

Vest therapy patient selection criteria guide

Symptoms indicating consideration of vest therapy

Presence of these symptoms may suggest the patient could benefit from airway clearance therapy:

- Daily production of large amounts of sputum
- Production of thick, sticky secretions in the lungs
- Mucus hyper-secretion and retention
- Mucus plugging and atelectasis
- Difficulty or inability to clear secretions from airways
- Secretion clearance problems contributing to impaired activities of daily living (ADL)
- Ineffective cough or secretion clearance due to immobility or muscle weakness
- Chronic cough
- Suboptimal oxygen levels
- Deterioration of chronic pulmonary conditions in patients with secretion clearance needs

Patient profile

Airway clearance needs may emerge from several factors that diminish normal secretion clearance including:

- A diagnosis known to alter mucus clearance
- Alternative airway clearance therapies considered ineffective or contraindicated
- Tracheostomy and chronic tracheal suctioning requirements

History of recurring

- Bronchitis
- Pneumonia
- Supplemental oxygen use
- Aspiration
- Hospitalizations for respiratory related conditions
- Antibiotic use for respiratory infections

Conditions associated with airway secretion clearance needs

Presence of these conditions may suggest the patient could benefit from airway clearance therapy:

- Bronchiectasis
- Cystic fibrosis (CF)
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Muscular dystrophy (MD)
- Cerebral palsy (CP)
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA)
- Cervical spinal injury
- Disorders of the diaphragm
- Primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD)
- Multiple sclerosis (MS)

This guide is based on clinical research findings, published airway clearance guidelines, and input from patients, physicians and payors regarding successful utilization of vest therapy in patients whose underlying conditions require productive airway secretion clearance.

