

NRAP Good Practice Repository – COPD

Salisbury District Hospital  
Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust



**KPI6:**

Key elements of discharge bundle provided as part of  
discharge.

*Salisbury District Hospital achieved:*

**78.5% - 2022-23\***

\*% of patients submitted to the audit.

As a trust, our post-Covid pandemic performance for acute COPD admissions had declined in some areas of best practice from a previously higher standard. By making changes to practice within our respiratory team and the wider Trust, we have improved our delivery of care and are now achieving best practice more consistently ensuring the best clinical outcomes for our patients.

## Our processes to achieve good practice in KPI6:

Outcomes from the former National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme (NACAP) identified a decline in some areas of COPD care below the standards recognised for best practice. The respiratory department held a COPD Audit Review and Outcomes meeting which included respiratory nurse specialists, consultant & management team. Firstly, we identified areas for the decline with the main themes being an overstretched respiratory specialist nursing team and lack of time for data entry to the audit website.

**A business case for an additional whole time respiratory nurse specialist was successful. Their role was to focus on acute COPD & asthma admissions to improve case identification, discharge bundle completion, data entry and raise awareness of best practice and the enhanced COPD service through education.**

Since September 2023, our delivery of care and audit outcomes have improved substantially. Case identification of those admitted with an exacerbation has become a proactive task through interrogation of the hospital admission IT system. It also involves regular visits to the Acute Medical Unit, SDEC, Emergency Units and respiratory ward in addition to receiving referrals from any healthcare professional. This has resulted in an improvement of respiratory specialist reviews within the first 24 hours of hospital stay as well as the delivery of the COPD discharge bundle.

### The discharge bundle

The clinical review is adapted to individual needs and preferences with onward referral as appropriate. A range of paper and digital material is used to meet the key elements (linked below) as well as utilising other services such as our tobacco dependency and pulmonary rehabilitation teams. Follow up requests and emergency drug packs are now requested on the electronic discharge letter to the GP by the specialist nurse at the time of the review ensuring vital information is not omitted at a later stage. Being visible consistently across all departments has played a large part in the increased awareness of the importance for these reviews across the trust.

### Staffing

This dedicated role also allows time inputting data regularly into the NRAP database ensuring the live data is up-to-date and assists monthly reflection on practice. Patients who frequently get admitted to hospital due to their COPD are discussed at a Respiratory MDT meeting which includes a respiratory consultant, respiratory nurse, and a respiratory community matron with the aim of addressing issues that may prevent re-admission.

#### **COPD Good Practice Repository – case study**

National Respiratory Audit Programme

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## Education

Initiatives for the future include developing the multi-disciplinary education further including non-respiratory ward COPD/asthma 'champions' who can identify those on the ward who may benefit, referring directly and extending the service to provide weekend support. Reviewing the Emergency Care system to identify frequent attenders who are not admitted and arranging review by secondary or primary care is an ambition. Some of these elements will require a further expansion of the respiratory nursing team for full implementation.

## Resources for learning:

- Inhaler technique videos and written information - <https://www.asthmaandlung.org.uk/living-with/inhaler-videos>
- Self-management plan - <https://shop.asthmaandlung.org.uk/collections/health-advice-resources/products/copd-self-management-plan-1?variant=42365000843460>
- myCOPD digital self-management app - <https://mymhealth.com/mycopd>
- Oxygen alert cards - <https://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/quality-improvement/clinical-resources/oxygen/>
- VBA on smoking e-learning course - <https://elearning.ncsct.co.uk/vba-launch>
- VBA on smoking PDF - <https://www.ncsct.co.uk/library/view/pdf/VBA.pdf>
- Asthma and Lung UK exercise handbook - <https://shop.asthmaandlung.org.uk/collections/health-advice-resources/products/exercise-handbook-2?variant=42628448747716>
- Asthma and Lung UK COPD patient passport - <https://shop.asthmaandlung.org.uk/collections/new-shop-hcp/products/copd-passport>