

VALLEYCARE
OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER/HEALTH CENTERS
RESPIRATORY CARE SERVICES - ADULT
POLICY & PROCEDURE

NUMBER: 911

VERSION: 1

SUBJECT/TITLE: TRANSPORTATION OF A MEDICAL GAS CYLINDER SETUP

POLICY: The RCP is responsible for assuring that oxygen dependent patients have sufficient quantity of oxygen to support the needs of the patient being transported.

PURPOSE: To establish a safe method of the transport of an oxygen dependent patient.

DEPARTMENTS: RESPIRATORY CARE SERVICES

DEFINITIONS:

PROCEDURE:

Equipment needed:

- o A Full “E” cylinder of oxygen.
- o Two wheeled O₂-transport cart.
- o Regulator with a flow meter.
- o Cylinder key.
- o Nipple adaptor for O₂ tubing.
- o Delivery tubing and device (cannula, mask, resuscitation bag with or without peep assembly or transport ventilator).

Setup procedure

- o Secure the medical gas cylinder in the transport cart.
- o Determine whether or not the cylinder is full. Check the cylinder tag wired to the yolk of the cylinder. If the FULL tag is present and the plastic cap covering the PISS (Pin Index Safety System) holes is in place the cylinder is full.
- o Place the appropriate regulator with a flow meter over the yolk of the cylinder.
- o With the cylinder key place over the top of the cylinder (without the regulator) turn the key clockwise to “crack” the cylinder slightly to hear a loud hiss, then quickly turn the flow off. This releases any foreign debris in the yoke that might clog up the regulator.
- o Align the PISS pins of the regulator with the holes in the yolk of the cylinder, assure the plastic gasket is in place and tighten the butterfly hand screw on the opposite side of the regulator to secure the regulator to the cylinder.

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**Do not use tools, or any tools with oil or oil products.
Hand tighten only.**

- o Using the oxygen cylinder key, turn the main valve for the cylinder counter clockwise 1/4 turn until the total cylinder pressure is displayed on the regulator gauge.
- o Check for leaks in the unit prior to placing it in service (listen for a hissing noise). If a leak is detected tighten the regulator hand screw further. If leak persists change the regulator gasket.
- o When using the regulator with a flowmeter read the flow on the left gauge of the regulator. Set the flow to the prescribed level by turning the large green knob on the front of the regulator clockwise. When using the transport ventilator read the cylinder contents level by looking at the pressure indicator pin on the regulator. As the pressure drops the colored portion of the pin recedes into the regulator.

CAUTION

When the cylinder is being checked routinely, always close the main valve of the cylinder after the volume/pressure check. If the main valve is not securely closed after checking, the contents of the cylinder could leak over an eight to ten hour period. These small leaks are not detectable by simple means.

References:	
Approved by: Edward Richard Lind (Chief of Respiratory Therapy), Nikhil Barot ()	Date: 09/18/2017
Review Date: 09/18/2017	Revision Date:
Next Review Date: 09/18/2020	
Distribution: Respiratory Care	
Original Date: Not Set	