Clearing the Way for Bronchiectasis
Mobilizing Retained Pulmonary Secretions Commonly Associated with Bronchiectasis
Bronchiectasis is a Challenge

Sometimes when you see COPD, chronic bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma or cystic fibrosis, you might also see bronchiectasis.

**DEFINITION**

Bronchiectasis, the condition where the lungs’ airways are abnormally stretched and scarred resulting in mucus retention, which can lead to serious health problems, including respiratory failure, atelectasis and heart failure.

**Diagnosing Bronchiectasis**

Patients with Bronchiectasis are confirmed by a standard CT scan.

**The Impact of Bronchiectasis**

*More patients are suffering*

Bronchiectasis can frequently occur in parallel with more common forms of chronic lung disease including COPD and asthma. Research on Bronchiectasis COPD Overlap Syndrome is emerging. The increased availability of computed tomography (CT) has shown that up to 50% of patients with Severe COPD will have co-existent Bronchiectasis.\(^1\)\(^2\)

The majority of frequent COPD exacerbators (92.7%) have concomitant Bronchiectasis.\(^3\)
Airway Clearance Therapies

Although there is no cure for bronchiectasis, early detection and treatment will allow patients to have a better quality of life and prevent further lung damage. Along with antibiotics and other appropriate medications, airway clearance therapies provide an effective, safe treatment. Improved outcomes have been seen using High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation (HFCWO) in Bronchiectasis patients. Hill-Rom® Respiratory Care offers a number of Airway Clearance Therapies helping clear the way for your patients:

- **The Vest® Airway Clearance System** delivers High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation (HFCWO) therapy and is designed to help patients mobilize retained secretions in the home and acute care settings.

- **The VisiVest® System** provides the same proven therapy as The Vest® System, with the enhancement of Bluetooth® connectivity. Designed to motivate patients and increase therapy adherence which may lead to lower healthcare costs.

- **The Monarch™ System** with revolutionary new technology. The therapy combines mobility with targeted kinetic energy and airflow to thin and mobilize secretions within the airways. Includes WiFi or cellular connectivity to connect patients with their care team via the VisiView® Health Portal.

- **The MetaNeb® System** is a device that maximizes efficiency for patients and clinicians providing 3 therapies in 1 device by combining lung expansion, secretion clearance, and aerosol delivery into a single integrated therapy cycle. Available in acute and extended care facilities.
Medicare Coverage Criteria for HFCWO

**BRONCHIECTASIS**

*Patient diagnosed with bronchiectasis:*

Confirmed by a standard CT scan, which is characterized by:

- a) Daily productive cough for at least six continuous months;  
  **OR**
- b) Frequent (i.e., three or more in a year) exacerbations requiring antibiotic therapy;

**AND**

There must be well-documented failure of standard treatments to adequately mobilize retained secretions.

**Examples of standard treatments:**

- Manual Chest Percussion Therapy (CPT)
- Positive Expiratory Pressure (PEP) device
- Postural drainage
- Nebulized medication with mucolytic

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