

Oxygen Use at Home

Your oxygen equipment will be supplied by: _____

Telephone #: _____ Call this supplier to reorder parts such as cannula and masks.

Your child's body needs more oxygen than they can get from the air. Your child will need to use oxygen at home.

They will need _____ LPM (liters per minute) of oxygen by _____.

Here are the basic types of home oxygen systems

Oxygen comes in different forms: as pressurized oxygen in tanks, liquid oxygen in tanks, or from an oxygen concentrator. A concentrator is a machine that converts room air into oxygen you breathe through tubing. The supplier will talk with you about which is best for your child. Your child may need an oxygen system for travel and one that stays at home.

What if my child seems to need more oxygen?

Oxygen is a medicine prescribed by your child's doctor. It must be used as the doctor orders. If your child shows signs of needing more oxygen, call the doctor right away. If it is an emergency, increase the oxygen slightly until your child sees the doctor.

What safety steps should I follow?

- Keep oxygen at least 10 feet away from any flame or heat source such as candles, gas stoves or heaters.
 - Do not use electrical appliances, such as electric razors, hair dryers and electric blankets, while using oxygen.
 - Do not allow smoking in your home. If someone in the house is a smoker, they should do it outside. Post a "No Smoking" sign near your front door.
 - Keep oxygen away from flammable things such as Vaseline, hand lotions, aerosol sprays, etc.
 - Keep oxygen system in a place where it will not get knocked over. Secure it from falling or tipping over while traveling.
 - Do not touch liquid oxygen or frosted parts of the liquid tank. It is very cold and can freeze your skin.
 - If your child is using a concentrator, have enough cylinders to last 3 days in case of a power outage. Call your supplier.
 - During waking hours, check oxygen system settings every 8 hours.
 - Never use more than 50 feet of oxygen tubing. This can reduce the amount of oxygen your child is getting.
 - Do not carry liquid oxygen in a backpack or other enclosed container.
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To Learn More

- Respiratory Care Services
206-987-2258
- Children's Home Care Services
425-482-4000
Toll-free 800-888-4420
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line, 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.



- Never use extension cords with any medical equipment.
- Secure loose cords, extra tubing, floor mats and rugs so that your child does not trip on them when using the oxygen system.
- Check that all electrical equipment in the area near the oxygen system is properly grounded.
- Have a working smoke detector and fire extinguisher in your home at all times.
- Make sure your family has a fire safety plan.

How often should I change the nasal cannula?

Change the nasal cannula weekly. Attach it to your child's cheeks with baby tape, Tender Grips or other skin-sensitive product. When your child has a cold, they may have more mucus. Change the cannula more often when your child is sick.