

8.13 NIV Service in Cork University Hospital: An overview of service provision and the development of an NIV education programme

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NIV delivery in CUH faces many challenges. A re-audit of NIV service provision along with the development and delivery of a comprehensive NIV education programme was undertaken in CUH 2022/2023. The results of the re-audit were compared to the results of both the 2020 CUH NIV audit and the 2019 BTS NIV audit and benchmarked against the 2016 BTS NIV guidelines.

The respiratory physiotherapists together with the centre for nurse education, developed a class based NIV education programme designed to increase knowledge, competence and confidence among nursing staff in NIV patient management. Over 100 nurses have attended this 4 hour programme with 100% of attendees agreeing that the NIV study day would aid in changing or improving clinical practice. An overwhelming majority of attendees rated the theoretical and workshop content of the course as excellent. Ongoing NIV education is delivered to NCHD’s by the physiotherapy department and medical respiratory team in CUH.

The re-audit showed improvements in the following areas: A move to improve patient cohorting has resulted in 55% of patients on NIV ending up on the acute respiratory ward in 2023 compared to only 32% in 2020. A review by a clinical expert occurred within 4 hours of commencement of NIV in 40% of cases in 2023 compared with 18% of cases in 2020. NIV was deemed a success in 80% of patients in 2023 compared with 68% of cases in 2020. Results in other areas were less favourable showing that targeted education provision to the wider MDT is essential to build on improvements achieved to date.