

## Community Respiratory Service

An exciting **new Community Respiratory Service** will be available to Blackburn with Darwen patients from **28 November 2011**. This new, fully integrated service will be available for patients undergoing exacerbation or deterioration of their COPD, General Practices are encouraged to refer patients to the service for management of exacerbation of COPD, and therapy within the Community **where it is thought that the patient is at risk of hospital admission**. The majority of patient management will take place within their own homes.

The Community Matron team, have joined forces with the specialist respiratory practitioners within the Pulmonary Rehabilitation service to develop the Community Respiratory Service. The service has direct links to the Community Oxygen Service. **The Service will initially operate Monday – Friday 8am-6pm** and will be supported by the Out of Hours team.

### Who can be referred to the service?

- Patients who are registered with a Blackburn with Darwen GP practice, who have a diagnosis of COPD confirmed by spirometry
- Patients should be experiencing an acute deterioration in their COPD symptoms and should have consented to referral to the service.
- Patients who have previously been seen by this Service may refer themselves back to the service if they exacerbate with COPD in the future.

### Patient Management within the Community Respiratory Service

- Patients will have access to diagnostics within Primary Care
- Therapy will be optimised and short term acute nebulised therapy is available.
- Patients will have access to chest physiotherapy for sputum clearance and recovery.

### How to refer to the service:-

- Referrals should be made via the Single Point of Access by telephone or fax: **Tel: 01254 207074, fax 01254 201975**.
- The Community Respiratory Service may need to contact the referrer by telephone if an additional discussion is required about an individual patient's needs.
- An up to date Summary Print off from the Practice system will be required to facilitate prescribing.
- The Referrer will be contacted to acknowledge that a referral has been received and is being promptly dealt with.

*Referrals to the Community Respiratory Service will be accepted from 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011. However, if you would like to find out more information about the service in the interim, please contact Community Matron Clinical Leads Lynne Bax 07540030104 or Anne Lloyd 07740782831*

# **Community Respiratory Service**

**Tel 01254 207074/Fax 01254 201975**

**Contact the above service if  
you have a patient with  
COPD who is having frequent  
respiratory exacerbations or  
who is at risk of hospital  
admission.**

**DO NOT** advise the patient  
to buy a nebuliser - utilise  
the above service.