

Tower Hamlets Community Respiratory Virtual Ward (ARCARE) – Referral Criteria



Commented [ST1]: Do you want to add details of How to refer?
ARCARE triage number etc
Ensure phone calls are made and patient accepted

<p>Who can Refer? GPs, A&E, PRU/SDEC/REACH, Out-patient clinics, Wards, In-patient Units</p> <p>Inclusion Criteria Must be over the age of 18 years old Be registered with a Tower Hamlets GP/ Live in Tower Hamlets Have a confirmed diagnosis of chronic respiratory disease (COPD, ILD, Bronchiectasis, Chronic Asthma)</p> <p>With signs of a respiratory exacerbation -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worse /increased amount of sputum • Increased breathlessness, cough, fever, wheeze • Reduced exercise tolerance because of breathlessness <p>Clinical Interventions: Acute Resp/ Holistic Assessment, Provision of oral systemic treatment for exacerbations, Short-term Nebuliser therapy, Home oxygen troubleshooting, Resp inhaler optimisation, Self-management education, Remote Health Monitoring (Doccla System), Point of Care Testing (CBG) if needed, Daily Nurse/Physio Reviews, Consultant/MDT input</p> <p>Bed Capacity: 20 (Patients are care for in their own homes) Length of Stay: 7-14 days</p>	<p>Exclusion Criteria Patients who do not meet the criteria set for referral to the service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients under the age of 18 years of age. • Unstable or worsening clinical trajectory, i.e. saturations <94% unless confirmed lower oxygen saturation baseline • Severe or life-threatening presentations of pneumonia, asthma or COPD • Suspected sepsis or other condition where there is a need for frequent intra-venous medication • Chest pain that is possibly cardiac in nature • Pregnant women with saturations of ≤94% • Unmet Social Need (unless a care package is in place) • Homelessness (unless has temporary accommodation for 2 weeks) • On End-of-Life Care, can be referred to Palliative Care Team <p>How to Refer:</p> <p>Referrals are accepted between 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM (7 days a week)</p> <p>Patients will be contacted same day of referral or within 24 hours</p> <p>For Barts Health referral (in-patient/ Clinic / A&E): Call 07983177719, Bleep 1936, or via email bhnt.arcare@nhs.net (please call if urgent)</p> <p>For Community/GP Referrals: Call 07983177719, Send CHS Referral Form to Single Point of Access via EMIS</p>
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COPD	Bronchiectasis	Interstitial Lung Disease	Chronic Asthma
<p>Consider use of DECAF Score¹ to triage patients in A&E/In-Patient Unit with total score of 0 -1 are eligible, 2 depending on clinical judgement</p> <div style="background-color: #e0f0e0; padding: 5px;"> <p>Dyspnoea – 0: not too dyspnoeic to leave the house 1: too dyspnoeic to leave the house but independent with washing and dressing 2: too dyspnoeic to leave the house and wash or dress independently</p> <p>Eosinopenia – 0: eosinophils >0.05 x10⁹/L 1: eosinophils <0.05 x10⁹/L</p> <p>Consolidation – 0: No consolidation on chest X-ray 1: consolidation on chest X-ray</p> <p>Acidaemia – 0: pH >7.3 on ABG 1: pH <7.3 on ABG</p> <p>Fibrillation (atrial) – 0: no current or past history of AF 1: current or past history of AF</p> </div> <p>Nadeem et al Future Healthc J. 2021 Mar;8(1):e123-e126</p>	<p>On acute oral antibiotics</p> <p>Requiring acute support/ education with chest clearance at home.</p>	<p>Acute on Chronic Breathlessness, needing an increase in oral steroids</p> <p>Requiring Acute Breathlessness Management Support / Education at home</p>	<p><u>Referrals accepted from A&E/Hospital Discharge Only</u></p> <p>PEFR > 50% of predicted with improving trajectory with the last 3 readings, at least 4 hours apart</p> <p>SpO2 94% or above</p> <p>No history of severe asthma exacerbation requiring HDU/ ITU Admission</p> <p>ARCARE can support nebuliser weaning in the community</p>