

## 6.10 Evaluation of High Flow Nasal Oxygen Therapy in Acute Respiratory Failure

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**Background:** High Flow Nasal Oxygen (HFNO) therapy has shown significant benefits in managing acute respiratory failure, including improved oxygenation and reduced intubation rates compared to conventional oxygen therapy. Despite its potential, the utilisation of HFNO remains under explored.

**Methods:** We conducted a prospective study involving patients who were initiated on HFNO over a one-week period. Data was collected on arterial blood gases (ABG) results prior to starting HFNO, HFNO settings including temperature and flow, and whether oxygen was formally prescribed and target saturations were documented. We compared the patients' actual oxygen saturations with the documented targets and guideline-recommended target saturations. Additionally, we reviewed the clinical reasons for initiating HFNO and assessed whether clear escalation plans were documented. We also evaluated the alignment of hospital practices with established clinical guidelines **Results:** Preliminary findings suggest the majority of patients were started on HFNO for various reasons. There is variability in adherence to target O<sub>2</sub> saturations and documentation of escalation plans. These findings indicate potential areas for improvement in the use of HFNO. **Conclusion:** While HFNO shows promise in managing acute respiratory failure in an Irish setting, our findings highlight the need for better adherence to prescription guidelines and improved documentation practices.

**Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.