

Merrimack Valley Hospice Home Oxygen Safety Tips



Merrimack
Valley Hospice

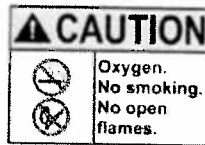
Tip # 1
No SMoking



Tip # 2
Keep all flame sources & extreme heat sources a minimum of 7 feet away from all oxygen equipment.



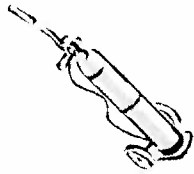
Tip # 3
Post an Oxygen sign for visitors.



Tip # 4
Never use petroleum based products while using oxygen equipment.



Tip # 5
Oxygen tanks should be stored either securely in an approved stand or lying down to prevent them from falling over, damaging property or hurting anyone.



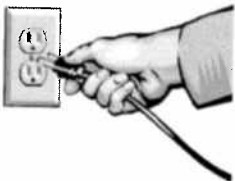
Tip # 6
When transporting tanks be sure to secure all tanks with seatbelts or straps, or lay tanks securely flat on the floor making sure they cannot come loose or move.



Tip # 7
Be aware of oxygen tubing and extension cords.



Tip # 8
Avoid overloading electrical outlets.



Tip # 9
Check smoke detectors regularly.



Tip # 10
Keep oxygen equipment in well ventilated areas.



More Home Oxygen Safety Tips

1. If you must continue to smoke, turn off all oxygen equipment and smoke in another room.
2. Some common flame sources include candles, fireplaces, gas stoves & wood-burning stoves and of course smoking materials.
3. Post an Oxygen sign for visitors.
4. Petroleum based products (such as Vaseline & Chap-Stick) can be a serious fire hazard when used with oxygen products.
5. Oxygen tanks should be stored either securely in an approved stand or lying down to prevent them from falling over and damaging property or hurting anyone.
6. Secure all tanks with seatbelts or straps, or lay tanks securely flat on the floor making sure they cannot come loose or move.
7. Oxygen tubing and extension cords can become a possible trip hazard, so use them as sparingly as possible, and try to secure them as best you can. Do not run cords underneath carpeting or rugs. Extension cords are not recommended for use with oxygen concentrators.
8. Having too many plugs going into one outlet creates a risk of "overloading" electrical circuits and disrupting your power. In extreme circumstances overloading an outlet may become a fire hazard.
9. A defective smoke detector can have devastating consequences so be sure to test your smoke detector monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.
10. Oxygen concentrators should be kept at least 6 inches from walls to allow for proper air circulation. Liquid oxygen tanks should never be stored in confined places such as closets.