

CAHE JC Critically Appraised Article Summary

Journal Club Details

Date of submission	June 2009
Journal Club location	Flinders Medical Centre
JC Discipline/s	Physiotherapy
JC Facilitator	Merran Jones

Clinical Scenario

What evidence is there to support the use of deep breathing and coughing techniques in the management of chronic bronchitis?

Review Question/PICO/PACO

- P** Bronchitis
- I** Deep breathing and coughing as supervised by physiotherapist
- C** Percussion and vibration
- O** Secretion production and hospital length of stay

Article/Paper

Chronic cough due to chronic bronchitis- ACCP evidence-based clinical practice guidelines

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Article Methodology:	Guideline
Returned JC on:	3 June 2009
By CAHE staff member:	Zuzana Machotka

AGREE APPRAISAL INSTRUMENT (AAL)

Strongly agree

1	2	3	4
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 Strongly disagree

AAL	1	2	3	4	Comments
1	✓				<p>The overall objective(s) of the guideline is (are) specifically described</p> <p>“The purpose of this review is to present the evidence for the diagnosis and treatment of cough due to chronic bronchitis and to make recommendations that will be useful for clinical practice.”</p>
2				✓	<p>The clinical question(s) covered by the guideline is(are) specifically described</p> <p>There are no clinical, specific questions asked in this document. This document seems to be a summary of the evidence literature found.</p>
3				✓	<p>The patients to whom the guideline is meant to apply are specifically described.</p> <p>There is no specific information on who this guideline is targeted to.</p>
4				✓	<p>The guideline development group includes individuals from all the relevant professional groups.</p> <p>There is only one author who has put together this document together. Although the author is part of the division of pulmonary and care medicine at Rhode Island hospital, no acknowledgements to other collaborators or funding parties is reported.</p>
5				✓	<p>The patients’ views and preferences have been sought</p> <p>Information regarding patient’s view and preferences was not documented. No patient interviews or review of literature reviews of patients’ experiences was mentioned in this document</p>
6				✓	<p>The target users of the guideline are clearly defined.</p> <p>Information regarding targeted end users was not found.</p>
7				✓	<p>The guideline has been piloted among target users.</p> <p>The guideline has not been piloted among target users.</p>
8			✓		<p>Systematic methods were used to search for evidence.</p> <p>A search was conducted on one database (PubMed)[search between 1950 & Aug 2004]. Keywords included ‘cough,’ ‘chronic bronchitis,’ and ‘COPD.’ This method may be appropriate for a review of literature but not comprehensive enough for a guideline therefore may not represent a true picture of the available evidence.</p>
9				✓	<p>The criteria for selecting the evidence are clearly described.</p> <p>‘The search was limited to human studies, using the search terms...’ The criteria are not adequately defined to give an indication of inclusion and exclusion criteria.</p>

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 CRICOS Provider Number
 001218

AAL	1	2	3	4	Comments
10				✓	<p>The methods used for formulating the recommendations are clearly described</p> <p>Recommendations are made throughout the document and the level of evidence, net benefit and grade of recommendation scores are given after each recommendation. The scores given are low, fair, good, and expert opinion for level of evidence; none, conflicting, negative, intermediate or substantial for net benefit; A, B, D, I, E/A, for grade of recommendation. How each score was decided is not reported in the document and abbreviations are not explained e.g. E/A</p>
11			✓		<p>The health benefits, side effects and risks have been considered in formulating the recommendations.</p> <p>Health benefits are termed 'clinical benefits' and are only stated in some recommendations e.g. 'In stable patients with chronic bronchitis, the clinical benefits of postural drainage and chest percussion have not been proven.' No discussion is made on health benefits this document.</p> <p>Side effects are mentioned in reference to the use particular pharmacological agents, in particular the use of oral corticosteroids and the use of oral theophylline in elderly patients for treatment of COPD. No further discussion is made on side effects.</p> <p>Quality of life is not mentioned in this document.</p> <p>An attempt is made to give an overall net benefit rating for each recommendation but how this is rated is omitted from the document.</p>

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