

A Study on the Benefits of Home Health Follow-Up Care for COPD Patients

The treatment records of 945 COPD patients were studied to identify correlations between post-discharge follow up care and patient hospital readmission rates.

The charts below describe conditions that could be strong indicators of hospital readmission without additional medical follow up care in the home:

Noted Condition	Assigned Points	Total Points	Risk category
Identified During History			
Coronary bypass graft	1	0	Low
Peripheral vascular disease intervention	1	1	Medium
Intubation for respiratory distress	2	2	Medium
Identified During Exam		3	High
Heart rate on arrival in hospital ≥ 110 /min	2	4	High
Too ill to do walk test after treatment in hospital	2	5+	Very high
Identified at Further Investigations			
Acute ischemic changes on ECG	2		
Pulmonary congestion evident on chest radiography	1		
Hemoglobin < 100 g/L	3		
Urea ≥ 12 mmol/L	1		
Serum CO ₂ ≥ 35 mmol/L	1		