HOME OXYGEN REFERRAL

This referral procedure is for infants with continuing oxygen requirements deemed medically ready for discharge home.

The Safety in Air Test is completed to determine whether an oxygen dependent infant being considered for discharge on home oxygen is able to maintain his/her oxygen saturations at a safe level (i.e. \( \text{SaO}_2 > 80\% \)) during disconnection from oxygen for a period of up to 4 hours. It is designed to ascertain how an infant would respond in the case of accidental disconnection from oxygen in the home environment.

KEY POINTS

- Parents must be willing and able to accept the discharge home of their infant on home oxygen therapy.
- A medical consultant must complete and fax a **MR035 - Consultation report and request** form to Respiratory Medicine Department at PMH.
- A medical consultant must order the Safety in Air test.
- The Safety in Air test is ideally performed at night when there are fewer disruptions in the nursery and therefore the infant is less likely to be disturbed when sleeping.
- The Safety in Air test should be conducted over a 4-hour period (usual time between feeds) unless the infant fails the test criteria earlier.
- On completion of the test liaise with the PMH Respiratory Team regarding review of the infant and/or test result.
- The PMH Respiratory Team will determine the result of the Safety in Air test.

**See** Guide on Respiratory Medicine Department – Quick Reference Guide

- Home Oxygen request form
- Safety Air Observation sheet