

PATIENT EDUCATION



# Oxygen Concentrators



 **Medicor**<sup>®</sup>  
HEALTHCARE

Breathe Easier.

# What Is An Oxygen Concentrator?

**An oxygen concentrator is a machine that separates the oxygen from the nitrogen in the air, concentrates it, and stores it for you to breathe. It provides an almost 100% concentration of oxygen. The use of this device does not reduce the oxygen in the room because of the small amount of oxygen required.**

## Turning On Oxygen

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- Plug the concentrator into a properly grounded electrical wall outlet. Do not use an extension cord.
- Turn the switch to the “on” position.
- Adjust the flow adjustment knob until the flow meter registers the flow rate prescribed by your doctor.
- Attach the tubing from your cannula (nose piece) to the oxygen outlet.
- Put on the cannula and adjust for comfort.

## Turning Off Oxygen

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- Remove the cannula.
- Turn the concentrator power switch to the “off” position.
- It is not necessary to turn the flow control off after it has been set properly. However, it should be checked each time the concentrator is turned on and periodically during use. The flow control may require adjustments from time to time.

## If the Alarm Sounds

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Your oxygen concentrator is equipped with an alarm to alert you in case of a power failure or an equipment malfunction. If the alarm sounds, first check to see that the power cord is still connected to the electrical wall outlet. Then, quickly check other electrical appliances in the home to determine if there is power failure. If there is a power failure, turn off the concentrator to stop the alarm, turn on your back-up system, and connect your oxygen tubing to it. Notify our office of the malfunction immediately.

If you find it necessary to use your back-up system during several intermittent short term power failures, it is important to check the pressure gauge to ensure that you have an adequate supply of back-up oxygen. Please follow the instructions provided for your back-up system to determine the amount of oxygen you have left.

## Cleaning and Maintenance

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You will need to clean the inlet air filter twice a week. To clean this sponge-like filter, you must remove it and wash it under running tap water. Be sure to shake out the excess water before replacing the filter. The oxygen concentrator should never be used without this filter in place.

You should also wipe down the outside of the concentrator with a damp cloth periodically. Our technician will check your equipment regularly to make sure it is in proper condition.



## Important Precautions

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Never place your concentrator directly against a wall, drapes, or other objects. There must be sufficient space to allow free circulation of air around all sides of the unit. You may notice some heat from the unit – this is normal.

“NO SMOKING” signs should be prominently displayed in all areas where oxygen is being used or stored. Follow all of the other safety precautions outlined in the general instructions for oxygen therapy.

**Carefully follow your Physician's recommendations for the amount and duration of daily oxygen.**



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