

# NORTH EAST NORTH CUMBRIA REGIONAL PATHWAY – BRONCHIOLITIS IN INFANTS

## Oxygen Therapy

- Ideally oxygen delivered should be humidified
  - Face mask oxygen via venturi device to titrate
  - Low flow oxygen via nasal cannulae
  - Headbox
- 1:6 nursing ratio is acceptable

## Humidified High Flow Nasal Cannula Oxygen Therapy

- Age specific nasal cannulae (RCPCH guidance – [Appendix 2](#))
- <10kg 2L/kg/min >10kg (20 + 0.5L/kg/min)
- FiO<sub>2</sub> titrated to SpO<sub>2</sub> 92-98%
- Orogastric tube in situ
- 1:4 nursing ratio is acceptable
- Assess for response with clinical review at 15-30min
  - Expect ↓RR and WOB
- If SpO<sub>2</sub> <92% and FiO<sub>2</sub> >0.4 persistently
  - Consider escalation of respiratory support
  - **High risk group - <3months old / ex-Prem / Congenital Heart Disease – early NECTAR referral**

Consider if available

## Continuous Positive Airway Pressure

- Usual CPAP via nasal mask or nasal prong interface
- Bi-level support maybe used in a Level 2 or 3 PCC unit
- 6-8cm H<sub>2</sub>O pressure
- 1:2 nursing ratio recommended
- Regular medical bedside reviews
- Sedation to facilitate tolerance of CPAP only in a Level 2 Critical Care unit with appropriate level of monitoring
- If SpO<sub>2</sub> <92% and FiO<sub>2</sub> >0.4 persistently
  - Consider escalation of respiratory support
  - **High risk group - <3months old / ex-Prem / Congenital Heart Disease – early NECTAR referral**

## General Management

- Observations
  - PEWS chart – consider ECG monitoring
  - Record RR, recessions, grunting, apnoeas
- Airway & Breathing
  - Gentle secretion clearance as indicated and if safe
  - Consider chest physiotherapy
  - Consider prone positioning (with appropriate level monitoring)
- Feeding and hydration
  - Small frequent oral feeds/NG feeds (medium risk)
  - Nil enteral/ ⅓ restricted IV fluids (high risk)
- CoVID
  - Isolate (esp [CEV group](#)) in cubicles – prioritise result
  - Senior decision maker for HHFNC/CPAP commencement
  - Follow local PPE policy

Call NECTAR  
early  
01912826699

  
NORTH EAST CHILDREN'S  
TRANSPORT AND RETRIEVAL

**Invasive Ventilation**

**INTUBATION & VENTILATION**

**Call NECTAR for advice**

**Clinical decision usually**

- Critically ill infant
- Impending exhaustion
- Hypoxia despite oxygen therapy
- Frequent apnoeas

**Escalation of respiratory support due to progression of illness**

**Inadequate response to previous clinical interventions**

**Special Groups**

**Ex-Premature infants on home O<sub>2</sub> for Chronic Lung Disease**

- High O<sub>2</sub> requirement
- Chronic CO<sub>2</sub> retention with metabolic compensation

**Infants with neuro-muscular disease**

- Risk of masked respiratory failure

**Infants with Congenital Heart Disease**

- Look for Emergency Health Care Plan
- Early discussion with NECTAR and Cardiology team with call conferencing
- **Cyanotic Heart disease** - expect and tolerate lower SpO<sub>2</sub> as appropriate for underlying condition

**PREPARE TO INTUBATE/VENTILATE**

- Consultant level input recommended
- Assemble local stabilisation team
  - Paediatrician
  - Anaesthetics/Critical Care
  - Experienced paediatric nurses
- Move safely to resuscitation area
- Use anaesthetic T-piece to maintain adequate gas exchange during preparation

**SUGGEST**

- [NECTAR intubation checklist](#)
- Ketamine + Atracurium/Rocuronium or gas induction of anaesthesia
  - Oral ETT
  - Micro cuff is preferable
  - Don't cut ETT short
- Pressure controlled ventilation
  - Aim PIP<30 PEEP 4-6 RR25-35 I:E 1:2 aim TV 5-8ml/kg
- Address CVS instability
- Sedate with Morphine & Midazolam +/-muscle relaxant
- Gastric tube on free drainage

**CoVID-19**

- **Consider awaiting CoVID swab result prior to commencing HHFNC O<sub>2</sub>**
- **Follow local PPE guidance for suspected/confirmed CoVID patients**
- **Do not delay non-invasive or invasive respiratory support if clinically indicated**
- **Discuss with NECTAR early for decision support**