

Intensive Care Unit

Ward 201
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary
Foresterhill
Aberdeen
AB25 2ZN
11th August 2020



Enquiries to Brenda Ferries
Extension 54253
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To ICU Clinical Leads

Dear Colleagues

Nationally Designated Service for Adult Respiratory ECMO in Scotland
Referral and Operational Arrangements from Thursday 13th August 2020

We wrote to you at the start of July regrading a delay in implementation of the online referral system for Adult Respiratory ECMO in Scotland. The system called Referapatient has been in place across the UK ECMO Network and many of you will already have had experience using the system via the Glenfield Hospital, Leicester area of the portal. Due to differences in information governance in Scotland we have been unable to provide this locally until now.

We are therefore pleased to inform you that as from Thursday 13th August 2020 all Adult Respiratory ECMO referrals made in Scotland will be handled directly by the team in Aberdeen. This will be the final step in the transition to a standalone Scottish service for this group of patients. As always, we will continue to work closely with our colleagues across the UK as partners in the UK ECMO Network.

Referrals to the service should be made via the Signpost Healthcare website (<https://www.signpost.healthcare/ecmo-referral-pathway>). All referrals through this portal will be directed to and managed by the ECMO team in Aberdeen. Current criteria for referral are attached below.

If there are any problems using the portal or if you would like to discuss an emergency case, please contact our ECMO Coordinator on 07917068628. For non-urgent enquires **not** relating to a referral you can also contact us via our email address: nhsq.ecmo@nhs.net

We will be in touch with individual Critical Care units shortly to discuss CME opportunities to support teams when making referrals, the retrieval process, repatriation and patient follow up.

Best wishes

Dr Ian Scott (ECMO Director), Dr Stephen Friar (ECMO Director) & Ms Lucy Sim (ECMO Lead Nurse)

Inclusion Criteria (updated June 2020)

- Potentially reversible severe respiratory failure
- Lung Injury Score ≥ 3 or uncompensated hypercapnia with a pH 7.20 or less
- Failed trial of ventilation in prone positioning ≥ 6 hrs (unless contraindicated)
- Failed optimal respiratory management / lung protective ventilation
- Clinical Frailty Scale category ≤ 3
- If RESP Score ≤ 3 ECMO should be considered only after agreement across at least two centres

Exclusion Criteria

- Refractory multiorgan failure
- Evidence of severe neurological injury