

READ ME FIRST

Primary Care & Pulmonary Rehab 2026.

1. Background.

- a. [What is Pulmonary Rehabilitation \(PR\)?](#)
- b. Why are we prompting Primary Care about Pulmonary Rehab now?

Referral numbers to Pulmonary Rehab are in line with expectation, however the “quality” of the referrals is a cause for some concern, with a high proportion of patients either not being appropriate for pulmonary rehab or not being aware of what is involved and therefore dropping out of their programme at an early stage.

Our goal at this time is to better inform Primary Care as to the detail regarding Pulmonary Rehab, which patients are right for it, and how patients may be best informed as to what to expect from Pulmonary Rehab, so they know what is coming and drop out is minimised.

In order to help with this please find further information in the following sections below:

2 – QOF Considerations and impact

3 – Resources and how to use them.

2. QOF Considerations and impact when referring.

Referring to pulmonary rehab for those with MRC => 3 was a requirement for several years. The payment has been removed but the prompt remains. This often results in patients being referred that are MRC 4 and 5, however the service is only for those that are MRC 3.

Primary Care & Pulmonary Rehab.



We have identified that patients referred by Primary Care into Pulmonary Rehab, are too often:

A) Wrongly referred, or

B) Unaware of what to expect so drop out

These notes are designed to help you identify the right patients and brief them effectively on what to expect when entering Pulmonary Rehab.

Therefore, practices can code pulmonary rehab as unsuitable for the patient and add a note if desired that the service is not suitable for MRC 4 and 5.

3. Resources and how to use them.

There is a sharepoint page dedicated to providing information resources on Pulmonary Rehab (PR), located here – please bookmark for future use.

You will find the following materials:

Description / Link	Detail of material
PR - Leaflet	General information on PR for patients.
Tips for referring patients to PR.	Key tips that can be used to help you improve referring to PR.
PR Referring flowchart and case studies.	Flow chart to work through when considering if a patient should be referred to PR. Also, a set of case studies, outlining patient profiles, possible concerns and plan of action including whether to refer to PR.
Referral Form	Link to form.
Active Programmes	Links to videos of elements of the PR course.
Useful Videos	Useful PR related videos.

4. Contact details for the Pulmonary Rehab Team.

- Phone – **0114 307 8260**
- Email – sth.pulmonaryrehab@nhs.net