

Oxygen Safety

Wigan Borough

Patient Information

Children's Community Nursing Team



The Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website is available on the link:
<https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets> or scan the QR code.

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Oxygen (O2) medication

Your child has been prescribed oxygen medication to use at home.

It is extremely important that you follow all the safety advice. Please ask the health professional if you do not understand any of the information in this leaflet.

The oxygen may be stopped and removed if your child's condition improves or there are any safety concerns.

What to do next

Please inform your home insurance company that you have oxygen in your home; this should not cost you anymore money.

Please inform your car insurance company that you carry oxygen in your vehicle when travelling.

Fire safety advice

Oxygen is not flammable, but it supports and accelerates combustion and cause substances to ignite more easily and burn more fiercely.

Oxygen must be switched off when it is not in use. Surrounding materials, including your clothing, will become 'soaked' in oxygen and may ignite if in contact with a heat source or spark.

Whilst oxygen is in use:

- Do not smoke or allow anyone else to smoke in the same room as the oxygen. This includes the use of 'electronic' cigarettes
- Ensure the room or vehicle is well ventilated
- Ensure the oxygen cylinder is kept upright
- Keep oxygen well away from naked flames such as: open fires, gas cookers and microwaves.
- Do not allow anyone unfamiliar with the equipment to tamper with it. Damage to the cylinder, valve or flow regulator can cause problems with the flow rate and could result in a leak
- Never use oil or grease to lubricate oxygen valves or taps

- Do not store oxygen or oxygen tubing in a warm place or near any naked flame or other heat sources.

Safety advice

- If oxygen tubing is long, please make sure it does not get tangled.
- Please be mindful that if your child is asleep at night there is a possible risk of entanglement. A further risk assessment will be completed by the Ward staff or Children's Community Nursing Team and safety advice will be provided.
- Check the tubing for signs of damage.
- Keep the tubing tidy to prevent trips and slips.
- Do not let others use your child's supply of oxygen; this is a prescribed drug and must only be used by the person it has been prescribed for. It will also increase the risk of your child catching an infection if anyone else uses the oxygen.
- Do not use any oil / paraffin-based creams or ointments such as Vaseline, E45 or sun cream on your child's nose, face or hands, as they are flammable and will increase your child's risk of harm in the event of a fire. Oxygen can also react with these creams / ointments to cause skin irritation.
- If you are not sure which products to use, you can check the ingredients shown on the bottle or speak to your pharmacist for more information.

What happens after oxygen is prescribed

You will be asked to sign a special consent form. This will allow the person prescribing your oxygen to share your details with the Fire Service and the oxygen supplier.

You will also be asked to sign a Safety Declaration Form to confirm that you understand the issues of fire safety when using oxygen.

The oxygen supplier for the North West is Baywater Healthcare Ltd. They will contact you to ask a few questions and to arrange delivery and installation. They will provide training on how to use the oxygen equipment, how it should be stored and any specific cleaning instruction.

You will also receive a phone call from the Community Fire Service to offer you a Home Safety Check; this is in addition to follow-up care from the Children's Community Nursing team.

You should contact Baywater Healthcare Ltd or the Children's Community Nursing Team if you have any problems with the oxygen equipment - please contact Baywater Healthcare Ltd - 0800 373580

Contact details

Claire House
Lower Ince Health Centre
Phoenix Way
Lower Ince
Wigan
WN3 4NW

Telephone number: 0300 707 1292

Our working hours are Monday to Friday 8am until 6pm
Closed Bank Holidays

Local Community Pharmacy

Your local community pharmacies offer a wide range of services including information and general advice on symptom relief medicines as well as a prescription collection and delivery service.

Please use this space to write notes or reminders.

Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends, and carers.

Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane
Wigan WN1 2NN

Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the pros and cons of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use, and store the information we hold about you, please see patient information leaflet, Ref. **Corp 006** How we use your information, this can be found on the Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website, see details on the front cover.

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille, and other languages upon request. For more information, please ask in the department/ward.

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