

## Oxygen Safety

- DO NOT STORE OXYGEN IN A CONFINED AREA SUCH AS A CLOSET. If the oxygen in the air will increase much faster and much higher in a confined space. If it allowed disperse throughout a larger area, the effects are minimized.
- DO NOT PERMIT OPEN FLAMES IN THE SAME ROOM WITH YOUR OXYGEN. Alternative heating sources may be used, but should be at least 10 feet away.
- KEEP ALL FLAMMABLE MATERIALS AWAY FROM YOUR OXYGEN. Do not use hand lotions, or flammable aerosols unless you are ten feet or more away from your system. Some combustible materials such as petroleum products may form explosive compounds when exposed to oxygen.
- MAKE SURE ALL CYLINDERS ARE SECURE. Place all oxygen cylinders in appropriate cylinder stands to prevent them from falling over.
- DO NOT STORE YOUR OXYGEN IN A HOT AREA OR IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT.
- DO NOT USE EXTENSION CORDS. Extension cords are designed for temporary power and not for permanent use. Most extension cords are not rated to handle the amperage of a major appliance and continued use can generate excess heat and even ignite a fire. Oxygen concentrators should be plugged directly into an acceptable wall receptacle (outlet).
- DO NOT OVERLOAD YOUR EXISTING ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS.
- DO NOT SMOKE WHILE ON OXYGEN, NEAR OXYGEN OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER BEING ON OXYGEN. Aside from the obvious fire hazards, smoke inhalation of any kind (including cigarette/ cigar/ pipe and secondhand smoke) stops the benefits of oxygen. NEVER allow smoking around you, even if you are not using your oxygen.

- **SMOKE DETECTORS AND FIRE EXTINGUISHERS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.** Smoke detectors are recommended not only because of the safety warning in the event of a fire, but they can be a warning of smoke conditions that may interfere with your breathing.
- **“NO SMOKING” SIGNS SHOULD BE POSTED AT EACH ENTRANCE TO YOUR HOME.** These will be provided by Commonwealth Home Health Care at the time of set up.
- **AVOID USING TWO-WAY RADIOS, CELL PHONES AND OTHER DEVICES THAT RADIATE ELECTRONIC FIELDS NEAR OXYGEN CONCENTRATIONS.** Electro-magnetic Interference (EMI) can cause an oxygen concentrator to malfunction and result in alarms and / or equipment shut-down requiring a reset. EMI producing devices should not be used within twenty feet of a concentrator even if used in an adjoining room as most walls will not effectively shield the equipment from EMI.
- **FOLLOW ANY ADDITIONAL SAFETY RULES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TYPE OF SYSTEM YOU ARE USING.**