

Going home from hospital with oxygen

Information leaflet for patients and relatives



Why have I been prescribed oxygen?

When patients have been unwell in hospital due to their breathing, it can sometimes take longer for their oxygen levels to return to normal.

For some patients, if their oxygen levels are low, it may be necessary to provide oxygen at home while they recover from a flare up of their lung condition.

How long will I need oxygen for?

The oxygen may just be temporary while you are recovering and if your oxygen levels return to normal the oxygen will be removed.

What happens next?

When you are discharged from hospital on oxygen a nurse will send you an appointment to attend clinic in 4-6 weeks to assess if your oxygen levels are still low and if oxygen is needed long term.

People with lung conditions can often feel anxious which can cause breathlessness, this does not necessarily mean you need oxygen.

Oxygen is a drug and must be prescribed according to a patient's oxygen levels.

If your blood oxygen levels are constantly lower than acceptable even when well, you will be advised to use oxygen and if you agree you will be prescribed oxygen on a long term basis.

Useful Contacts

If you have any problems with your oxygen equipment you can contact the provider British Oxygen Company (BOC) 0800 136603.

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