



ERS statement on paediatric long-term noninvasive respiratory support

Brigitte Fauroux^{1,2}, François Abel³, Alessandro Amaddeo⁴, Elisabetta Bignamini⁵, Elaine Chan³, Linda Corel⁶, Renato Cutrera ⁰⁷, Refika Ersu⁸, Sophie Installe⁹, Sonia Khirani^{1,2,10}, Uros Krivec ⁰¹¹, Omendra Narayan¹², Joanna MacLean ⁰¹³, Valeria Perez De Sa¹⁴, Marti Pons-Odena ⁰^{15,16}, Florian Stehling¹⁷, Rosario Trindade Ferreira ⁰¹⁸ and Stijn Verhulst ⁰^{9,19}

¹AP-HP, Hôpital Necker, Pediatric Noninvasive Ventilation and Sleep Unit, Paris, France. ²Université de Paris, EA 7330 VIFASOM, Paris, France. ³Respiratory Dept, Sleep and Long-term Ventilation Unit, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, London, UK. ⁴Emergency Dept, Institute for Maternal and Child Health IRCCS Burlo Garofolo, Trieste, Italy. ⁵Pediatric Pulmonology Unit, Regina Margherita Hospital, AOU Città della Salute e della Scienza, Turin, Italy. ⁶Pediatric ICU, Centre for Home Ventilation in Children, Erasmus University Hospital, Rotterdam, The Netherlands. ⁷Pediatric Pulmonology Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, IRCCS, Rome, Italy. ⁸Division of Respiratory Medicine, Dept of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, Canada. ⁹Dept of Pediatrics, Antwerp University Hospital, Edegem, Belgium. ¹⁰ASV Santé, Gennevilliers, France. ¹¹Dept of Paediatric Pulmonology, University Children's Hospital Ljubljana, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia. ¹²Sleep and Long Term Ventilation Unit, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital and University of Manchester, Manchester, UK. ¹³Division of Respiratory Medicine, Dept of Pediatrics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada. ¹⁴Dept of Pediatric Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Children's Heart Center, Skåne University Hospital, Lund, Sweden. ¹⁵Pediatric Home Ventilation Programme, University Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, Barcelona, Spain. ¹⁶Respiratory and Immune dysfunction research group, Institut de Recerca Sant Joan de Déu, Esplugues de Llobregat, Spain. ¹⁷Pediatric Respiratory Unit, Dept of Paediatrics, Hospital de Santa Maria, Academic Medical Centre of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal. ¹⁹Laboratory of Experimental Medicine and Pediatrics, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium.

Corresponding author: Brigitte Fauroux (brigitte.fauroux@nck.aphp.fr)



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Long-term noninvasive ventilation (NIV) in children is increasing worldwide. There is lack of validated criteria for NIV initiation, follow-up, monitoring and weaning. Children are optimally managed by a paediatric multidisciplinary team. https://bit.ly/3bVfNvz

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Abstract

Long-term noninvasive respiratory support, comprising continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) and noninvasive ventilation (NIV), in children is expanding worldwide, with increasing complexities of children being considered for this type of ventilator support and expanding indications such as palliative care. There have been improvements in equipment and interfaces. Despite growing experience, there are still gaps in a significant number of areas: there is a lack of validated criteria for CPAP/NIV initiation, optimal follow-up and monitoring; weaning and long-term benefits have not been evaluated. Therapeutic education of the caregivers and the patient is of paramount importance, as well as continuous support and assistance, in order to achieve optimal adherence. The preservation or improvement of the quality of life of the patient and caregivers should be a concern for all children treated with long-term CPAP/NIV. As NIV is a highly specialised treatment, patients are usually managed by an experienced paediatric multidisciplinary team. This statement written by experts in the field of paediatric long-term CPAP/NIV aims to emphasise the most recent scientific input and should open up new perspectives and research areas.