

COPD LES Key Points

1. COPD Claim form

Please see below the link to the claim form. Please ensure claims are done within the following month post review

<http://pctnet.dudley.nhs.uk/cmsintra/GP-Electronic-Claim-Forms/form.asp?id=10610>

2. READ code – Arterial Blood Gas Analysis (Pulse Oximetry)

PLEASE NOTE A READ CODE CHANGE FOR PULSE OXIMETRY from 8A44-1 to READ code 44YA0 (Arterial Blood Gas Analysis).

As per the Primary Care Commissioning website practices should be using Business Rules v25 ([Please Click Here to access the COPD Data Set](#)) (see page number:12) the read code will automatically be added to the templates/guidelines on the relevant clinical systems so practices won't need to amend/add the READ code to the system for the purpose of the COPD LES Service Specification and any necessary claims.

The code has been updated to reflect the QoF indicators on Clinical Audit and Population Manager and it is therefore recommended that the practices have the updated version installed on their clinical systems or to check that this READ code is added to the necessary template/guideline.

3. Standby Antibiotics and Steroids

Self-management of COPD

Encourage people at risk of having an exacerbation to respond quickly to the symptoms of an exacerbation by:

adjusting bronchodilator therapy to control symptoms

starting oral corticosteroid therapy (unless contraindicated) if increased breathlessness interferes with activities of daily living

starting antibiotic therapy if their sputum is purulent

If a patient requires **3** courses of steroids during a **six month period** then do a sputum specimen for culture & sensitivity

If a patient requires **3** courses of oral steroids over a **six month period** then consider a FRAX assessment using the link below

<http://www.shef.ac.uk/FRAX/tool.jsp>

(If a patient keeps a prescription until they need it, It may be worth considering giving 2 separate prescriptions for the antibiotics and steroids so the patient can decide if one or both are appropriate depending on symptoms)

Dudley Respiratory Recommend that ALL patients with COPD are given:

- **COPD Self Management Plans**
- **Stand by Antibiotics & Steroids (monitor use)**

4. BOD Score

Record a BOD score on all patients with very Severe COPD (FEV1 < 30%) and record in free text. On the COPD LES claim form record the BOD score and this will be monitored by Dudley Respiratory Group

If you have any questions please contact Joanne Hamilton on

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