</sub> target range | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### 3. Administer steroids and nebulisers

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Nebulisers administer ≤ 4hrs of admission     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Steroids administer ≤ 4hrs of admission       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Antibiotics (if required) ≤ 4hrs of admission | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### 4. Recognise and respond to respiratory acidosis

Prompt use of NIV for Type 2 respiratory failure / pH <7.35 improves survival

If O<sub>2</sub> sats ≤ 94% after 1 hour medical therapy/O<sub>2</sub> then:

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Perform ABG   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If pH<7.35 has patient started on NIV? (see NIV guidance on ICID) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### 5. Refer to Respiratory Team on admission

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Respiratory Nurse ext 4792 (please leave a message) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Respiratory Medical Team via e-referral             | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### 6. Check Respiratory Nurse Specialist or Respiratory Medical Team review prior to discharge

Signature/date \_\_\_\_\_

Please see COPD Discharge Checklist

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