

As oxygen is a drug, it must be prescribed according to your individual need, and therefore this assessment is necessary. Many people no longer need oxygen at this point, because they continue to improve.

For further information on this service, please call:

Service Contact details:

Respiratory Support Team QEHB:

Monday–Friday, 08:00–17:00

Tel: **0121 371 4805**

Community Respiratory Team

Monday–Friday, 09:00–17:00

Tel: **0121 466 3603**

Early Intervention Community Team

Monday–Sunday, 08:00–22:00

Tel: **0300 555 1919** (Option 2)

BCHC Single Point of Access

Out of hours

Tel: **0300 555 1919**

For additional information for support, contact:

British lung foundation

Tel: **03000 030 555**

www.blf.org.uk

NHS–111

Age UK Advice Line

Tel: **0800 055 6112**

www.ageuk.org.uk



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uhb.nhs.uk/ask

Respiratory Medicine

7th Floor, Area 2

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham

Mindelsohn Way, Edgbaston

Birmingham, B15 2GW

Telephone: 0121 371 2000



University Hospitals Birmingham

NHS Foundation Trust



Respiratory Discharge Service

Building healthier lives

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What is the Respiratory Discharge Service (RDS)?

The Respiratory Discharge Service (RDS) is a consultant-led respiratory service, which includes specialised respiratory nursing and physiotherapy healthcare professionals. We support patients at home, following admission to hospital with a lung condition.

The Respiratory Discharge Service (RDS) helps patients to return home with support of a respiratory specialist, sooner than would have been the case with a conventional hospital admission.

To use the service, patients must live in the south Birmingham area; have access to a landline or mobile telephone number; and their accommodation must be easily accessible to members of the RDS team.

Support will involve home visits and telephone contact from the physiotherapy/nursing team. Patients and carers will have access to telephone support 24 hours, seven days a week.

Your care will be transferred back to your GP, who will be fully aware of any treatment changes and how the RDS is supporting you at home whilst you are unwell.

What you can expect

- Planned hospital discharge date given
- Home visit arranged for the same day or next day following discharge
- Treatment plan and support delivered by respiratory experts in your home
- 24 hours a day, seven days a week telephone support until acute illness has improved
- Care will be transferred back to the GP once the medical team are happy you have responded to treatment

How does the service work?

You will first meet a member of our team when admitted to Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham.

Following a medical assessment, the doctors will make appropriate changes to your medication to treat your lung condition. These changes may only be for a short period of time, until your medical condition has improved. Your treatment may involve a short course of steroid tablets (prednisolone), and if you have an infection (with discoloured sputum/phlegm) you will usually be prescribed antibiotic tablets too.

You may be prescribed new medication in the form of tablets or inhalers. This could be for a short period of time or become part of your long term medication. If the respiratory team feel you require

nebulised medication for a short period, all equipment required will be loaned to you. It will be collected by the team once your breathing has settled, and you have returned to using your usual inhalers.

If the RDS Team feel you may need to continue with nebulised treatment, an assessment appointment will be arranged for you.

If your medical condition requires you to have oxygen therapy at home the RDS team will arrange this for you.

Some patients' flare-ups require them to go home with oxygen therapy. If you are discharged with oxygen therapy, you will be visited at home on the day of discharge from hospital.

We will arrange for the oxygen machine, usually a concentrator, to be delivered to your home by a company called Baywater. Again, once your exacerbation has resolved you may not need oxygen.

The team will arrange for Baywater to remove all loaned oxygen equipment once you no longer require it. However, if you continue to need oxygen after your exacerbation, an assessment appointment will be arranged for you at the Lung Investigation Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham.