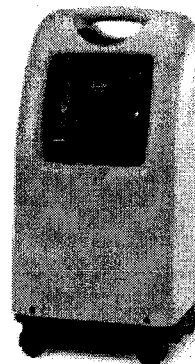




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PATIENT GUIDE TO THE USE OF AN OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR

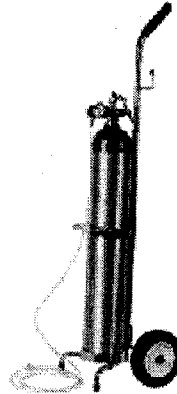
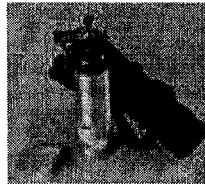
An Oxygen Concentrator is an electronically powered unit with a series of filters which extracts oxygen from room air. In the event of a power failure or other emergency, a portable oxygen system usually accompanies a concentrator. Regular household current is sufficient for its use. In some cases, a humidifier bottle must be used to increase moisture to the oxygen as it passes through the tubing to the mask or cannula. The tubing must be changed every six months, the water bottle monthly and the cannulas every two weeks. The filter and water bottle must be cleaned weekly.



TROUBLE	PROBABLE CAUSE	REMEDY
No oxygen seems to be flowing from the system	Cannula or nipple adaptor not connected tightly	Place the end of the cannula in a small glass of water and look for a steady flow of bubbles. If bubbles can be seen, the oxygen system is working fine. If there are no bubbles coming from both cannula prongs or if the bubbles have decreased in volume, check to see that the cannula is connected tightly to the oxygen system and that the nipple adaptor is screwed on tightly.
Water blocking the oxygen tubing	Overfilling the humidifier bottle or tubing lying on a floor that is cold	Use the portable oxygen system while attending to water in the tubing.
Unit not operating (power failure alarm sounds)	Plug not firmly in wall	Check plug at outlet. Press reset buttons (on some models)
Unable to dial prescribed flow rate	Concentrator circuit breaker has been set off. No power at wall outlet.	Check power source (fuse or circuit breaker). Wall switch that controls plug may be switched off. Try another outlet.
	Electrical power outage	Use portable oxygen system until power is restored.
	Obstructed humidifier bottle	Disconnect humidifier bottle. If flow rate is restored, replace with a new humidifier bottle or use a nipple adaptor.
	Obstruction in tubing	Disconnect tubing. If flow rate is restored, replace with new tubing.
Temperature light/alarm is on	Obstruction in cannula	Disconnect cannula from tubing. If proper flow rate is restored, replace with new cannula.
		Unit overheated

PORTABLE CYLINDER SYSTEM

The portable cylinder system consists of a regulator, which attaches to the cylinder. A regulator controls the flow rate of oxygen to the patient using a flow meter, and indicates the pounds of pressure in the cylinder with a pressure gauge. Nasal cannula or mask tubing connects to the regulator. A portable system also includes a cart or carrying case.



TROUBLE	PROBABLE CAUSE	REMEDY
<p>No oxygen seems to be flowing from the system</p>	<p>Decreased awareness of oxygen flow</p> <p>Faulty cannula or mask</p> <p>Cylinder valve is closed or liter control knob is off.</p> <p>Empty cylinder</p> <p>Faulty regulator</p>	<p>Place the end of the cannula in a small glass of water and look for a steady flow of bubbles. If bubbles can be seen, the oxygen system is working fine. If no bubbles can be seen coming from both the cannula prongs or if the bubbles have decreased in volume, check to see that the cannula is connected tightly to the oxygen system and that the nipple adaptor is screwed on tightly.</p> <p>Remove cannula or mask and check tubing for kinks or obstructions. Replace with a new cannula or mask if needed.</p> <p>Check cylinder valve to make sure it is open. Check flowmeter to make sure it is on.</p> <p>Check pressure gauge for oxygen contents. If cylinder is empty, remove regulator and attach to new full cylinder. Replace cylinder.</p> <p>Call Cape Medical Supply to exchange</p>
<p>Oxygen cylinder hisses and is leaking oxygen</p>	<p>Regulator not attached tightly</p> <p>Faulty regulator</p> <p>Faulty washer</p>	<p>Turn the oxygen off. Check and retighten connection between regulator and cylinder</p> <p>Call Cape Medical Supply to exchange</p> <p>Replace washer</p>