



Competence Areas – TIER 2

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1. Inhalers

Competence statement:

This competence refers to the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to help patients use inhalers effectively – applicable to both acute and long term management of asthma, COPD and other respiratory conditions

Rating Scale: 1 Needs a lot of development

2 Needs some development

3 Is well developed

T2 Knowledge	1	2	3
1 Describe how to assess patient for effective inhaler technique for commonly used devices and how refer to specialist if unable to use inhalers			
2 Explain the effects, contraindications and possible drug interactions of the inhaler medications			
3 Identify the variety of devices and aids to optimise inhaler technique			
4 Describe the benefits and limitations of the range of inhaler devices			
5 Explain behavioural and physical traits that may reduce adherence to inhaler medication in patient/carer			
6 Describe relevant clinical guidelines and how they apply to practice			
7 Keep up to date with new inhaler devices and medications			
T2 Skills	1	2	3
1 Routinely assess, review and optimise patient adherence to inhaler regime and ability to use inhaler			
2 Liaise with senior and/or specialist colleagues regarding alternative inhaler medications for patients assessed as physically unable to use a device			
3 Act as resource for patient/carer and other nurses or health professionals regarding inhaler therapy			
4 Refer to appropriate resources to assist behaviour modification			
5 Maintain an evidence based risk assessment and update as necessary			
T2 Attitudes	1	2	3
1 Show motivation to work in partnership with the patient/carer to select suitable inhaler devices			
2 Show willingness to work in partnership with the patient /carer to select suitable inhaler devices			

2. Nebulisers

Competence statement:

This competence refers to the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to use nebuliser therapy in acute exacerbations and in the long term management of asthma, COPD and other respiratory conditions

Rating Scale: 1 Needs a lot of development

2 Needs some development

3 Is well developed

T2 Knowledge	1	2	3
1 Identify prescription criteria for nebuliser therapy			
2 Explain the effects, contraindications and possible drug interactions of the medications administered by nebuliser prescribed			
3 Describe relevant clinical guidelines and how they apply to practice			
4 Relate effectiveness of nebuliser therapy to pathophysiological processes and patient's clinical status			
5 Describe the difficulties patients/carers may have incorporating domiciliary nebuliser therapy into lifestyle and how these can be minimised			
T2 Skills	1	2	3
1 Discuss nebuliser treatment plan with patient/carer and identify ways of incorporating their wishes			
2 Liaise with multiprofessionals/multi-agencies regarding patient's ongoing need for, and effectiveness of, nebuliser therapy			
3 Educate patient/carer on how to use therapy and care for equipment			
4 Actively seek opportunities to develop the services provided			
5 Actively seek opportunities to audit the services provided			
T2 Attitudes	1	2	3
1 Show willingness to provide clinical leadership to support nurses and other professionals			
2 Value the need for clear lines of communication with members of patient's healthcare team to promote seamless healthcare to promote the delivery of safe and effective care			
3 Value the contribution of external providers to patient care			

3. Oxygen Therapy

Competence statement:

This competence refers to the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to implement oxygen therapy in acute exacerbations of COPD , asthma and other respiratory conditions including home and ambulatory oxygen therapy for long term management.

Rating Scale: 1 Needs a lot of development

2 Needs some development

3 Is well developed

T2 Knowledge		1	2	3
1	Identify prescription criteria based on pathophysiological processes			
2	Describe relevant clinical guidelines and how they apply to practice			
3	Explain the types of oxygen therapy, for example, long term oxygen therapy, ambulatory oxygen therapy			
4	Explain expected benefits to patients of the types of domiciliary oxygen			
5	Describe oxygen providers and how it can be obtained, including awareness of oxygen equipment and interfaces in acute and domiciliary			
6	Relate effectiveness of oxygen to pathophysiological processes and patient's clinical status			
7	Outline the physical, psychosocial and social effects on patient/carer of using the types of oxygen therapy and how these effects can be minimised			
8	Awareness of Regional Risk Assessment Tool and 'oxygen alert' , and how it relates to clinical practice			
T2 Skills		1	2	3
1	Screen patients at risk of hypoxaemia for the need for oxygen therapy, and refer to senior or specialist practitioner where necessary			
2	Discuss oxygen treatment plan with patient/carer and identify ways of incorporating their wishes and preferences			
3	a) Consider referral for flight assessment in patients at risk of hypoxaemia who intend to use air travel			
3	b) Choose and/or recommend oxygen equipment that will sufficiently meet individual patient/carer preferences and changing prescription requirements			
4	Liaise with patient healthcare team regarding ongoing effectiveness of treatment and contribute to adjustment of individualised management plan where necessary			
5	Awareness of Regional Risk Assessment Tool for Home Oxygen			
6	Discuss domiciliary oxygen provision with patient healthcare team in relevant sectors to facilitate seamless care			
7	Assist and motivate patient/carer to incorporate domiciliary oxygen safely into lifestyle			
8	Actively seek opportunities to develop the service provided			
9	Actively seek opportunities to audit the therapy provided			
T2 Attitudes		1	2	3
1	Respect the need for clear lines of communication with relevant members of the patient's healthcare team to promote safe and effective healthcare			

2 Show willingness to empower patients/carers through appropriate education and advocacy of their wishes

3 Value the contribution of external providers to patient care

4. Non-Invasive Ventilation

Competence statement:

This competence refers to the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to implement non-invasive ventilation (NIV) in acute exacerbations of COPD and long term management of COPD.

Rating Scale: 1 Needs a lot of development

2 Needs some development

3 Is well developed

T2 Knowledge		1	2	3
1	Identify patient selection criteria and contraindications for initiating NIV			
2	Describe relevant clinical guidelines and how they apply to practice			
3	Describe operation and application of NIV functions			
4	Describe physiological effect of NIV on ventilation			
5	Describe how NIV is set up and how to assess patient for appropriate interfaces			
6	Explain the physical, psychosocial and financial effects on patient/carer of using domiciliary NIV and how these can be minimised			
7	Describe ways of finding out patient/carer wishes regarding NIV management plan			
8	Describe the NIV supply procedure			
T2 Skills		1	2	3
1	Carry out appropriate monitoring of effectiveness of NIV, and potential complications, in conjunction with an individualised NIV management plan and treatment guidance (includes ceiling of treatment and 'Do Not Attempt Resuscitation' status)			
2	Obtain informed consent for provision of NIV where necessary			
3	Contribute to, and implement, individualised NIV management plan			
4	Liaise with multiprofessional colleagues to evaluate the effectiveness of NIV therapy			
5	Set up, monitor, review, trouble shoot and terminate NIV therapy, and apply NIV circuit to patient newly requiring therapy in accordance with local policy			
6	Set up NIV therapy in new patients in accordance with local policy and procedures			
7	Co-ordinate a seamless patient journey between healthcare sectors with effective and appropriate communication and documentation			
8	Contribute to and implement local standards for application of NIV			
9	Actively seek opportunities to engage in service development			
10	Actively seek opportunities to audit service provision			
T2 Attitudes		1	2	3
1	Show willingness to provide clinical leadership to support work of nurses and other health professionals			
2	Respect for the need for clear lines of communication with relevant members of the patient's healthcare team to promote safe and effective healthcare			

3	Value the contribution of external providers to patient care			
4	Show willingness to empower patients/carers through appropriate education and advocacy of their wishes			

5. Adrenaline Auto-Injectors

Competence statement:

This competence refers to the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to ensure that patients use Adrenaline Auto-injectors (AAI) safely and effectively – when such have been prescribed for patients at risk of anaphylaxis.

Rating Scale: 1 Needs a lot of development

2 Needs some development

3 Is well developed

T2 Knowledge		1	2	3
1	Identify the prescription criteria for AAI			
2	Explain the effects, contraindications and possible drug interactions of this medication			
3	Identify the variety of devices available			
4	Describe the benefits and limitations of the range AAI			
5	Explain behavioural (e.g. needle phobia) and physical traits that may reduce adherence to AAI use in patient/carer			
6	Describe relevant clinical guidelines and how they apply to practice			
T2 Skills		1	2	3
1	Routinely assess, review and optimise patient adherence to AAI regime and ability to use AAI			
2	Liaise with senior and/or specialist colleagues regarding alternative AAI devices for patients assessed as physically unable to use a specific device			
3	Act as resource for patient/carer and other nurses or health professionals regarding AAI			
4	Refer to appropriate resources to assist behaviour modification			
5	Maintain an evidence based risk assessment and update as necessary			
T2 Attitudes		1	2	3
1	Show motivation to work in partnership with the patient/carer to select suitable AAI in line with current guidelines			