



Follow-up and continuing care

Respiratory outcome

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Statement of the standard

Respiratory health is evaluated as part of a follow-up care programme.



For parents, family and children and adults born preterm

- Parents and families are informed about and invited by healthcare professionals to attend follow-up programmes including respiratory assessment.
- Parents and children get recommendations for healthy life style and vaccinations by healthcare professionals.
- Parents receive individual advice regarding day care attendance.



For neonatal unit, hospital, and follow-up team

- A unit guideline on follow-up including respiratory care is available and regularly updated.
- Symptomatic individuals are referred to appropriate paediatric respiratory services for longer term surveillance.
- Training on the appropriate referral and treatment for high-risk infants with respiratory disease and about health promotion including cessation of household smoking is ensured.

Benefits

Short-term benefits: N/A

Long-term benefits:

- Improved identification of individuals who require further diagnostic tests or treatment of respiratory conditions
- Reduced risk of rehospitalisations
- Reduced school absence
- Reduced number of days of restricted activity
- Reduced emergency room visits
- Improved respiratory health



For healthcare professionals (including general practitioners)

- A unit guideline on follow-up including respiratory care is adhered to by all healthcare professionals.
- Training on the appropriate referral and treatment for high-risk infants with respiratory disease and about health promotion including cessation of household smoking is attended by all responsible healthcare professionals.



For health service

- A national guideline on follow-up including respiratory care is available and regularly updated.
- RSV immunisation is available for the infants with high risk for hospitalisation. Its use should be suited to the local resources as the cost-effectiveness and long-term benefits are still unclear.

