



Northern Care Alliance  
NHS Group

# Home Oxygen Assessment Clinic

An information guide



# Home Oxygen Assessment Clinic

## Home Oxygen Assessment Clinic

You have been referred to the oxygen assessment clinic either because your nurse/doctor feels you may need home oxygen or because you are already on oxygen at home and need to be reassessed.

### Before your appointment:-

- For those who already have oxygen at home we ask that you do not use any oxygen for at least one hour prior to your assessment. If you feel unable to do this please contact us so that a nurse can discuss ways for you to attend the clinic.
- Consider how you will get to the clinic. If you require an ambulance this can be arranged for you. Please contact us before the day of your appointment, even if you are booking the ambulance yourself or via your GP surgery.
- If you are currently unwell, or have been unwell in the last four weeks, we are unable to assess you in our clinic. Please contact us and we will be able to rearrange your appointment for a more suitable time.

### During the assessment:-

- You will be asked questions about your medical conditions and treatments. Please bring a recent list of medications with you.
- The oxygen in your blood will be measured by a finger probe and, in some patients, further measurements may be obtained via a blood sample taken from your earlobe.
- If a blood sample is required, a cream will be applied to your earlobe and any earrings will need to be removed. The cream is

used to improve blood flow to the earlobe allowing the technician to get a blood sample more easily. Your ear may feel warmer and appear red for some time after the procedure.

You will be informed of the test results and, depending on the stage of your assessment, you may be:

- Discharged home.
- Given a repeat appointment for 4 weeks time.
- Placed on oxygen and have the blood test repeated in an hour.
- Sent for further tests such as an echocardiogram, which is a heart scan.

Most visits are for less than half an hour but if you need oxygen you will need to stay longer, although this is usually no more than 2 hours.

If you are prescribed oxygen the clinician will discuss with you various aspects of using home oxygen and you will have a chance to ask questions. It may be useful to bring a family member or carer with you.

If the assessment shows there is no need for you to have oxygen at home the clinician will discuss other ways of controlling your breathlessness.

For more information about home oxygen therapy or your appointment, please contact 0161 922 3175 (Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm).

**If English is not your first language and you need help, please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service**

Jeśli angielski nie jest twoim pierwszym językiem i potrzebujesz pomocy, skontaktuj się z działem tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych

اگر انگریزی آپ کی پہلی زبان نہیں ہے اور آپ کو مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو ، براہ کرم ترجمانی اور ترجمہ خدمت سے رابطہ کریں

Dacă engleza nu este prima ta limbă și ai nevoie de ajutor, te rugăm să contactezi Serviciul de interpretare și traducere

ইংরাজী যদি আপনার প্রথম ভাষা না হয় এবং আপনার সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয় তবে অনুগ্রহ করে দোভাষী এবং অনুবাদ পরিষেবাটিতে যোগাযোগ করুন

إذا لم تكن الإنجليزية هي لغتك الأولى وتحتاج إلى مساعدة ، فيرجى الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الشفوية والتحريرية

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For advice on stopping smoking contact the Specialist Stop Smoking Service on 01706 517 522

**For general enquiries please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 0161 604 5897**


**For enquiries regarding clinic appointments, clinical care and treatment please contact 0161 624 0420 and the Switchboard Operator will put you through to the correct department / service**

The Northern Care Alliance NHS Group (NCA) is one of the largest NHS organisations in the country, employing 17,000 staff and providing a range of hospital and community healthcare services to around 1 million people across Salford, Oldham, Bury, Rochdale and surrounding areas. Our Care Organisations are responsible for providing our services, delivering safe, high quality and reliable care to the local communities they serve.

The NCA brings together Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust and the hospitals and community services of The Royal Oldham Hospital, Fairfield General Hospital in Bury, and Rochdale Infirmary (currently part of The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust).

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