

8.12 Home NIV Prescription In COPD Patients With Chronic Stable Hypercapnia-A Comparison Of Current Practices With ERS Guidelines In University Hospital Limerick

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Background: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease can cause hypercapnic failure, significantly increasing mortality rates and the economic burden of the disease due to greater risk for hospitalisation and rapid deterioration. The European Respiratory Society recommends long-term home non-invasive ventilation (LTH-NIV) for patients with chronic stable hypercapnic COPD, based on evidence suggesting improvements in health-related quality of life, dyspnoea, exercise tolerance, along with potential reductions in mortality and hospitalizations. **Method:** This study evaluated the compliance with ERS recommendations in COPD patients with chronic hypercapnia at the time of hospital discharge. **Results:** We assessed 10 patients admitted to UHL between January to February 2024, with IECOPD having chronic stable hypercapnia at time of discharge that is defined as pH >7.3, pCO₂ >6 kPa, HCO₃ >30mEq/L found in ABGs assessment on two separate occasions at least 4 weeks apart. We examined whether these patients received respiratory consultation and LTH-NIV upon discharge as per ERS guidelines. Seven out of 10 patients (70%) were discharged without receiving respiratory consultation and LTH-NIV. **Conclusion:** Our findings indicate that 70% of COPD patients with chronic stable hypercapnia were discharged without LTH-NIV, highlighting a gap in the implementation of ERS guidelines, suggesting rigorous awareness campaign is required among medical team regarding management of COPD. **Conflict of Interest:** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.