

invasive respiratory strategies, bacterial filters will need to be replaced every 2 to 3 days, and its cost can add on the charged expenses.

HTA Council Interim Recommendation

Based on currently available evidence, the HTA Council **recommends to continue funding** high-flow nasal cannula. It may be used as a treatment option for COVID-19 patients with acute hypoxemic respiratory failure, **provided that these requirements are met:**

- In recognition of limited clinical evidence on the use of HFNC for COVID-19 patients, all patients on HFNC should be enrolled in a national registry and be part of a national study. This will support generation of evidence in the local setting.
- In view of the limited evidence on the aerosol generation potential of HFNC, facilities should be equipped with negative pressure rooms and adequate personal protective equipment (PPEs) for all frontline carers.
- Facilities should have a wall-mounted oxygen source.

The HTA Council shall update its recommendation once the ongoing local studies become available regarding its clinical effectiveness and safety.

References

¹ US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020, May 13). *Symptoms of Coronavirus*. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Note: Other references cited in this summary document are lifted from the adopted report.