

Operating Your Oxygen Concentrator

Oxygen concentrators are available in different sizes and models. However, all models have the same basic parts: a power switch to turn the unit on and off, a flow selector that regulates the amount oxygen you receive, an alarm system that alerts you if the power is interrupted, and if prescribed, a humidifier unit that allows the oxygen to be moisturized so it will not dry out your nose, mouth, and throat.



The following step-by-step instructions will help you operate your oxygen concentrator:

Step 1:

- Plug the cord into a grounded electrical outlet.
- If your outlet is not grounded you will need to use a plug adapter.
- **Do not** use an extension cord with the concentrator.
- **Do not** plug the concentrator into an outlet that has other appliances plugged into it.

Step 2:

- If prescribed, attach the humidification bottle filled with distilled water.
- Center the threaded cap on the humidification bottle under the threaded outlet tube on the concentrator.
- Turn the cap on the humidification bottle until it is tightly screwed onto the outlet.



Humidification Bottle

Step 3:

- Attach the oxygen tubing to the port on the lid of the humidification bottle.
- If you are not using humidification, you should attach an oxygen adapter to the concentrator outlet and attach the oxygen tubing to the oxygen adapter.



Oxygen Adapter
or Christmas Tree

Step 4:

- Press the ON/OFF switch to the ON position.
- The alarm will sound for a few seconds after the concentrator is turned on.
- The oxygen concentrator must be turned on 15-20 minutes before using to ensure the concentrator is making the correct concentration of oxygen.

Step 5:

- Adjust the oxygen flow rate by turning the liter control knob until the flow is at the prescribed number.
- Flowmeter with Liter Tube:
 - Adjust the liter control knob until the middle of the indicator ball is at the prescribed number.

! Your doctor has prescribed the oxygen rate for you.

! **Never** change this liter flow without instructions from your doctor.

Step 6:

- Fit the nasal cannula or oxygen mask to your face so that it is comfortable.
- Nasal Cannula:
 - Insert the two prongs of the cannula into your nostrils.
 - Make sure the prongs face upward and curve into your nostrils.
 - Slide the tubing over and behind each ear.
 - Adjust the tubing to fit comfortably under your chin by sliding the adjustor upward.
 - Be careful not to adjust it too tightly.
 - Regularly check the ears and inside the nose for pressure areas and/or sores from the nasal cannula.

Nasal Cannula



Maintaining Your Oxygen Concentrator

Your oxygen concentrator is a durable dependable piece of equipment and will continue to operate efficiently with just a few simple maintenance procedures.

As needed, you should unplug the concentrator and wipe the outside of the cabinet with a clean damp cloth. Never use wax, cleaning sprays, or furniture polish. Many of these products are flammable.

Once a week you should clean the outside air inlet filter if located on the concentrator using the following procedure:

Step 1: Remove the filter from the side or back of the concentrator.

Step 2: Wash the filter with warm water only.

Step 3: Thoroughly rinse the filter with warm water.

Step 4: Gently squeeze excess water from the filter and pat it dry with a clean paper towel.

Step 5: Replace the filter in the opening on the side or back of the concentrator.



On a regular basis a home care representative will visit your home and perform all other necessary maintenance. **You should never open your unit and attempt any repairs on your own.** Should you have any problems with your oxygen concentrator at any time call our office immediately. We maintain service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for equipment emergencies.

Care of Your Oxygen Humidification Bottle

If you are using humidification with your oxygen concentrator, you will need to check the water level in the bottle frequently. When the water (preferably distilled water) runs or the bubbling stops, you will need to refill the bottle.

Refilling the Oxygen Humidification Bottle:

Step 1: Wash your hands.

Step 2: Turn the oxygen concentrator off and remove the humidification bottle from the oxygen concentrator.

Step 3: Unscrew the lid from the humidification bottle.

Step 4: Discard any water remaining in the humidification bottle.

Step 5: Refill the humidification bottle with distilled water to the fill line marked on the bottle. Do not overfill the bottle. Too much water in the bottle will cause the water to collect in your oxygen tubing.

Step 6: Screw the lid back on the humidification bottle until it is tight. Reattach the humidification bottle to your oxygen concentrator.

