Appendices

Figure 1: Flow diagram of recruitment and completion of online PR: Consort diagram

- Screened for eligibility (n=30)
  - Declined (n=13)
    - No internet access (3)
    - Low confidence in using technology (3)
    - Personal preferences (6)
    - Too acutely unwell (1)
  - Assessed (n=17)
    - Dropouts (n=3)
      - Acutely unwell (n=2)
      - Connectivity issues (n=1)
  - Completed Online PR (n=14)
Online platform set-up and access

Remote delivery of the pulmonary rehabilitation programme was via an integrated system of learning platforms normally used for student education at the University of Gloucestershire (UOG). Access to the system for patients and pulmonary rehabilitation staff was gained via a username and password allocated by the university’s Library Technology and Information (LTI) Service. The process was supported by a designated member of university staff (EBS) working alongside a Learning Technologist from the University Academic Development Unit (ADU). There were no additional cost implications for the university in terms of IT resources. Entry to the learning platform was via software called ‘eLearn’; an externally facing version of Moodle™. Moodle™ is an online learning platform, widely used in educational institutions, via which educators can create personalised learning environments for their students (https://moodle.com/about/). The platform is used creatively to provide a whole plethora of pedagogical interventions as it has the capacity to integrate other online systems once customised by the LTI service. One of these systems is a web-conferencing platform called ‘BigBlueButton’ (https://bigbluebutton.org/) with its externally facing element called ‘Greenlight’. Greenlight allows live-streaming of sessions to an audience and has familiar videoconferencing features such as chat / messaging, screenshare, digital whiteboard use, breakout rooms and screen presentations. The technological specifications of the digital platform and delivery process were scrutinised by the NHS IT department for safety and confidentiality in the context of data protection guidelines. Patients needed to have access to the internet via a suitably enabled digital device in order to participate. All the learning resources such as handouts, videos, links to internet resources etc were uploaded to eLearn. From the eLearn landing page patients would then click onto the Greenlight section which would open the livestreamed exercise and education sessions. Patients were able to switch device microphones on during each session for discussion.
Figure 2: Online PR delivery flow technical flow diagram

- eLearn (Moodle)
  (externally facing version of moodle)

- Patients access via username P/W

- Educational resources to support live streamed sessions

- Greenlight
  (webconferencing platform integrated into elearn)
Staff Semi-structured interview guide

Consent.

Purpose of interview – experiences of set up, delivery and evaluation of online programme

1. Context – tell us a little about your current professional role and background in pulmonary rehabilitation

2. Tell me about your experience of setting up the programme for online delivery
   - What was difficult, what have you learnt, were there any surprises

3. What patients have been eligible? – currently enrolled, on waiting list, exacerbators

4. Talk me through what you have been doing regarding patient assessments and re-assessments.
   - What has gone well? Any concerns

5. Discuss the particular components that you have included as part of the programme
   - Exercise, education, home practice, other support.
   - What changes have been required compared to the traditional model

6. How does your practice in delivering the Pulmonary Rehabilitation compare with that of face-to-face delivery?
   - Working in an MDT?
   - Working with patients
   - Governance and organisation?
   - Thoughts on evidence based practice?

7. What onward support or advice do you give patients at the end of the programme
Online-PR participant semi-structured interview

General into
How are you feeling today?
Tell me a little about yourself

Online- PR
Before the COVID crisis did you attend any group therapy sessions for your condition for example Pulmonary rehabilitation / singing groups / exercise classes?

What are your thoughts about doing a group class online?

Talk to me about what you think the differences are?
Is there anything you’ve not really thought of?
Where I think something is useful, can follow this thread

How you felt it went
What benefits if any are you getting?
What do you mean by this?
Tell me more
Can you give examples?

Technology
Discuss ease of technology
How have you found the technology?
Zoom classes and Elearn access
Have you used this sort of technology before?

Format of the programme
Talk to me about the format of the rehab
Is there anything really good?
Is there anything that can go?
# Online-PR participant example coding and quotes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Themes</th>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Supporting statements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Digital literacy</strong></td>
<td>Teething problems with required technology for PR programme</td>
<td>“the first week wouldn’t work on laptop”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relationship between participant’s digital literacy and digital competence</td>
<td>“I don’t find the tech that easy but once it’s up and running it’s OK”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Facilitation from staff and family</td>
<td>“Pictures on the site make it easier”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elicited success</td>
<td>“Got it set up on my son’s laptop then it was working OK – my son’s more technically minded than me”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Simplicity of the online platform</td>
<td>“I had problems logging on - it tends to do it on my son’s laptop”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effectiveness of programme</strong></td>
<td>All the components of the programme effective</td>
<td>“It encouraged me to get walking again ... I started off with half a mile and the last one I did was 1.2 miles. I’m pleased with that my goal is 2 miles”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exercise</td>
<td>“I’ve benefitted because I can shower, walk around house, take the dog for short walk”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>“It’s really good. It’s helped my mental health. I’m not so depressed”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>psychological interventions)</td>
<td>“I’ve more motivation to move about”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>perceived as beneficial</td>
<td>“I used to have mattress downstairs and I don’t use it anymore. I do the housework now and garden. Huge difference”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Perceived improvements in traditional PR outcomes</td>
<td>“These courses are amazing. They give you more information than the doctors. I learnt things I didn’t know - my BMI for example”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increased levels of physical activity</td>
<td>“It’s amazing – anyone with my condition - I wish they would do this course; it motivates you”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Breathlessness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mental health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>confidence and motivation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comparability of models</strong></td>
<td>Online PR comparable to face to face PR</td>
<td>“There was no difference between going it (PR) online or in a group”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Favourable experience of online PR in context of global pandemic.</td>
<td>“There are a few differences with the exercises but I found it (online) better. I was doing too much (exercise) in a group because it was longer. They (exercises) were the same time but we got more rest periods online”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individual exercise progression</td>
<td>“I felt more comfortable at home doing the programme”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group interaction occurs online but less so than face to face PR</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Improved group interaction with increased use of online platform features.

Acclimatisation to online environment fostered effective adaptations to communication methods.

“We did more exercises in the (face to face) group – so I got more breathless and fatigued. I feel like it’s the right amount of exercise online”

“They can send me stronger wristbands (therabands) if it’s too easy. I progressed up the difficulty – I started with yellow and progressed up the colours – I now have a black”

“The benefits of doing it at home was that we couldn’t do it in a group. It was the only option. And it has worked. I would recommend it. It would be better face to face but you’ve got to go with what’s available – a lot of it is outside of our control”
Pulmonary Rehabilitation Class Exercises

Below is a summary of exercises completed during the 6 week online pulmonary rehabilitation course. It is recommended to complete the session in full 3 times a week.

Warm up:

Complete each step of the warm up for 30 seconds (5 minutes in total)

1. Seated toe and heel taps
2. Seated march with arm swings
3. Turn head side to side
4. Roll shoulders forwards and backwards
5. Reaching across your body and twisting your trunk both ways
6. Arms relaxed by your sides, leaning towards the floor both ways
7. Heel digs to each side
8. Standing march – add punching to the front
9. Standing march – add arm bends
10. Start with a small march, make the movement bigger for a count of 5. Repeat this 3 times.

Aerobic Exercises:

Complete each exercise for 3-4 minutes. You should feel a 3-4 on the BORG breathlessness scale whilst completing the exercises. This means you should feel moderately to somewhat severely breathless.

1. Marching on the spot
You can do this standing or seated. Make the movement bigger if you are not feeling breathless.

2. Side step to front punch
Step out to one side with both feet and punch twice to the front. This movement can be done seated. You can lunge further out to the side to make the movement harder.

3. Star Jacks
Move one leg and one arm out to the side simultaneously and then bring them back to the centre. Do the same the other side and repeat. You can do this seated or lunge further out to the side to make it harder.

4. Knee through
Use a chair in front of you for balance if needed. Place one leg behind the other and drive the leg behind through and up towards your chest. Then place the same leg back behind and repeat the movement. Complete half the time on one leg and half the time on the other.
5. Punch with a twist

Place one foot in front of the other for balance. The foot behind is the same side as the arm you will punch with. Punch forwards and twist your torso simultaneously. Bring arm back to neutral position and repeat movement. Complete half the time on one arm and half the time on the other.

Strengthening Exercises:

Aim to complete 10 repetitions of each exercise 3 times. This means you will do a total of 30 repetitions of each exercises with a break after 10 repetitions.

1. Sit to stand

Stand up straight from a chair. Slowly lower yourself back into the chair and repeat. You can use your arms to help push yourself up if you need to.

2. Bicep bends

Start with arms down by your side. Bend arms upwards, keeping elbows tucked into waist at all times. Weights or a resistance band can be used to complete this exercise.

3. Squat to heel raise

Use a chair in front of you for balance if needed. Ensure you keep a straight back and look straight ahead when squatting.

4. Side raise

Use either weights or a resistance band. Keep palms facing down and arms straight as you are bringing them out to the side.
**Cool Down:**

Hold each stretch for 30 seconds both sides.

1. Start with marching and make the movement smaller over 1 minute.
2. Take a seat and tap your toes and heels for 30 seconds.
3. Neck stretch – put your ear towards your shoulder
4. Roll shoulders forwards and backwards
5. Back stretch – interlink fingers and push arms out in front of you as if you were hugging a tree. Look down.
7. Side stretch – relax both arms by your sides. Lean towards the floor both ways.
8. Leg stretch – place both hands on one bent knee and straighten your other leg. Lean forwards and feel the stretch in the back of your leg.
## Risk Assessment Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Assessment No</th>
<th>Consequence</th>
<th>Likelihood</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Task</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Source Date</td>
<td>31/07/2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises</td>
<td>Person</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Responsible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref No</th>
<th>Hazard</th>
<th>Person(s) exposed to Hazard</th>
<th>Risk Identified</th>
<th>Pure Risk Rating</th>
<th>Control Measures Required</th>
<th>In place</th>
<th>Residual Risk Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Room size not sufficient to allow people to move easily during exercise</td>
<td>patient</td>
<td>Risk of injury to patient during exercise</td>
<td>1 1 1</td>
<td>Environmental checklist provided for patient to assess own environment.</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>1 1 1 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Objects or equipment on the floor in the room constituting a trip hazard.</td>
<td>patient</td>
<td>Risk of falls</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Detailed falls assessment for patients with history of falls at pre-assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Temperature of room during exercise (excessive heat or cold)</td>
<td>Patients</td>
<td>Risk of dehydration or heat exhaustion in hot conditions.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Temperature should be at least 13°C minimum (ideally between 18 and 23°C. If the temperature exceeds 23°C a decision can be made to not exercise on that particular session using poll on ELearn. Open windows for ventilation. Patients on Elearn to refer to ‘When not to exercise’ guide.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clinician to view proposed space as part of virtual pre-assessment.

Rockwood frailty score to identify those more at risk of falls.

Environmental checklist.

Temperature of room during exercise (excessive heat or cold)

Patients

Risk of dehydration or heat exhaustion in hot conditions.

Temperature should be at least 13°C minimum (ideally between 18 and 23°C. If the temperature exceeds 23°C a decision can be made to not exercise on that particular session using poll on ELearn. Open windows for ventilation. Patients on Elearn to refer to ‘When not to exercise’ guide.

Objects or equipment on the floor in the room constituting a trip hazard.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Technology preventing sharing of webcam/ being able to hear class lead</th>
<th>patients</th>
<th>Injury due to unsupervised exercise</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Webcams to be activated at all times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tech support by staff member if webcam dropping out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IPad to be provided where necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Theraband damage causing snapping and potential injury</td>
<td>patients</td>
<td>Muscular injury due to incorrect usage</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Instructions on checking theraband for tears prior to every class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Multiple bands issued.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Confidentiality</td>
<td>Patients, staff</td>
<td>Breaches of confidentiality as family members in the room during the exercise class</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Patients and carer only to be in the room for duration of the class. Carer to stay behind screen where possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adverse event suffered during exercise</td>
<td>Patients</td>
<td>Acutely unwell due to pre-existing condition or unpredictable acute event</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Detailed pre-assessment using guidance from the South West on general principles for remote</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Distressing for the group

Pulmonary rehabilitation assessment.

Pulse oximeter provided for monitoring.

Rockwood score to guide ratio of staff to patients – no more than three patients with score of 5 or above per class if one moderator.

Clinician moderating group at all times with phone numbers and addresses available.

Patient to be moved into breakout room with moderator whilst action taken.

Consequence X Likelihood = Risk Total \( (C \times L = R) \)

**RED** IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED Top Priority – must not be allowed to continue

**ORANGE** ATTENTION REQUIRED As soon as possible.

**YELLOW** RISK REDUCTION REQUIRED As soon as reasonably practicable

**GREEN** NO IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED Risk is tolerable for the time being, needs reviewing regularly, especially after changes.

ALL RED risks MUST be reported to Health & Safety Team

Tel: 08456 598146 (Urgent items/assistance) 07919 401228