

Oxygen Use Training

Procedures/Steps to follow to perform the task:

1. Connect the nasal cannula to the oxygen tubing and the tubing to the humidified oxygen source.
2. Adjust the oxygen flow meter to prescribed liter flow (In MAR per medications or prompts)
3. Place tips of the nasal cannula no more than 1.25cm into the resident's nares. Adjust the plastic slide guard for a snug, comfortable fit.
4. Secure the oxygen tubing to the clothing if needed to prevent unnecessary pulling.
5. Clean and change equipment (tubing, cannula, humidifier and concentrator filter) as needed or ordered by physician.
6. Promote resident's comfort by doing the following:
 - Instruct resident to place cotton balls over the ears or foam covers to wrap around the tubing to prevent skin irritation or to reduce pressure from the tubing.
 - If resident complains of dryness of nares, use a water-based lubricant on the nares to reduce irritation of the nose (must be approved by MD or RN)
 - The resident may use 50-foot extension tubing to maximize independence and ambulation in living area.
7. Clean and replace the equipment, discard disposable items according to standard precautions.
8. Document completion in MAR as needed.
9. Wash hand afterwards.

Untoward Outcomes:

1. Resident may experience drying of the nasal passages that sometimes can result in nose bleeds. If this occurs, notify the Nurse and staff can obtain an order the physician to get a water-based lubricant. If the oxygen delivery system does not have a humidifier, we can obtain a room humidifier to prevent drying of mucosal membranes.
2. Infection can occur if humidifier or other equipment is not cleaned regularly. Clean the humidifier often to prevent nebulizing mold or bacteria. Change tubing and cannula as needed.
3. Use oxygen only at prescribed amounts because too little or too much can be harmful and can cause death.

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Potential Risks/Side effects and Appropriate actions to deal with them (include what to observe for and report, what to do, and whom to contact:

1. Power failure can disrupt oxygen delivery, placing residents at risk for respiratory distress. If back-up power system should fail, notify emergency personal (911) and call Nurse/Administrator immediately. (SOME HAVE PORTABLE CHARGERS AND NEED TO BE USED).
2. Fire danger:
 - Oxygen is not flammable or explosive, but it does support combustion; anything that burns in an oxygen-rich environment burns faster and hotter.
 - No open flames or smoking are allowed inside the room in which oxygen is being used. (WE ARE A NON-SMOKING FACILITY)
 - Do not use electrical equipment that may cause sparks from an electrical short near oxygen administration equipment.
 - Care should be taken during use of gas/electric appliances with resident using oxygen.
 - Oxygen concentrators should be plugged into grounded electrical outlet.
 - Keep oxygen concentrator at least 6 inches from wall or other surface to provide good air flow.
 - Smoking materials (e.g., matches, cigarettes, lighters, lighter fluid, tobacco in any form) shall be removed from residents receiving respiratory therapy.

Additional Info:

1. An “oxygen in Use” sign must be posted at each room using oxygen
2. All oxygen canisters must be stored upright in storage container specifically designed for oxygen canisters.

Signature of Cottages Staff member indicating that you have read and understand

Date