



Topic Talks

Respiratory Deterioration

Respiratory illness is more prevalent in Australia than previously estimated. Managing respiratory deterioration can be a challenging task. Changes can be subtle but very important. This week, let's focus on Respiratory Deterioration.

Some facts: in 2017-18

- 31% of Australians had chronic respiratory conditions estimated as almost 7.4 million people
- 1 in 9 Australians had asthma
- 1 in 20 Australians aged over 45 had COPD
- 90% of Australians aged 45 and over with COPD had at least one other chronic condition
- 441 deaths were due to asthma
- COPD was the 5th leading cause of death

Who suffers respiratory deterioration?

In a study by Hendriksen (2014), 1140 patients attending the emergency department over a one-year period, who also had normal vital signs on admission; were categorised according to their final discharge diagnosis. Retrospectively documented deterioration was then applied to total numbers to find the percentage of patients who deteriorated. This study showed that deterioration from respiratory causes is the most likely, even with normal vital signs on admission.

Let's talk

Suggested questions to ask yourself or your peers this week



How would you rate your level of understanding of this topic?

Watch a webinar, listen to a podcast, look at the websites. Learn something new.

What are the implications for your practice in relation to this topic?

Think about your organisation, your environment of work - what are the implications for practice?

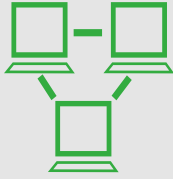
How long has it been since you practiced a full respiratory assessment and documenting it?

Perhaps some simulated practice would be useful.

What are 2 new pieces of information you have learned about the topic this week?

Think about what you have learned. How can you use this learning going forward?

Loddon Mallee Activities and Resources



What's on the Web?



References:



Tuesday 3rd May 1400: Join the webinar via the [Bendigo Health Website](#)

or via zoom <https://bendigohealth.zoom.us/j/93324155450?pwd=Nm9iSUZmSEl4enJHWFRheWRtaTdaUT09>

Speaker: Vishnu Jeganathan - General Medicine and Respiratory / Sleep Physician

Topic: Respiratory Deterioration

Webcasts:

- Lecturio (2017) Respiratory Distress: ABC Assessment, Diagnosis & Examination [22:20] https://youtu.be/C3rColcEt_0
- Lodeserto, F. (2019) Causes of acute respiratory failure [11:23] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqHH_N02yNo&t=54s
- ThinkLikeANurse (2018) COPD/Pneumonia SKINNY reasoning case study [14:14] <https://www.keithrn.com/2018/03/why-respiratory/>

Podcasts:

- MCC Project (2019) [43:52] How "Critical" is O2 in Critical Care? <http://maryland.ccproject.com/2015/07/16/rosenthal-how-critical-is-o2-in-critical-care-2/>
- NPS Medicinewise (2021) [20:36] eTG Respiratory Guidelines <https://www.nps.org.au/australian-prescriber/podcast/episode-102-etg-respiratory-guidelines>

Instructional videos:

- What is the Respiratory Assessment? (2021) [13:55] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcRO3uUsqkI>

Web Sites:

- [Asthma Australia](#)
- [Lung Foundation Australia](#)
- [National Asthma Council Australia](#)
- [RegisteredNurseRN.com - Lung Auscultation Points and Sounds](#)

- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2020) Chronic respiratory conditions snapshot [online at] <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-data/health-conditions-disability-deaths/chronic-respiratory-conditions/overview>
- Australian Government Department of Health (2020) What we're doing about lung and respiratory conditions [online at] <https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/chronic-conditions/what-were-doing-about-chronic-conditions/what-were-doing-about-lung-and-respiratory-conditions>
- Henricksen, D., Brabrand, M., Touborg Lassen, A. (2014) Prognosis and Risk Factors for deterioration in patients admitted to a medical emergency department. PLoS One. [online at] <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3981818/pdf/pone.0094649.pdf>