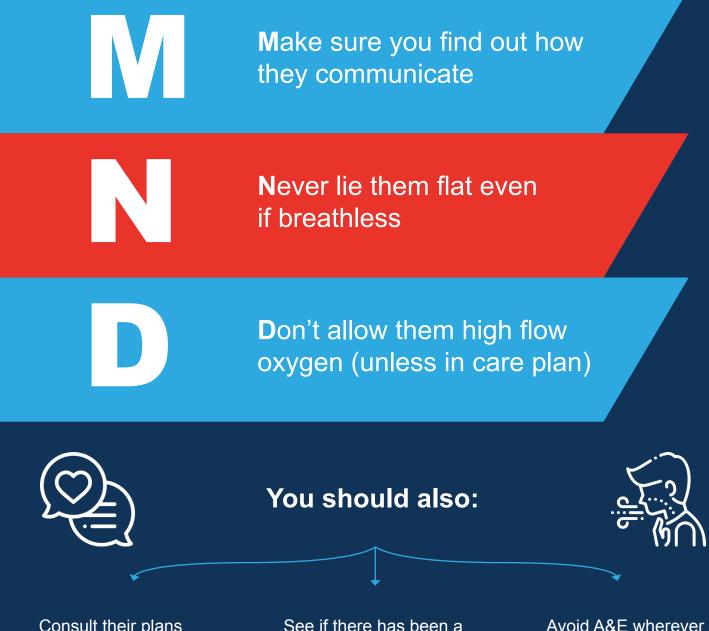
# MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE





## First contact with a patient with MND?



Consult their plans (general care, advance care plan and/or advance decision to refuse treatment) See if there has been a change to their respiratory rate (normally increased) and SpO<sub>2</sub> (normally lower). People with MND could have a high NEWS score but this could be normal for them. Avoid A&E wherever possible (contact their district nursing team and local care team or speak to their local palliative care coordinator or their GP)

#### Airway

Swallowing issues Poor cough reflex Saliva blocking airway

**Consider suction** 

#### **Breathing**

#### High respiratory rate

SpO<sub>2</sub> 88- 92% Do they have a BiPAP machine? Aetiology of lungs is normal Place patient on **BiPAP** 

Guidelines for oxygen use in healthcare and emergency settings

2 litres O<sub>2</sub> with caution to achieve target saturation

### Circulation -

May be rapid due to the increased breathing rate but could be within normal breathing range Tachycardia can be a normal presentation

Disability

80% of MND patients have communication issues Cognitive function is usually normal

Take your time with these patients

#### **Environmental**

Dehydration can be a problem

They may have a PEG feed – which can get blocked

They may have a catheter in situ

Do they have a carer's emergency card or plan? These provide important information regarding the patient's care needs.