



Pediatric Pulmonary Center
The University of Alabama at Birmingham



ASSESSING THE HOME ENVIRONMENT FOR HOME CARE EQUIPMENT

- Is there a home?
- Is there a phone?
- Is room size adequate for the equipment?
- Are there the right amount and type of electrical outlets?
- Is power adequate to continuously run all equipment?
- Are the doorways wide enough?
- Is the equipment to be kept upstairs or downstairs?
- How many stairs must be climbed if the equipment is upstairs?
- Is the caregiver capable of climbing the stairs often?
- Is the caregiver capable of handling all equipment and therapy?
- If it is a high-rise building, is there an adequate elevator?
- Does the dwelling appear to be clean?
- Is there any evidence of rodent or insect infestation?
- Is the home free from environmental hazards, such as throw rugs, extension cords, etc.?
- Is the furniture positioned so that the equipment may be used safely?
- Is refrigeration adequate for storage of medication?
- Is there adequate storage for supplies?
- Is the storage area clean, dry, and climate controlled?
- Are there any unsafe conditions in or around the home?
- Are there smoke alarms?
- Is there a fire extinguisher?
- Is there hot and cold running water/indoor plumbing?
- Is there heat and air conditioning?
- Are there back-up family members and/or friends who can provide support and care?
- Are there ramps, if needed?
- Can the family locate and purchase medications if they are not supplied by the Durable Medical Equipment provider?
- Is there space for home nurses, if needed?
- Does the family have the proper mixing and measuring implements?
- How is this being funded (private insurance, cash, Medicaid, no funding)?
- Is there transportation available?
- Are other basic needs being met, or is this equipment likely to be sold for money to pay for things like food and shelter?
- Is equipment child proof?
- Has a home resource phone list been created and have all emergency/ notification letters been written and sent?