The Role of Respiratory Physiotherapy and Inhaled Mucolytics following Lung Transplant: A Survey of UK Practice

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Method

13. How soon after surgery do you normally aim to initiate physiotherapy input?

- < 24 hours
- 24-48 hours
- > 48 hours
- Other (please specify)

14. Do you use inhaled mucolytics as an adjunct to your treatment?

- Yes
- No
Results

Airway clearance techniques used once extubated

- ACBT
- Cough assist
- Manual techniques
- Incentive spirometry
- Mobility/exercise
- Non-invasive ventilation
- Oscillatory PEP
- PEP
- Suction

Number of Centres

- Adult Centres
- Paediatric Centres
Results

- 3 centres use inhaled mucolytics (1 adult/2 paediatric)

  ![Graph showing inhaled mucolytics used]

  - **Rationale for use**
    - 100% due to bronchoscopy findings
    - 66.7% due to clinical presentation
Conclusions

- The timing and frequency of input is comparable

- A range of airway clearance techniques are implemented
  - Variations between centres
  - Differences in the adult and paediatric groups

- The use of inhaled mucolytics is inconsistent
  - Greater use in the paediatric population

- A number of areas warrant further investigation
- Improved information sharing and collaboration