DO NOT FORGET · THE SHORT CHECKLIST



Non-invasive ventilation

Bilevel positive-pressure ventilation via a tight-fitting mask for acute hypercapnic respiratory failure, with a documented escalation plan and early blood-gas review.

EM Orbit

Patient reference	Date	Time	Completed by

The 3 steps that must not be missed

- [ ] BEFORE
Exclude or drain a pneumothorax before starting NIV

- [ ] BEFORE
Decide and document the escalation plan before starting: whether the patient is for intubation if NIV fails, or NIV is the ceiling of care
Discuss with the patient and family where possible; involve critical care early if the patient is for escalation.

- [ ] DURING
Do not delay intubation in a patient who is for escalation and is failing NIV
Failure: worsening pH or PaCO2, falling conscious level, exhaustion, or no improvement at 1–4 hours.



The short list: an aid to memory, not the whole procedure. The full checklist is at the QR code. It does not replace your local protocol or your clinical judgement.