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If you would like the full text of any of the abstracts included, or would like a further search completed on this topic, please let us know.

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**Literature search results**

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**Search details**

Whether the provision of a respiratory nurse specialist service on admission units on a daily basis reduces length of stay/readmission compared with those who do not have access to respiratory nurse specialists in admission units on a daily basis.

**Resources searched**

NHS Evidence; TRIP Database; Cochrane Library; CINAHL; MEDLINE; Google Scholar

**Database search terms:**

("respiratory nurse specialist" OR "respiratory clinical nurse specialist" OR "respiratory specialist nurses"), "respiratory nurse"", exp RESPIRATORY NURSING, ("nurse led" OR nurse-led), "nurse specialist", "clinical nurse specialist", ("specialist nurses" OR "specialist clinical nurses"), "length of stay", exp LENGTH OF STAY, (re-admission OR readmission OR "re admission"), exp READMISSION, (re admit" OR readmit" OR re-admit"), "admission unit"", exp PATIENT ADMISSION, ("medical unit" OR "assessment unit", "admission* unit"

**Evidence search string(s):** respiratory “nurse specialist"

**Google search string(s):** respiratory “nurse specialist"

**Summary**

Unfortunately, I only found a little information on this topic. Most of the literature focuses on respiratory nurse specialists either working in the community or in specialist clinics. I have listed below the most relevant articles that I found.

**Guidelines**
**Evidence-based reviews**

**Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews**

**Nurse Specialist Care for Bronchiectasis, 2008**

This review has found one trial that does not demonstrate significant differences in clinical outcomes between nurse led care and doctor led care within the setting of a specialist clinic is, but there may be increased cost implications. Further research is required to review whether nurse led care provides the same outcomes in the community or secondary care setting.

**Published research**

*Caring for a patient newly diagnosed with COPD: a reflective account.*

**Author(s)** Kennedy, Siobhan  
**Citation:** Nursing Standard, 10 August 2011, vol./is. 25/49(43-48), 00296570  
**Publication Date:** 10 August 2011  
**Abstract:** In this article I reflect on my role as a respiratory nurse specialist caring for a patient newly diagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The aim of the article is to demonstrate the importance of specialist and holistic care for patients with COPD, as well as highlighting the need to carry out a thorough assessment to ensure that an accurate diagnosis is obtained and an appropriate plan of care is initiated. A model of reflection is used to promote self-awareness and provide a framework for reflection.  
**Source:** CINAHL  
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library  
Available in fulltext from Nursing Standard at EBSCOHost  
Available in print at Lincoln County Hospital Professional Library  
Available in print at Louth County Hospital Medical Library  
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library

*Patients with specialist nurses twice as likely to be treated.*

**Author(s)** Ford, Steve  
**Citation:** Nursing Times, 13 December 2011, vol./is. 107/49(6-6), 09547762  
**Publication Date:** 13 December 2011  
**Source:** CINAHL  
Available in print at Lincoln County Hospital Professional Library  
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library  
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library  
Available in fulltext from Nursing Times at the ULHT Library and Knowledge Services’ eJournal collection  
Available in print at Louth County Hospital Medical Library

*Respiratory nursing. How a nurse-led clinic cut outpatient waiting times.*

**Author(s)** Annandale J  
**Citation:** Nursing Times, 04 March 2008, vol./is. 104/9(45-45), 09547762  
**Publication Date:** 04 March 2008  
**Abstract:** Joe Annandale describes how changing the respiratory nurse specialist role can improve outpatient waiting times and meet patients’ needs.  
**Source:** CINAHL  
Available in print at Lincoln County Hospital Professional Library  
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library  
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library
Respiratory nursing. Nurses lead the way in respiratory care.

Author(s): Fletcher M
Citation: Nursing Times, 12 June 2007, vol./is. 103/24(42-43), 09547762
Publication Date: 12 June 2007
Abstract: The Association for Respiratory Nurse Specialists has raised concerns about the loss of specialist posts. Monica Fletcher outlines the important role nurses play in managing respiratory disease in primary care.
Source: CINAHL
Available in print at Lincoln County Hospital Professional Library
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library
Available in fulltext from Nursing Times at the ULHT Library and Knowledge Services' eJournal collection

Respiratory assessment in adults.

Author(s): Moore T
Citation: Nursing Standard, 15 August 2007, vol./is. 21/49(48-58), 00296570
Publication Date: 15 August 2007
Abstract: Respiratory disorders are among the most common reasons for admission to critical care units in the U.K. However, anecdotal evidence suggests that nursing assessment of patients' respiratory function is not performed well because it is not considered a priority and the implications of respiratory dysfunction are underestimated. It is essential that nurses are able to recognise and assess symptoms of respiratory dysfunction to provide early, effective and appropriate interventions, thus improving patient outcomes. This article highlights the role of the nurse in respiratory assessment and discusses the implications of clinical findings.
Source: CINAHL
Available in print at Lincoln County Hospital Professional Library
Available in fulltext from Nursing Standard at EBSCOhost
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library

The respiratory nurse specialist role at a medical assessment unit.

Author(s): Conway A, Richardson A
Citation: Nursing Times, 15 June 2004, vol./is. 100/24(53-54), 09547762
Publication Date: 15 June 2004
Abstract: The development of new nursing roles such as the nurse practitioner has been driven by the shortage of junior doctors and the initiative that advocates the reduction of junior doctors’ hours (Dowling, 1996). Todd (1997) identified other factors that have also fuelled these initiatives, including: The abolition of nursing extended roles in 1992; The unmet needs of certain patient groups; The pressure to deliver clinically efficient and cost-effective health care; A change in the expectations of patients.
Source: CINAHL
Available in print at Lincoln County Hospital Professional Library
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library

A time limited, nurse led intervention reduced hospital readmissions in patients with asthma and a history of frequent admissions.

Author(s): Scullion JE
Citation: Evidence Based Nursing, 01 July 2004, vol./is. 7/3(76-77), 13676539
Publication Date: 01 July 2004
**Abstract:** Does a time limited, nurse led intervention reduce hospital readmissions in patients with asthma and a history of frequent admissions?

**Source:** CINAHL
Available in fulltext from Evidence-Based Nursing at Highwire Press
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library

A nurse-led service for acute exacerbation of COPD.

**Author(s)** Pilling A, Bassett C, Wolstenholme RK

**Citation:** Nursing Times, 01 July 2003, vol./is. 99/26(32-34), 09547762

**Publication Date:** 01 July 2003

**Abstract:** One in four of all hospital admissions are due to respiratory disease and half of these are due to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). In Wigan this has been tackled using 'The Wigan Model', which incorporates acute COPD assessment and early discharge. The service, established in 1999, is specialist nurse-led with referrals from GPs, the A&E department and the medical assessment unit. Specialist nurses instigate investigations and perform a clinical assessment; suitable patients are discharged with treatment dispensed and administered by the nurse and are visited at home for two weeks. A recent survey of patient satisfaction questionnaires has shown that most patients are happy with the service and find it beneficial to have their acute episode managed at home.

**Source:** CINAHL
Available in print at Lincoln County Hospital Professional Library
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library

**Research notes. Does having a respiratory nurse in A&E make a difference?**

**Author(s)** Steel S

**Citation:** Nursing Standard, 20 February 2002, vol./is. 16/23(22-22), 00296570

**Publication Date:** 20 February 2002

**Source:** CINAHL
Available in print at Pilgrim Hospital Staff Library
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library

**Developing a nurse-led service for COPD patients.**

**Author(s)** Gibbons D, Hamilton J, Maw G, Telford J

**Citation:** Professional Nurse, 01 January 2001, vol./is. 16/4(1035-1037), 02668130

**Publication Date:** 01 January 2001

**Abstract:** An acute respiratory assessment service for patients with uncomplicated COPD aimed to reduce hospital admission and readmission rates and length of stay, reduce visits to GPs, increase patient knowledge of the condition and improve continuity of care.

**Source:** CINAHL
Available in print at Grantham Hospital Staff Library

**Google Scholar**

*A chronic disease management programme can reduce days in hospital for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease*

H Rea, S McAuley, A Stewart, C Lamont... - *Internal medicine ...*, 2004 - Wiley Online Library ... 11. It was hypothesized that the existing primary care team, with support from a respiratory nurse specialist and respiratory specialist physician, could implement and sustain a chronic disease management programme that would reduce admissions and days in hospital and...
The role of the respiratory nurse specialist
S Rafferty, S Elborn - Clinical Pulmonary Medicine, 2004 - journals.lww.com
Abstract In the past, it has been difficult to prove which outcomes are directly attributable to the activity of respiratory nurse specialists (RNS). Emerging evidence suggests that RNSs can produce outcomes in many areas of respiratory medicine that are effective and safe. ...