



OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS

An oxygen concentrator is a machine that separates room air into oxygen and nitrogen. The nitrogen is discarded, while the oxygen is stored, concentrated and delivered at 90% to 95% purity.

PLEASE NOTE: The use of this device does **NOT** reduce the oxygen in the room air because of the small amount of oxygen required.

If you are using an oxygen concentrator, you may want to notify your power company and explain to them that you have life-sustaining equipment in your home. In the event of power failure in your area, they will then know to give priority to restoring power to your home over others in the area who are not using life-sustaining equipment.

TURNING ON OXYGEN

1. Plug the concentrator into a **properly grounded** electrical wall outlet. **DO NOT** use an extension cord. **DO NOT** plug into an outlet controlled by a wall switch or dimmer.
2. Attach the tubing from your cannula to the oxygen outlet.
3. Set the switch to the "**ON**" position.
4. Turn the flow adjustment knob until the flow meter registers the flow rate prescribed by your doctor. Your doctor prescribed a flow rate of _____ liters per minute.
5. Put on the cannula and adjust for comfort. See "Facts About Your Nasal Cannula" in the general information on oxygen therapy that was provided with these instructions.

If you are using a humidifier, refer to "Facts About Your Humidifier" in the general information for instructions on the proper use and maintenance of your humidifier.

TURNING OFF OXYGEN

1. Remove the nasal cannula.
2. Set the concentrator power switch to the "**OFF**" position.
3. It is not necessary to turn the flow control "**OFF**" after it has been set properly. It should be checked, however, each time the concentrator is turned "ON" and periodically during use. The flow control may require minor adjustments from time to time.

IF THE ALARM GOES OFF

Your oxygen concentrator is equipped with an alarm to alert you in case of a power failure or an equipment malfunction. If the alarm goes off, **first** check to see that the power cord is still connected to the electrical wall outlet. Then, quickly check other electrical appliances in the home to determine if there is a power failure, or if a fuse or circuit breaker has blown.

If there is a power failure, turn "**OFF**" the concentrator to stop the alarm. Then, turn "ON" your back-up cylinder system and connect your oxygen tubing to it. If your electrical service does not return within a reasonable length of time, notify our office so you can be provided additional oxygen for your back-up system.

If you determine that there is no power failure and that the alarm indicates an equipment malfunction, turn "**OFF**" the concentrator. Then, turn "**ON**" your back-up cylinder system and connect your oxygen tubing to it. Notify our office of the malfunction immediately.

If you find it necessary to use your back-up cylinder system during several intermittent short-term power failures, it is important to check the pressure gauge to ensure that you have an adequate supply of back-up oxygen. Please follow the instructions provided for your back-up system to determine the amount of oxygen you have left.

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

Twice each week you will need to clean the inlet air filter. This sponge-like filter should be removed and washed under running tap water. Be sure to shake out the excess water, then press or squeeze dry with a clean towel before replacing the filter. **The concentrator should NOT be used without this filter in place.**

You should also wipe down the outside of the concentrator with a damp cloth periodically.

Our representative will check your equipment _____ .

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Never place your concentrator directly against a wall, drapes or other objects. There must be sufficient space to allow free circulation of air around all sides of the unit. You may notice some heat from the unit. This is normal.

"NO SMOKING" signs should be prominently displayed in all areas where oxygen is being used or stored. Follow all of the other safety precautions outlined in the general instructions.

Carefully follow your doctor's orders for the flow rate and duration of daily oxygen.

The oxygen equipment provided to you is transported, handled and installed by professionals with experience in oxygen therapy. Feel free to ask them any questions about your oxygen therapy and/or equipment.