

Community Oxygen and Respiratory Support Service An Overview



Service provided by:

Who are we?

We cover Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven CCGs, not just Bradford and Airedale. NHS Bradford and Airedale have appointed BOC Healthcare to provide a new service for patients requiring home oxygen therapy within the area. Our team is comprised of respiratory specialist who specialises in caring for patients with chronic respiratory disease and other long term conditions who require home oxygen therapy.

Our aim is to improve the health of patients living with oxygen therapy. We will do this by helping each individual patient get the most from their oxygen therapy.

Our service

We provide an oxygen assessment and follow up service for patients with any of the following respiratory conditions:

- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease COPD)
- chronic severe asthma
- bronchiectasis
- interstitial lung disease

You have been referred to our service for a full oxygen assessment. This could be because you already receive home oxygen therapy or because your Healthcare Professional has indicated that you may have low oxygen levels.

What to expect

When you come our Oxygen Clinic, we will assess your home oxygen need. Your first appointment may involve:

- a review of your diagnosis
- a review of your medication and self management plan
- performing a pulse oximetry reading which involves attaching a small probe to your finger to measure your oxygen levels
- performing blood gas testing to measure the levels of oxygen in the blood accurately. This is obtained from either a small prick of the ear or blood taken from an artery in the wrist. It is different from the blood test that is normally taken from the arm. This blood test measures the gases in the blood. This will show if you have low levels of oxygen in the blood
- performing walk tests to examine if your blood oxygen levels decrease on exertion. These will be done to your own capability
- giving education on your long term condition
- referral to other agencies that are beneficial to you, with your consent

Additionally, for patients who already have home oxygen therapy and for patients who will require it for the first time, we will:

- order your home oxygen therapy
- provide education on home oxygen therapy
- act as a source of specialised oxygen support
- provide regular follow ups, the frequency of which will be explained at your appointment



What the service does not do

The service does not deliver home oxygen, this is provided by the regional home oxygen provider in your area. Details will be provided as required.

Next steps

You will be invited for an initial assessment appointment shortly at one of our local community oxygen clinics. Please aim to arrive 10 minutes prior to the time of your appointment. Please bring a list of your medication with you including your ambulatory oxygen (if you have already been prescribed it)

When to contact us

If you have any questions, queries or are unable to attend your appointment please telephone 0800 012 1858 If you feel unwell prior to your appointment with increased symptoms of:

- breathlessness
- cough
- sputum
- change in colour of your sputum
- or you have been prescribed steroids or antibiotics for a chest infection

Please contact us for advice as we may need to re-arrange your appointment.

If you require this leaflet in another language, braille or audiotape please contact the Community Oxygen and Respiratory Support Service.

BOC Healthcare

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