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Title: A study to determine the most effective training method for increasing oxygen prescription rates in a district general hospital

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Body: Introduction: As per the British Thoracic Society (BTS) Guidelines for Emergency Oxygen Use¹ implementation of oxygen prescribing polices require regular training programmes for all clinical staff in the safe use of oxygen. We wanted to implement a mandatory training package within the trust aimed at improving oxygen prescribing. To ensure the content was highly effective prior to implementation we compared the impact of on-line vs face-to-face training on oxygen prescription rates. Methods: Prescribing data was collected on all patients receiving oxygen therapy: 1) Before training 2) After on-line training 3) After face-to-face training Results:

The impact of online and face-to-face training on oxygen prescribing rates

	Patients on oxygen (n=)	Oxygen prescribed (n=)
1) Before Training	38	0% (0)
2) After on-line training	24	48% (12)
3) After face-to-face training	21	62% (13)

Both methods significantly improved oxygen prescribing rates ($p=0.000$). Face-to-face training increased oxygen prescribing more than online training by 12%. Conclusion: Training face-to-face is the most effective method at increasing oxygen prescribing. Resources mean that face-to-face training is limited in comparison to on-line training which is freely accessible to all. We concluded that the most effective way to improve oxygen prescribing within the trust was to combine both forms of training within our educational package. 1. British Thoracic Society (2008), Guideline for Emergency Oxygen Use in Adult Patients, Thorax; vol. 63; supplement VI.