



NRAP Good Practice Repository – Adult asthma



Queen Alexandra Hospital
Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust

KPI4:

Key Elements of good practice at discharge

Queen Alexandra Hospital achieved:

100% - 2022/23*

*% of patients submitted to the audit.



We are a team of trained nurses who work for a severe asthma service at a large south coast NHS university Trust. Our patient base is diverse, spanning both urban and rural areas. As well as reviewing patients admitted to hospital with an asthma attack, we support patients with severe asthma who are in receipt biological therapies. We work closely with colleagues in referring network asthma services aiming to support patient living with severe or difficult asthma across a wider network.

As a team, our goal is to ensure that patients admitted with asthma receive a thorough review; we aim to support patients so when they are discharged from hospital, they are equipped to manage their asthma.

In the National Respiratory Audit Programme, 100% of patients submitted to the audit received the KPI 4: components of good practice at discharge.

We are proud of this achievement and the reassurance and support it offers patients admitted to hospital with their asthma which can be a very difficult and unsettling time.

Our processes to achieve good practice in KPI4:

We are a team of four asthma specialist nurses which include a Band 7 and three Band 6. We employ a variety of techniques in order to review the patients who have been admitted with an acute asthma attack.

- To increase awareness of our specialist team and our ability to support patients who are admitted, we attend regular education days for nursing staff and offer our contact information. We can refer inpatients to a dedicated smoking cessation team, who will examine their cases and offer smoking cessation products and assistance.
- We offer a bleep service and direct telephone contact for inquiries; our office base is within very close proximity to the inpatient respiratory wards allowing colleagues to speak to us directly.
- The hospital employs an IT patient/bed allocation programme that alerts us to patients who are admitted with an acute exacerbation of asthma. This allows ward staff to flag patients, which helps with admission identification and allows us to swiftly identify patients that require review. Because the hospital now provides same-day emergency care for respiratory patients, we may identify patients who require admission and bring them directly from the emergency department for review in the SDEC.
- We have created a clear structured proforma that we utilise when reviewing patients. Once completed, it is placed in the patients' ward medical notes and scanned to the patients' electronic records for review at follow-up consultations. We ensure that patients give their consent to data collecting.

Adult asthma - Good Practice Repository – case study

National Respiratory Audit Programme

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- Every patient receives a thorough evaluation to ensure that the KPI4: Components of Good Practice at Discharge are met.
- We evaluate inhaler technique with placebo inhaler devices, discuss and present patients with a documented asthma management plan, or review the plan with patients who have previously been admitted. Each component is examined to educate and support patients, as well as to determine any additional testing required while they are an inpatient.
- On discharge, we provide patients with a support contact number so that they can call us if they require more assistance prior to their follow-up visit.

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