

## Patient Information

# Respiratory Department

# Guidance for the Provision of Oxygen at Home

## Introduction

The purpose of this leaflet is to help communication and prevent misunderstanding about your oxygen therapy. It informs you of your responsibilities and duties that you have when you have oxygen therapy at home.

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

NHS No: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Details: \_\_\_\_\_

The above patient has been formally assessed by a member of the Home Oxygen Service and Review team (HOS-AR) and deemed appropriate for Long Term Oxygen Therapy (LTOT) and/or ambulatory oxygen therapy or nocturnal oxygen therapy.

**Oxygen requirements:** \_\_\_\_\_

I understand my need for oxygen therapy Yes/No

I have been informed and understand the dangers involved when using oxygen therapy.  
Yes/No

My questions and concerns regarding treatment have been adequately answered. Yes/No

Patient/Carer's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Healthcare professional signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Note to staff:

Print 2 copies of front page  
Top copy for Patient's notes  
Bottom copy for Patient



## Fire Safety Guidelines:

### Oxygen is highly flammable

**Do not** smoke/use e-cigarettes or allow those near to you to smoke/use e-cigarettes whilst you are using your oxygen therapy. Smoking during oxygen therapy has caused serious injuries and can prove fatal.

**Do not** allow naked flames such as gas cookers, open fires and candles in the area where you are using your oxygen therapy. You must be at least 10 feet (3 metres) away. The smallest spark can cause the oxygen to ignite. Any electrical or gas canister equipment, such as hair tongs, must not be used when you are using your oxygen therapy.

**Do not** store the oxygen equipment near a radiator/gas fire or any heat source, or in the same place as paint, petrol, paraffin, or flammable materials.

**Do not** use oil or grease on the oxygen cylinder valve.

**Do not** use petroleum/paraffin based skin products to moisturise the face/nasal passages when using oxygen as these are flammable substances.

**Ensure** your oxygen cylinders/equipment are kept upright and are not banged or knocked over. This can cause damage to the cylinder or the flow of regulator which could possibly lead to a fire.

**Do not** remove the fire breaks (a small white plastic piece) from the oxygen tubing. These prevent fire going up the oxygen tubing.

**Do not** leave your nasal prongs/oxygen mask on the bed or chair with the oxygen running. This can cause a build up of gas which could be dangerous.

**You must** turn the oxygen off when not in use.

**Do use** your oxygen in a well ventilated room. This is so there is less risk of the room becoming saturated in oxygen and therefore less risk of ignition.

**Do have** working smoke alarms in your property.

### Other safety guidelines to adhere to:

**Do not** share oxygen with anyone else. Oxygen is a prescribed drug and should only be used by the person it is prescribed for. Sharing oxygen equipment can lead to infection.

**Do not** increase the flow of oxygen. Oxygen is a drug and is prescribed at a specific rate for you.

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Giving yourself too much or too little oxygen can cause harm and can be potentially fatal. If you feel drowsy, muddled or if you are experiencing a lot of headaches or early morning headaches, please contact HOS-AR team on 024 7696 6734.

**Be aware** that oxygen tubing could be a trip hazard. The oxygen tubing could become trapped under doors or furniture and block and or prevent the flow of oxygen to the patient.

**Be aware** that oxygen tubing could cause pressure sores to the ears, nose or face. Check your skin where the oxygen tubing sits as these areas can get sore or broken.

**Be aware** when travelling with oxygen cylinders that they should be secured correctly. Should your vehicle suddenly stop the cylinders could cause injury to persons travelling in the vehicle. Display a carrying oxygen sticker in your vehicle **only when** you are travelling with oxygen

**Do** inform your home and car insurance companies. This should not affect your premium but you should ensure that the cost of medical equipment is covered.

**Do** inform your electricity supplier that you have an oxygen concentrator so that they can put you on their priority list in case of power failure.

**Do** allow the fire service access to your property when requested.

**Do** allow oxygen equipment to be collected from your home once it has been decided that treatment is no longer required.

Any concerns please contact the Home Oxygen Service Assessment and Review Team  
Telephone: 024 7696 6734

**General oxygen safety information can also be found in the patient information booklet provided by your oxygen supplier.**

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format please ask and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy

### Document History

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