

## Cough Assist - mechanical insufflation/exsufflation device (MI-E)

### CRITERIA BASED ACCESS

Cough assist devices are funded for paediatric patients with neuromuscular conditions in the following circumstances:

- Children who are clinically very weak
  - Children with loss of bulbar function
  - Children who cannot co-operate with manual cough assist or air-stacking methods or these methods have not been effective
- AND**
- The patient suffers from recurrent respiratory tract infections, diagnosed and treated by a primary or secondary care doctor. Recurrent infection defined as 3 or more episodes over a single winter period or on-going infections greater than once every two months throughout the year.

Providers of MI-E should seek prior approval from the commissioners for new patients that they consider suitable for treatment.