



Management of advanced COPD

A multi-system and multi-disciplinary approach is needed to support this patient group and their carers/family. This practice improvement worksheet describes some of the factors that need to be considered. The common symptoms experienced by the patient may or may not be as a direct result of their COPD, and part of their management is to consider whether the original diagnosis is correct, whether the patient has more than one disease, or whether they have systemic problems associated with their COPD.

In some circumstances, doing so may open the way to more effective treatment, not just of their COPD but of their co-morbid conditions. Treatment should include smoking cessation, immunisation, pulmonary rehabilitation (and regular activity thereafter), and should be aimed at relieving symptoms, reducing exacerbation risk and enhancing/maintaining quality of life.

- ✓ Better end of life care for people with COPD
- ✓ Better more appropriate treatment for people with COPD
- ✓ Management in line with national guidance

PCRS-UK Resources:

- **PCRS-UK Opinion sheets** - Routine use of oxygen, Differential diagnosis of the breathless patient, Smoking cessation, Pulse oximetry, Inhaler devices, COPD review, Pulmonary rehabilitation, Telehealth, Social and lifestyle impact of COPD, COPD self-management and self-care, Hospital at home, Palliative care
- **PCRS-UK Quick Guide to the diagnosis and management of COPD in primary care**
- **PCRS-UK COPD assessment and review**

Other Resources:

- PCRJ: Dean MM. End of life care for COPD patients. *Prim Care Respir J* 2008;**17**(1):46-50. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3132/pcrj.2008.00007>
- PCRJ: O'Kelly N, Smith J. Palliative care for patients with end-stage COPD. *Prim Care Respir J* 2007;**16**(1):57-58 <http://dx.doi.org/10.3132/pcrj.2007.00003>
- GOLD standards Framework. <http://www.goldstandardsframework.org.uk/>
- Living and Dying Well <http://www.livinganddyingwell.org.uk/>
- SPARC Holistic tool: <http://www.ncsi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/SPARC-Brief-History-and-Usage.pdf>
- National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) Clinical Guideline 101. Management of COPD in adults. <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG101>
- GOLD – Global strategy for the diagnosis, management and prevention of COPD

Practice Improvement Worksheets, DRAFT version 01,
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This series of practice improvement worksheets are intended for members to use within their practice. This is a pilot project, prepared in DRAFT format. Please tell us what you think! We would like feedback on the accuracy, completeness, usefulness and outcomes of the resource. To submit your feedback visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EQUIPIIW>

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