

Home Oxygen Equipment

If you need supplemental oxygen you will be given one or two of the following delivery systems to meet your needs and lifestyle:

Cylinder

- Contains oxygen in a gas form at high pressures.
- Can be used with a special cart for portability.
- No evaporation.
- Needs to be replaced by home oxygen company when empty.

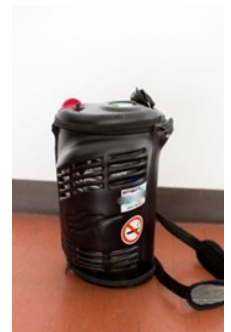


Liquid Oxygen

- Extremely cold oxygen (-300°F) remains in liquid form as long as it stays cold. It does not require high pressures to operate.
- Portable units are compact, lightweight and can be carried over the shoulder in a back pack or used with a cart.
- Normal evaporation from the system means that oxygen cannot be stored for long periods of time.
- Portable units can be filled from a larger unit in the home.



base unit



portable stroller

Concentrator

- A machine that concentrates oxygen from the air around you.
- Needs electricity to work so a back-up oxygen delivery system (e.g. a cylinder or liquid oxygen system) is needed in case of electrical failure.
- There are both home units and portable versions available.
- No need to refill tanks or strollers



portable concentrator

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The systems are used along with a **delivery device** to give you the right flow rate or concentration of oxygen to meet your needs.

Some delivery devices include:

- Nasal cannulae
- Oxyimizer
- Venturi mask



Oxyimizer



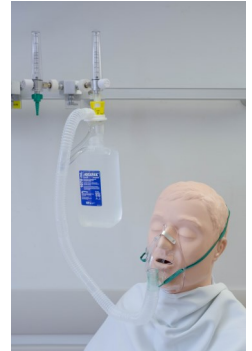
Venturi mask

Oxygen Equipment	Advantages	Disadvantages
Nasal Prongs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • oxygen from cannula added to the room air that is inhaled • amount of oxygen is influenced by the speed and depth of breathing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most comfortable • least confining • easy to use • eat and speak easily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nose becomes “dry” at higher flows • may require humidity at higher flows • exact amount of oxygen varies from breath to breath
Oxyimizer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an oxygen conserver attached to nasal prongs • the reservoir pouch stores oxygen until you take in a breath 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lower oxygen flows provide sufficient oxygen • oxygen lasts longer • less nasal irritation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thicker tubing may be less comfortable • more visible • exact amount of oxygen varies from breath to breath • may not work well for “mouth breathers” • expensive, may not be provided by home care company
Venturi Mask <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivers an accurate and specific percentage of oxygen • rarely used outside of the hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not affected by the rate or depth of breathing • humidity is not required • may be better for mouth breathers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • face mask is much more confining • more difficult to eat and talk with the mask than nasal prongs

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Humidifier

If dryness and irritation of your nose is a problem, humidity can be added to your oxygen delivery system with the use of a bubble humidifier and distilled water (greater than 4- 6 litres/minute).



Oxygen Conserving Device

Conserving devices, such as pulsed-dose systems, can sometimes be used with oxygen cylinders to deliver supplemental oxygen only when you breathe in. These devices help reduce the amount of oxygen that is used from the cylinders — making them last longer. The reduced oxygen flow can also decrease the chance of nasal irritation or dryness. However, not everyone can use a conserving device.

