

What is Oxygen?

Oxygen is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that sustains life. It is inhaled into the lungs and absorbed into the bloodstream where the heart's pumping action helps red blood cells carry oxygen to the body's tissues. Tissues then extract the oxygen to generate energy and maintain life.

What will I gain By Using Oxygen?

We need a certain amount of oxygen in our blood for our bodies to function properly. When blood oxygen levels are low, our cells do not have enough energy to perform their duties properly. Using supplemental oxygen increases the amount of oxygen you breathe into your lungs. Therefore, more oxygen enters the bloodstream for delivery throughout your body.



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GOING HOME ON OXYGEN

A PATIENT'S GUIDE TO OXYGEN THERAPY



You've just learned that you will need home oxygen therapy. Whether you need oxygen temporarily or long term, you can breathe easier knowing you will receive quality respiratory care from BMS - Boardman Medical Supply.

The following information about home oxygen therapy is designed to answer your basic questions and help you and your family make a smooth transition.

How Do I Receive Oxygen?

Oxygen can be supplied for home use in three ways:

- Oxygen Concentrator
- Compressed Gas Cylinder

OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR

The Invacare HomeFill Oxygen System defines ambulatory oxygen by allowing patients to fill their own high-pressure cylinders from a concentrator. The ability to fill their own cylinders gives ambulatory oxygen patients greater independence and freedom.



OXYGEN CYLINDER

The oxygen cylinder is used primarily to provide portable oxygen away from home. It can also serve as a backup to an oxygen concentrator during a power failure.



Various cylinder sizes are available from BMS.

PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR

Chart's SeQual Eclipse 5 portable oxygen concentrator offers continuous flow oxygen up to 3 LPM or pulse dose oxygen. It is a flexible, reliable and clinically robust system that is easy to operate with supplemental battery and AC or DC power options.



The CAIRE oxygen concentrator family offers a wide selection of portable oxygen concentrators that cover multiple respiratory disease states and prescriptions, ranging from the small



AirSep Focus to the ultra-compact and flexible AirSep FresStyle and the versatile AirSep FreeStyle 5 for higher oxygen flow applications.

Where Do I Get Home Oxygen?

After discussing therapy with your physician, nurse or respiratory therapist, contact Boardman Medical Supply to arrange for the necessary equipment to be delivered to your home. BMS will show you how to safely operate and care for your equipment.

How Safe is Oxygen Use?

When handled properly and according to your physician's prescription, oxygen is safe and valuable. It is a non-flammable, non-explosive gas. It does not burn, but it does make things burn faster. Precautions must be taken when oxygen is used.



How Much Oxygen Do I Need?

Your doctor will choose the right oxygen prescription based on your blood oxygen levels while at rest, and possibly, while exercising. Remember, never increase or decrease your oxygen flow rate without first consulting your doctor.

How Long Must I Use Oxygen?

Your medical condition, along with ongoing monitoring and testing, will help your doctor determine whether your oxygen therapy will be temporary or long-term.

Can I Travel With Oxygen?

Yes, you can travel with oxygen. Advice and assistance is available from BMS when you decide to travel. The key is to plan ahead, and to always consult with your physician beforehand.

For more information contact Boardman Medical Supply at 1-800-443-3390 or visit our website at www.boardmanmedicalsupply.com.

