



Breathing difficulties

As a result of scoliosis worsening, lung capacity reduces and breathing difficulties can develop as a result. If this happens then patients are usually referred to a respiratory clinic. If the reduction in lung capacity is severe patients may be recommended to use assisted mechanical ventilation. Equipment such as bi-level positive airway pressure (BIPAP) or non-invasive positive pressure ventilation (NIPPV occasionally referred to as NIPPY) can make a big difference to the quality of breathing, and SAUK members have reported how the use of such aids has allowed them to be more active than they had been for many years. One of our Regional Secretaries, Marion Whiting has a great deal of experience with breathing problems and would be more than happy to give additional support and advice on this subject. To become a member and be put in touch with Marion, please contact the SAUK office. You can also visit her website: www.asiliveandbreathe.co.uk.

