

Purpose

This policy ensures that SpiroSense is prepared to respond promptly and safely to any **medical emergency** involving a patient or staff member. It aims to protect health and safety and comply with:

- Regulation 12 – Safe Care and Treatment
- Health and Social Care Act 2008: Code of Practice on the Prevention and Control of Infections
- CQC guidance on patient safety

Scope

This policy applies to all clinical procedures and patient interactions at SpiroSense, including:

- Spirometry testing
- FeNO testing
- Any other diagnostic procedures

It is applicable to the **Registered Manager / Clinical Lead** and any temporary staff or contractors who may be present.

Definition of a Medical Emergency

A **medical emergency** is any sudden event that:

- Poses an immediate risk to a patient's or staff member's life or health
- Requires urgent assessment or intervention

Examples include:

- Patient collapse or loss of consciousness
- Severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis
- Cardiac arrest
- Acute respiratory distress during testing
- Injury during procedures

Immediate Actions

1. Assess the patient's condition and ensure personal safety.
2. Call **999** immediately if the patient is seriously ill or at risk of death.
3. Provide first aid if trained and safe to do so.
4. Ensure the patient is stable while awaiting emergency services.
5. Keep the patient and others calm and safe.

Equipment and Preparedness

- A fully stocked **first aid kit** is available at all times.
- **Emergency contact numbers** displayed prominently: 999, local GP, out-of-hours services.
- Practitioner maintains **up-to-date first aid training**.
- Any patient-specific medical risks (e.g., allergies) are identified before testing.

Record Keeping

- Document all medical emergencies in the **Significant Event Log** including:
 - Date, time, and details of the incident
 - Actions taken
 - Outcome and follow-up
 - Lessons learned
- Records are stored securely and retained for at least **8 years** in line with data protection guidance.

Review and Learning

- All medical emergencies are reviewed to identify **lessons learned**.
- Policy, procedures, and equipment are updated as needed to prevent recurrence.

References

- Regulation 12 – Safe Care and Treatment
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/2936/regulation/12/made>
- Health and Social Care Act 2008: Code of Practice on the Prevention and Control of Infections
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-practice-on-the-prevention-and-control-of-infections>
- First Aid at Work Guidance
<https://www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/>

Policy Review

This policy is reviewed annually or following changes to legislation or guidance. Legislation and guidance links are checked and updated as part of the annual policy review.

Last review date: 04/02/26

Next review date: 03/02/27