

# London Respiratory Team

Improving the experience of Londoners with COPD and minimising the impact of the disease



## A new oxygen contract across London and a new supplier for North London

Dear London GPs

As you may already know, from 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012 oxygen equipment provision will be via a new contract with Air Liquide (Homecare) Ltd for both North & South London. Please reassure your patients who have oxygen at home that they should not be concerned by the change in contract across London or supplier (for North London) as delivery staff and equipment will move across to the new supplier in most cases.

The key contract change for new patients starting oxygen is that the clinician must choose the oxygen equipment and stockholdings. Ordering therefore is best directed to 'specialist clinicians' who order supplies with some regularity. There will be a new 2 part Home Oxygen Order Form (HOOF) which in nearly all cases will be completed by the specialist respiratory team (community or hospital based). The standard HOOF-A (for long term oxygen therapy) can still be completed by GPs, for example in emergency cases, but please do contact your local specialist respiratory service for advice and, where possible, completion of the form.

You may be relieved to hear that the more complex oxygen prescribing (on a HOOF-B) will not be prescribable by GPs.

Further information will follow to inform you of the specialist services available in your locality.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Noel Baxter'.

Noel Baxter (Southwark GP)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Coop'.

Chris Cooper (Islington GP)

**Stop smoking as treatment co-lead & team co-lead**

**Earlier diagnosis lead**

**London Respiratory Team (LRT)**

**27 February 2012**