

Context and delivery of post-AECOPD pulmonary rehabilitation

All individuals admitted to hospital with an AECOPD received the COPD care bundle as routine care, which includes a referral to pulmonary rehabilitation. The referring clinician discusses the benefits of pulmonary rehabilitation with the patient but no leaflet or video is shown. The NTHFT pulmonary rehabilitation service is a rolling programme consisting of 12 sessions delivered twice a week over six weeks in community and hospital venues. Pulmonary rehabilitation is delivered simultaneously to individuals post-AECOPD and to those for whom COPD is stable. The initial assessment for pulmonary rehabilitation, the classes (consisting of exercise and education) and the discharge assessment are delivered as per the British Thoracic Society guidelines ¹. Transport to the pulmonary rehabilitation classes is offered via the North of England patient transport service however this is subject to eligibility criteria considering; treatment, sight and hearing loss, contact with mental health services, oxygen requirements, safety, access to own transport, public transport links, mobility and ability to perform activities of daily living.

1. Bolton CE, Bevan-Smith EF, Blakey JD, et al. British Thoracic Society guideline on pulmonary rehabilitation in adults. *Thorax*. 2013;68 Suppl 2:1-30.