



Issue: **Bubble Humidifiers**

Raised by: Dr Finn Coulter (RDH ED Registrar)

Background: Recommendation to stock bubble humidifiers for use with small children on extended oxygen therapy for bronchiectasis.

Discussion: Bubble humidifiers are recognised as potentially beneficial in moistening oxygen therapy. Small children with bronchiectasis are probably the client group most likely to benefit, although all clients on extended oxygen therapy would be advantaged when oxygen is humidified.

In some instances heated moist air is of significant advantage.

Sterile water and new oxygen delivery consumables should be used when initially commencing humidified oxygen therapy.

Cost of a disposable bubble humidifier, the relevant adaptor, and sterile water for use is approximately \$10.

Discussion with Paediatricians to ascertain the value of humidified oxygen therapy in the likely scenarios of use with Remote clients, led to a consensual opinion that while potentially of value, it was not a highly important requirement. These comments are in the light of the likely duration of therapy, and the fact that retrieval services would institute on arrival.

It was agreed that while not unreasonable to consider instituting bubble humidifiers there is not a strong argument of requirement.

Consultation: Charles Kilburn, Clare MacVicar, Andrew White (Paediatricians), Finn Coulter (Retrieval Registrar)

References: Product information

Outcome: **Bubble Humidifiers are not recommended to be standard stock in RHB health centres.**