

Patient Information Brochure

Supplemental oxygen may be recommended for people with lung disease to help relieve breathlessness, prolong life expectancy, reduce hospital admission and improve quality of life. Patients may require oxygen for ambulatory, continuous or nocturnal use. Your doctor has prescribed oxygen to assist in your recovery after discharge home from hospital.

When To Use Oxygen

It is very important that you use oxygen as prescribed by your physician.

_____ L/min when at rest

_____ L/min during exercise

_____ L/min during sleep

If you feel as though you need more oxygen than prescribed please contact your doctor for advice. You can also contact the Monash Oxygen Clinic on 9594 2811 during business hours.

Equipment

Oxygen may be delivered via:

- Cylinders

Oxygen cylinders can be provided for patients who require ambulatory oxygen. A trolley or a bag will be provided to allow for transport.

- Concentrator

Stationary concentrators are provided for patients who require continuous oxygen. Concentrators are electrical units which filter the oxygen from the room air.

Oxygen and safety

- Patient must not smoke. People living with patients and visitors must not smoke inside the house.
- Oxygen devices and tubing must be kept at least 2 metres away from heat source
- Oxygen should not be used when using stove, BBQ, hairdryers and electric shaver as they can spark.
- Patient should avoid using oil based face cream while using nasal prongs

Oxygen funding

For inpatients requiring oxygen on discharge, Monash Health will provide funding for 4-6 weeks. An oxygen clinic appointment will be arranged to assess your on-going oxygen requirements. If you still require oxygen the clinic will arrange for government funding.