

OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS

GENERAL:

An oxygen concentrator is one of the most common ways in which oxygen is delivered in the home. Since **oxygen is a drug**, it is very important to set the gauge correctly.

GETTING STARTED

1. Plug the machine into a properly grounded electrical outlet.
2. DO NOT block the inlet/outlet filters. Place 6 inches away from wall.
3. Turn the machine **ON** with the on/off button.
4. Turn on the concentrator. The alarm will sound for a few seconds. (Note: The alarm will sound each time the machine is turned on).
5. Use the meter on the front of the machine to set the oxygen.

EXAMPLE: Your doctor told you to use **2 liters per minute of oxygen**. Turn the knob on the meter until the line at number 2 cuts the ball on the meter in half.

6. Attach the end of the long tube to the meter.
7. Attach the piece that will fit into your nose to the long tube. (This is called a **NASAL CANNULA TIP**.)
8. Place the prongs on the **NASAL CANNULA TIP** into your nostrils.

NASAL CANNULA TIP & TUBING



HUMIDIFIERS (WHEN NECESSARY)

- ✓ Use **DISTILLED WATER** in the humidifier jar.
- ✓ Fill the jar 1/3 TO 3/4 full. DO NOT OVERFILL
- ✓ Replace the lid snugly and reattach the humidifier bottle to the concentrator. Then...
 1. Attach the tubing and nasal cannula to the humidifier outlet port.
 2. Turn on the concentrator.
 3. Check to make sure the oxygen is bubbling through the humidifier bottle.
- ✓ **EVERY TWO DAYS:**
 - Empty the jar
 - Rinse the jar with warm water
 - Refill the jar to 1/3 full
- ✓ **WEEKLY:**
 - Dispose of the jar and replace with a new one

CLEANING AND SAFETY

GENERAL CLEANING

- ✓ **WEEKLY** – Wash the outside filters on the oxygen concentrator.
- ✓ **EVERY OTHER WEEK** – Change the **NASAL CANNULA TIP**.
- ✓ **MONTHLY** – Change the long tubing.
- ✓ **WIPE OFF THE MACHINE WITH A DUSTING CLOTH AS NEEDED.**

SAFETY - REMEMBER:



OXYGEN SUPPORTS COMBUSTION, IT DOES NOT START FIRES BUT IT DOES HELP IGNITE THEM!!



- ✓ **Keep open flames away from oxygen.**
- ✓ **Do not smoke.**
- ✓ **Keep dirt, grease or oil-based products away from oxygen.**
- ✓ **Do have an all-purpose (ABC) fire extinguisher readily available and post the warning signs stating that oxygen is in use.**

OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR CHECKLIST

If your concentrator alarm sounds or you are unsure about the oxygen flow:

NOTE: Always turn on your oxygen tank or portable oxygen concentrator & use it while you are checking your concentrator!!

- ✓ **Is the machine tightly plugged in?**
- ✓ **Does the outlet have power?**
Try a radio or lamp in the same outlet
- ✓ **Does the concentrator need to be RESET?**
Locate the **RESET** button on the machine and press the button. If humidifier is present, make sure the bottle is sealed correctly.
- ✓ **Is everything tightly connected?**
- ✓ **Are there any "crimps" or folds in the long tube that won't allow oxygen to flow?**
- ✓ **Can you feel oxygen from the nasal cannula?**
Place the tip that you put in your nose into a glass of water – it will bubble when there is flow.
- ✓ **Is there a power failure in your area?**
- ✓ **Check to make sure the intake filter is clean and nothing is obstructing the air flow (i.e., drapes, bedspread, etc.).**

REMEMBER: We are available 24 hours a day for *EMERGENCIES*. If you cannot get your equipment to work, a therapist will return your call to troubleshoot your problem(s).