

# COPD care bundles: Improving implementation

Improving implementation of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) discharge care bundles at Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust (RCHT) to ensure patients have the right care when they leave hospital.

## Focus



- 1 The South West Patient Safety Collaborative (PSC), hosted by the South West AHSN, has been working with RCHT since 2019 to support COPD and asthma discharge care bundle implementation in the region.
- 2 **Implementing discharge care bundles** for people with COPD results in **fewer readmissions to hospital<sup>[1]</sup>** with associated reduction in costs and implications for improved patient outcomes.
- 3 A COPD discharge care bundle includes: **follow-up care**, checking **inhaler technique**, referral for help to **stop smoking**, assessment and referral for **pulmonary rehabilitation**, emergency **drug packs** and a **self-management plan**.

## Approach



### The South West PSC provided:

- ✓ **Bespoke** quality improvement support
- ✓ **'Pump-prime' funding** to recruit an audit facilitator to support completion of the National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme (NACAP)
- ✓ **Facilitated networking** across organisational boundaries within Cornwall and the wider South West region.

**A respiratory specialist nurse** from RCHT attended South West PSC-led COPD and asthma learning events and webinars.

## Impact



Since the project began in 2019, RCHT has seen a **46% increase** in people with COPD **receiving all elements** of the bundle for which they are eligible.

- 54%** more people have had appropriate follow-up care arranged on discharge
- 51%** more people had their inhaler technique checked
- 51%** more people have been referred for help to stop smoking
- 49%** more people have been assessed for pulmonary rehabilitation
- 42%** more people have received emergency drug packs
- 34%** more people have received a self-management plan

**“Support from the South West AHSN helped us to track the progress of the new Asthma & COPD Nurse service. This has helped me make a case to expand our service.”**

Jill Leyshon, Respiratory Specialist Nurse, Royal Cornwall Hospital

### What next?

RCHT continues to engage in ongoing improvement work as a member of the Kernow Respiratory Oversight Group and Southwest Respiratory Network. The South West AHSN is working on other national programmes to improve access to Fractional Exhaled Nitric Oxide (FeNO) testing and asthma biologics.