Pediatric Care Network (PCN): Home Oxygen Protocol in Primary Care Setting for Patients with Bronchiolitis

Patient with bronchiolitis requiring home oxygen use pulse oximetry in office >84% and ≤90% consider home oxygen

During observation period look for:
- Stable on no more than ½ L sat ≥90%
- Maintaining hydration without need for frequent suctioning
- No signs of deterioration
- Caregiver and provider comfortable with discharge home
- Caregivers demonstrate proper use of oxygen tank

Observe at least 1-2 hours
Reassess work of breathing

Stable on no more than ½ LPM sat ≥90%?
Yes

Phone call at 4-12 hours. Reassess work of breathing, hydration and comfort. Schedule for follow-up in morning

Stable on no more than ½ LPM sat ≥90%?
No
Go to Emergency Room

No
Yes

Home 02 provided by office
Oxygen consignment agreement with DME provider
Completion of home 02 orders

In-person follow-up with MD at 24 hours
Reassess work of breathing, hydration and comfort

Stable on no more than ½ LPM sat ≥90%?
Yes

Oxygen Wean or Discontinuation:
- Consider at 24 hours
- Follow-up in person visit within 2-3 days
- If on home oxygen >10 days, consider a referral to pulmonary specialist

- No

Home Oxygen use Considerations:
- Home 02 Handout
- Nose aspirator Handout
- Day of illness

Therapeutic Adjuncts:
- Provide Nose aspirator and Home 02 handouts
- Use Nose Aspirator
- Control fever with antipyretics
- Assess on individual basis to provide home oxygen if there are smokers in the home

AAP Guidelines:
The AAP recommends:
- Supportive care such as suctioning, hydration and supplemental oxygen, when needed, for the majority of patients with bronchiolitis.
- Avoiding non-evidence-based interventions such as bronchodilators, chest X rays and respiratory viral testing.

Billing Considerations:
- CPT does not contain oxygen administration codes, it bundles into the E/M service you report for the day. Report the appropriate office visit code 99201-99205, 99212-99215 that describes the service the provider performs and documents.
- Bill prolonged services codes as appropriate: 99415-99416 for clinical staff face-to-face time, 99354-99355 for physician or APP face-to-face time.
- Pulse oximetry codes: 94760 single, 94761 multiple

©Children’s Hospital Colorado 2020
For questions on utilizing any trademarked, copyrighted or other materials made available through our website, please contact Webmaster
Clinical pathways and algorithms are intended for informational purposes only. They are current at the date of publication and are reviewed on a regular basis to align with the best available evidence. Some information and links may not be available to external viewers. External viewers are encouraged to consult other available sources if needed to confirm and supplement the content presented in the clinical pathways. Clinical pathways and algorithms are not intended to take the place of a physician’s or other health care provider’s advice, and are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease or other medical condition. The information should not be used in place of a visit, call, consultation or advice of a physician or other health care provider. The information presented should not be relied upon as being comprehensive or error-free. Furthermore, this document and the information it contains may not be distributed externally or reproduced for external distribution in any form without express written permission of Children's Hospital Colorado. The information presented is provided for use solely at your own risk on an “as-is” basis. Any person or entity reviewing this document and the information it contains should conduct their own review of the specified topic(s) and customize the information to meet their specific needs. Neither Children's Hospital Colorado, Pediatric Care Network, or any other Children’s Hospital Colorado entities accept any liability for the content, or for the consequences of any actions taken on the basis of the information provided. Children’s Colorado and the Pediatric Care Network declare no affiliation, sponsorship, nor any partnerships with any listed organization, or its respective directors, officers, employees, agents, contractors, affiliates, and representatives.