Prince of Wales Hospital
RESPIRATORY MEDICAL ASSESSMENT UNIT (MAU)

The Respiratory MAU is a 48 hour assessment ward for patients who are likely to go home within 5 days of admission. Medical and Allied Health Services, together with diagnostic tests, are prioritised for the Respiratory MAU to streamline initial patient management and facilitate early discharge.

Patients can be admitted to the Respiratory MAU only after a Respiratory Consultant has agreed that the patient is suitable for the unit

1. **INCLUSION CRITERIA**

Any Respiratory admission who will benefit from a short period of intensive investigation and management prior to ward stay or discharge home.

2. **EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

1) Patients requiring coronary care, high dependency or intensive care unit management (eg, cardiac monitoring, non-rebreather oxygen masks, acute CPAP or acute BIPAP)
2) Haemo-dynamically unstable patients
3) Patients with an estimated length of stay of 5 days or more at the time of admission
4) Patients with a MRO or a need to be isolated in single rooms
5) Patients with or possibly requiring intercostal catheters
6) Deemed inappropriate by the AMO of the day or the MAU CNC

**Role of the Shift Coordinator/ Nurse in Charge**

When you hear that there is a patient in ED who may be suitable for the RMAU page the Respiratory Coordinator (Jane Neill 45110#).

If the Respiratory Coordinator is unavailable (i.e. After hours) ensure that the patient does not require any of the following as these patients would be unsafe in the RMAU;
- BIPAP
- Isolation
- Close supervision (for medical or psychological issues)

If the patient is coming from ED, they are under a respiratory consultant and do not have any of the requirements listed above they are welcome in the RMAU.

Patients are NOT to be brought into the RMAU from other wards including DB4. This is only acceptable where there is no other alternative. In this situation the bed manager must ring the executive on call and ask for their permission, you may need to remind the bed manager to do this.

When patients are nearing 48 hours in the RMAU and there is no plan for discharge, efforts must be made to move them off the unit.

Patients who have gone over the 48 hours should be described to the bed manager as outliers in the RMAU at the next available opportunity.

Encourage the nurses who are looking after the RMAU to complete the blue RMAU data collection sheet (A copy of this is on the wall and in the RMAU folder at the RMAU Nurses station).

If you have any questions/problems/incidents to report please contact the Respiratory Coordinator (Jane Neil 45110#).