

For each voting question, please use the following scale identifying your level of confidence with a score of 1 being low or no confidence and 5 representing high confidence.

1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5
Low Intermediate High
Confidence Confidence

The types of NIPPV devices being referred to in the below questions are to be used in the home and are classified as:

- a. Home mechanical ventilator (HMV): A machine capable of delivering pressure targeted, volume targeted, and/or volume preset ventilation outside of the hospital setting. HMs are usually the machine of choice for patients with tracheostomy, but may also be used in patients via a noninvasive interface. Compared to BPAP machines, HMs typically have additional monitoring, ventilator control, safety, and backup power features.
- b. Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP): A machine that delivers a single level of positive airway pressure throughout the entire respiratory cycle (inspiration and expiration).
- c. Bi-level positive airway pressure (BPAP): A device that delivers two levels of positive airway pressure. On inspiration, the machine delivers an inspiratory positive airway pressure (IPAP). On expiration, the machine delivers an expiratory positive airway pressure (EPAP).

All questions below pertain to Medicare beneficiaries with CRF consequent to COPD.

1. How confident are you that the evidence is sufficient to determine the patient selection criteria that will improve health outcomes (e.g. laboratory values, co-morbidities, frequency of exacerbations requiring ER or hospital admission, hospital discharge timing, pulmonary function tests, etc.) when used with any category of home NIPPV device?

Level of confidence 5: Bipap with S/T mode

Discussion: If intermediate confidence (≥ 2.5) is present in Q1, please provide the selection criteria for the specific category of equipment.

2. How confident are you that the evidence is sufficient to determine the NIPPV equipment parameters necessary to promote successful patient-related outcomes (e.g. decreased mortality, decreased frequency of exacerbations requiring ER or hospital admission, increased time to hospital re-admission for respiratory related disease, and improved physical function and quality of life)?

Level of confidence 4: Bipap with S/T mode, Hi intensity NIV

Discussion: Are there any outcome measures that should be considered other than those noted above?

Discussion: If intermediate confidence (≥ 2.5) is present in Q2, please provide the equipment parameters for the specific category of equipment.

3. How confident are you that any improved patient-related outcomes noted above made with any type of NIPPV device in the home, can be attributed to the use of the equipment alone as opposed to the concomitant provision of other support services like home respiratory therapists, home medication reconciliation and repeated elective hospital admissions?

Level of confidence 4: Bipap with S/T mode. Decreased hospital admissions

Discussion: If intermediate confidence (≥ 2.5) of improved patient-related outcomes are present in Q3

for any type of home NIPPV device, please state that outcome and the associated category of equipment.

4. How confident are you that the evidence is sufficient to provide the patient usage parameters that are necessary to achieve the successful patient outcomes in Q2?

Level of confidence 5: Bipap with S/T mode. Hi intensity NIV

Discussion: If intermediate confidence (≥ 2.5) is present in Q4, please provide the patient usage criteria for the specific category of equipment.