

Safety Information

This section outlines the safety information common to all oxygen equipment. It is important that you also refer to the Do's & Don'ts section for the equipment that you have been supplied.

General Safety Information



Before you operate your oxygen equipment ensure that you read the User Operating Instructions and any other information provided.

Pay particular attention to any information where the Hazard symbol is displayed.

Do not let children tamper or any other untrained persons tamper with your oxygen equipment.



Fire

Materials burn much more vigorously in oxygen than in air.

- Never smoke (or let someone else smoke near you) whilst using your oxygen equipment.
- Do not use your oxygen equipment near open fires or naked flames.



Storage and use

Always follow the advice given to you about where to safely store and use your cylinders or liquid vessels.

- Ensure that they are stored and used in a well ventilated area, kept clean and dry and away from any sources of heat.
- The storage area should not be used to store flammable material such as paints and heating gas cylinders.
- Do not keep large quantities of combustible material (such as paper or cardboard) near your oxygen supply.
- When stored, cylinders must be either laid down or secured upright to prevent them falling over.
- Liquid reservoir vessels must be stored upright.



Oxygen Enrichment

Materials which become enriched with oxygen from leaks from your oxygen system will burn very vigorously if ignited.

Only use and store your medical oxygen in a well ventilated area. Keep internal doors open whilst your oxygen cylinder is in use.

- Never place your oxygen equipment near curtains or cover them with clothing or other material objects as this will restrict air circulation.
- Never leave your cannula or mask on the bed or in the chair whilst the oxygen is being supplied.
- Ensure that when you are not using your oxygen that the supply system is turned off.
- Never use or carry the portable vessel under any clothing.



Oils and Grease

- Do not use oils or grease with your oxygen equipment.
- Ensure that your hands are clean and only use authorised creams and moisturisers when using your medical oxygen.
- Do not use aerosol sprays such as hair sprays or deodorants whilst using your oxygen equipment.



You can contact the customer service team on
0800 136 603



Transport of cylinders and portable liquid vessels

- When carrying medical cylinders or portable liquid vessels in a car, make sure you have a medical oxygen data sheet and a transport emergency card (TREM card), available from BOC.
- We recommend that you inform your motor insurance company when you carry oxygen. Make sure that you keep the vehicle well ventilated if using the oxygen in the car.
- Only carry sufficient oxygen for the journey.
- Never carry a liquid reservoir vessel in the car.
- Make sure that the cylinders or vessels are secured in the car to prevent them from moving. Carry spare cylinders in the boot of the car whenever possible.



Fire

In the event of a fire:

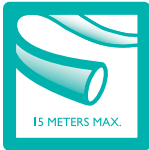
- As soon as a fire is discovered, ring 999 immediately as long as it is safe to do so.
- Advise the operator if there are any compressed gas cylinders on the premises.
- Evacuate the area.
- As soon as practical, ring Vitalair and advise which items have been involved in the fire.
- Such items must not be used.

You can take additional advice from your local fire safety officer.



You can contact the customer service team on
0800 136 603

When using your oxygen equipment please read the following safety information.



Connecting Tubing

Carefully connect your tubing to the oxygen supply system. Tubing over 15 metres long should not be used as this will restrict the flow. Take care that any hose laying on the floor is not trapped under heavy items or allowed to kink.



Flow rate

Always use your oxygen equipment at the correct flow rate. Set the flow rate at zero before opening the valve. Open the valve slowly by turning it anti-clockwise and then set the flowmetre at the flow rate prescribed by your doctor. Check for leaks on the connections after opening the valve.

You can check you have a flow by placing the end of the tube in a glass of water and watch for bubbles.



Oxygen Supply

Regularly check that there is an adequate supply of gas in your oxygen equipment by checking the gauge on the cylinder valve or on the vessel. Never allow your oxygen cylinder to completely empty. Always close the cylinder valve when the supply is not in use.



Cleaning

Use only a clean damp cloth to clean your oxygen equipment or any associated equipment.

Only use mild, non-abrasive cleaning materials.

Allow the oxygen equipment to dry after wiping down before using.



Repairs

If your oxygen equipment fails for any reason call us immediately. Never try and repair any fault unless specifically instructed by us.