

# Options Available for Oxygen Users

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What I Am:

\* 12+ years of experience at Valley Inspired Products

- \* Research Manager/Technician for a variety of respiratory product testing projects since 2003
- \* Co-Author with Bob McCoy of 2007 Guide to Understanding Oxygen Conserving Devices
- \* Author/Presenter of various consumer articles and peer-reviewed abstracts

What I Am Not:

\* Doctor, RRT, Pulmonary Specialist

- \* I cannot recommend/prescribe therapy options or give informed clinical information on your health needs.
- \* I am happy to discuss the equipment, their characteristics, and what to look for when considering oxygen delivery systems, but *technically* I cannot give you clinical advice.



This presentation will cover the following:

\* Basics of Oxygen Therapy

\* Brief History of Oxygen Equipment and Systems

\* Discussion of Commonly Used Oxygen Equipment

- \* Product Descriptions
  - \* Significant Differences Between Systems and Products
- \* Extra Emphasis on Portable Concentrators (POCs)
  - \* Newest and Increasingly Popular Oxygen System

\* What to Look For Based On Your Needs

\* Wide Product Variability - Know Capabilities Before You Buy





## Q<sub>2</sub> Basics

#### Why Oxygen Therapy?

- \* To raise/maintain users' oxygen saturations (SaO<sub>2</sub>)
  - \* Lack of adequate oxygenation stresses heart, other organs
  - \* "Normal" SaO<sub>2</sub> : 96-99%
  - \* If SaO<sub>2</sub> <88%, O<sub>2</sub> prescribed
- \* Improves survival rates of those w/ COPD<sub>1,2</sub>
- \* Helps reduce hospitalizations and lengths of stay<sub>3,4</sub>







How Does Oxygen Therapy Work?

- \*Ambient air contains 20.9% O<sub>2</sub>
  - \* For those with O<sub>2</sub> needs, this isn't enough
- \* Oxygen therapy increases the amount of oxygen in the air inspired by the user (FiO<sub>2</sub>)
  - \* Inspired air can contain anywhere from 20.9% to 100%  $O_2$  depending on delivery method
  - \* Increasing  $FiO_2 = Oxygen$  has greater capacity to reach gas exchange units in lung, where  $O_2$  is transferred to bloodstream



### How O<sub>2</sub> is Delivered

### Continuous Flow (CF, or CFO)

- \* Oxygen delivered throughout entire breathing cycle.
- \* Can be delivered via cannula, mask, transtracheal (TTO)
- \*Wasteful- O<sub>2</sub> delivered during exhalation is not useful oxygen.



O<sub>2</sub> Basics

### How O<sub>2</sub> is Delivered: Intermittent Flow (IF, or Pulse)

\*Oxygen "On Demand"

- \* Oxygen is delivered in specified volumes during inspiration.
- \* Two Common Methods:
  - \* Fixed Pulse Volume
    - \* At a given setting, pulse volumes is the same regardless of user's breath rate
  - \* Minute Volume
    - \* At a given setting, pulse volume is reduced as user's breath rate increases
- \* Oxygen is conserved, thus "oxygen conserving devices" (OCDs).
- \* Typically delivered via cannula, or TTO



Delivery Fundamentals - Fixed Pulse Volume vs Minute Volume

- \* Fixed Pulse Pulse volume is not breath rate dependent
- \*Minute Volume Pulse volume is breath rate dependent \*Mimics CFO
- \* If you are using a minute volume delivery device, it is important you understand that if you leave the setting unchanged, you actually get less oxygen per breath at active breath rates than you do at resting breath rates.

Dose Volume Comparison						
Fixed Vs. Minute Volume Delivery						
	15 E					
	Unit 1	Unit 2				
Setting 2	24 mL	33 mL	Setting 2			
Setting 4	48 mL	67 mL	Setting 4			
Setting 6	72 mL	100 mL	Setting 6			
	25 E					
	Unit 1	Unit 2				
Setting 2	24 mL	20 mL	Setting 2			
Setting 4	48 mL	40 mL	Setting 4			
Setting 6	72 mL	60 mL	Setting 6			

Note that for Unit 1, dose volumes are fixed at both breath rates; For Unit 2 the volumes decrease as rate





#### Early Therapy Options

\* From 1950s, O<sub>2</sub> therapy was typically administered in the hospital, though cylinders could be sent home with user.

\* Continuous Flow only.

\* O<sub>2</sub> usually used as a "last resort" to combat disease as opposed to supporting daily activities.<sub>5</sub>

\* Mid-60s saw introduction of ambulatory (portable) options.

\* Cylinders, Liquid  $O_2$  (LOX).

\* Heavy. 10-20lbs.

\* Stationary Concentrators were introduced for home use in 1970s.

\* Very heavy- 90lbs.

\* "Low Flow" - up to 4-5 LPM.





### 1980s-2000s

- \*Landmark NOTT Study shows LTOT improves COPD survival rates.
  - \*LTOT is no longer the "last resort".
- \*Intermittent Flow devices introduced in early 1980s (OCDs)
  - \* OCDs applied to regulators and LOX portables, prolonging tank life and allowing for greater ambulation.
  - \* Introduced significant product-toproduct performance variables

#### OCDs Crowd (and Cloud) the LTOT Marketplace

- \*By 2000 OCDs are common. They are often assumed to deliver O<sub>2</sub> "equivalent" to CFO. This is an incorrect assumption.
- \*Primary variables that determine FiO<sub>2</sub> in CFO therapy are O<sub>2</sub> flow rate, user breath rate, user tidal volume, and oxygen purity. FiO<sub>2</sub>, then, is relatively predictable.
- \*OCDs add many additional variables that can affect  $FiO_2$ :
  - \* Dose volume, triggering sensitivity, and flow delivery characteristics (such as peak flow and delivery time) all will impact  $FiO_2$ .
  - \* Each product is different, with different capabilities, yet many assume one device will perform similarly to another.

Maximum FIO2% at 20 Breaths per Minute



### History of Q<sub>2</sub> Delivery Systems

McCoy R, Diesem R. 2007 Guide to Understanding Oxygen Conserving Devices, Valley Inspired Products







#### 2000s - The POC Era

\*2002- First modern portable oxygen concentrator (POC) introduced.

\*10 lbs, w/battery, IF (pulse) only

\*2005 - First CF capable POC

- \* 19 lbs, w/battery and cart, up to 3 LPM CF, up to 96 mL pulse
- \* 2007 2012: No less than 12 POCs released, ranging from 2 lbs to 18 lbs.
- \* As with OCDs, product capabilities widely vary. Education is vital.

#### 8 POCs: Maximum Oxygen Dose Delivered at Various Breath Rates



#### Where We Are Today

\*POCs are the "hot product" in LTOT, yet many users still receive the old standbys- stationary concentrators and compressed gas cylinders with CF regulators- as their only supplied O<sub>2</sub> equipment.

\*Due to Medicare cuts and other fiscal concerns, LOX is being phased out by many providers- users needing LOX, especially users with high flow needs, are finding they have limited options.

\*Product variability in O<sub>2</sub> systems is better understood today than even just 10 years ago, but many misconceptions still persist.









### **Stationary Concentrators**

\*Most O<sub>2</sub> users have one

\* Primarily used in home setting
\* Most weigh 25-50 lbs

\*Units *are* getting smaller, lighter

\*Little variability in capabilities

\* CFO only, give 87-95% pure  $O_2$  by separating  $O_2$  from room air

\*Most units 0-5 or 6 LPM, some up to 10 LPM; meet most users' needs

\*Workhorses, typically need little maintenance

#### \*Will increase electric bill!

\*Newer models more efficient













#### **Compressed Gas Cylinders**

- \*High purity oxygen ~100%
- \*Fitted with CFO/OCD regulators
  - \* Can meet most users' needs if fitted with proper regulator and interface
  - \* Variety of tank sizes for portability
    - \* Operating time dependent on regulator setting!
    - \* Often used as "backup" O<sub>2</sub> source
- \*Need to be refilled
  - \* \$\$\$, time, inefficient
- \*Bulky, heavy, cumbersome
  - \* "Portability" is in the eye of the beholder.



### Reservoir Cannulas

- \*Stores volume of O<sub>2</sub> in reservoir during exhalation
  - \*~20 mL stored
  - \*Extra volume inhaled along with regular CF flow
- \*Must be used with CFO
  - \* Pulse devices may not trigger
- \*Allows for greater FiO<sub>2</sub> at lower flows
  - \*Can reduce flow settings needed for high flow users

### Liquid Oxygen Systems

- \*CF/IF Portable units paired with large "base unit" for filling
- \*Can meet most users' O<sub>2</sub> needs

\*Portables can be worn, carted

- \* LOX systems last longer than similar sized cylinders - greater ambulation
  - \* Most efficient form of storage
- \*Evaporates over time
- \*Prone to frosting, freezing
  - \*Environment, setting may impact use
- \*Expensive- costs for LOX, base refilling; Medicare cuts affecting availability to many users









### **Concentrator Transfill Stations**

- \*Stationary unit fills gas cylinders
  - \* Users can fill portable cylinder as needed; may take a few hours each
  - \* In some cases, can be used simultaneously with O<sub>2</sub> therapy
- \* Some cylinders pre-fit with regulator/OCD; post-valve cylinders also available
- \* It's a cylinder, so not most efficient method of O<sub>2</sub> storage/delivery
- \* Eliminates need for provider refills
- \*Base unit not very portable

#### Concentrator O<sub>2</sub> Liquefier

- \* Takes O<sub>2</sub> from internal stationary unit and converts to LOX
  - \* Can produce 3 liters LOX/day
    - \* ~2600 L gas equivalent
    - \* 90-95% purity
- \*~115 lbs, 3' tall base unit

\* Proprietary portable is provided
 \* .3 L tank (similar to Helios/Spirit)
 \* Pulse 1-4, 2 LPM CFO only
 \* Cannot fill any other LOX portables on this device

\*Not being marketed







#### Transtreacheal Oxygen Therapy (TTOT)

- \* Catheter inserted through a small hole made in the front of the neck and into the trachea
- \* TTOT can reduce O<sub>2</sub> flows/settings required to maintain SaO<sub>2</sub>
  - $*O_2$  delivered nearer to lungs
- \* Continuous and Pulse devices can be used with TTOT
  - \* Pulse device must use single lumen cannula
- \* No nose or ear discomfort due to cannula; face is clear of tubing





#### Non-Invasive Open Ventilation (NIOV)

- \* 1 lb. tidal-volume augmentation touch-screen ventilator
  - \* Requires compressed O<sub>2</sub> source
  - \* Increases FiO<sub>2</sub>
  - \* Positive pressure generated by venturi effect; augments tidal volume, helps blow out CO<sub>2</sub> (similar to BiPAP delivery, but EPAP = 0)
  - \* Added volume dependent on setting, lung conditions
- \* Three activity level settings
  - \* O<sub>2</sub> delivery range of 50 250 mL
- \* Pillows-style nasal interface larger than cannula
- \* 510(k) for homecare/institutional use, but no reimbursement code (yet) = expensive option

#### Portable Oxygen Concentrators

- \*Two types: IF POC and CF POC
- \*CF POCs feature both pulse and CF settings; IF POCs are Pulse ONLY
- \* IF POCs trade O<sub>2</sub> production
  for smaller size
   \* Current IF POCs 2-10 lbs
   \* Current CF POCs 10-18 lbs









#### HOW MUCH VOLUME PER MINUTE CAN A POC PRODUCE? A GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION









### POC Portability

- \*All POCs come with rechargeable battery, AC/DC power cords (wall and car)
- \*Larger POCs have luggage carts; smaller POCs have straps (shoulder, waist)
- \*POCs are only O<sub>2</sub> system approved for flight travel, allowing users to bring equipment with them wherever they fly to

#### **POC Limitations**

\* Battery operating life varies, can be unpredictable
 \* CF delivery drains battery much faster than IF delivery
 \* In IF modes, battery life dependent on setting and breath rate
 \* If flying, the FAA requires enough batteries to last 150% of travel time- that could require a LOT of extra batteries.

\* Accessories add 2-5 lbs or more to carrying weight
 \* Batteries ~ 1-2 lbs, power cords/bricks 1-2 lbs, cart 1-2 lbs
 \* CF POCs are larger than IF POCs and may be too cumbersome for some users to comfortably transport

\* Users want smallest/lightest unit, but all POCs have different capabilities; the lightest unit may not meet users' O<sub>2</sub> needs

	DeVilbiss	Invacare	O2 Concepts	Respironics	SeQual	SeQual		
	iGo	Solo2	Independence	SimplyGo	Eclipse 3/5	Equinox		
		200			ig .			
Maximum Oxygen Production (mL/min)	3000 mL/min (3.0 LPM)	3000 mL/min (3.0 LPM)	3000 mL/min (3.0 LPM)	2000 mL/min (2.0 LPM)	3000 mL/min (3.0 LPM)	3000 mL/min (3.0 LPM)	Maximum Oxygen Production (mL/min)	
Available Settings	Pulse 1 to 6	Pulse 1 to 6	Pulse 1 to 6	Pulse 1 to 6	Pulse 1 to 6*	Pulse 1 to 6*	Available Settings	
	Continuous 1 to 3LPM	Continuous 0.5 to 3LPM	Continuous 1 to 3LPM	Continuous 0.5 to 2LPM	Continuous 0.5 to 3LPM	Continuous 0.5 to 3LPM		
Pulse Delivery Type	Fixed Delivery 14mL per setting	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises	Fixed Delivery 16mL per setting	Combination Fixed/Minute Vol. Delivery**	Fixed Delivery 16mL per setting	Fixed Delivery 16mL per setting	Pulse Delivery Type	
	Dose Volumes per Breath***							
	4 LPM Continuous Flow: 15 BPM: 88mL, 30 BPM: 44mL							
				158PM				
Maximum Delivered Pulse Volume	84mL	133mL 30BPM: 66mL	96mL	72mL 30BPM: 66mL	96mL*	96mL*	Maximum Delivered Pulse Volume	
	Weight (Unit + Std. Battery); Add up to 10lbs for accessories							
Unit & Battery (approx.)	19 lbs	20 lbs	19 lbs (w/2 batteries)	10 lbs	19 lbs	14 lbs	Unit & Battery (approx.)	
Approx. Battery Time at Pulse setting 2	4.7 hrs (20BPM)	3.5 hrs	2.9 hrs (20BPM)****	3.0 hrs (20BPM)	5.1 hrs (12BPM)	2.75 hrs (12BPM)	Approx. Battery Time at Pulse setting 2	
	All Units Approved For Flight By FAA							
Max Altitude	13,123 ft	10,000 ft	13,123 ft	10,000 ft	13,123 ft	13, 130 ft	Max Altitude	

	Intermittent Flow (Pulse Only) POCs								
	Airsep	AirSep	AirSep	Inogen	Inogen	Inova Labs	Invacare	Oxus	Precision
	Focus	FreeStyle 3	FreeStyle 5	One G2	One G3	Activox	XPO2	POC	EasyPulse POC
	Production and Delivery								
Maximum Oxygen Production (mL/min)	333 mL/min (0.33 LPM)	500 mL/min (0.5 LPM)	1000 mL/min (1.0 LPM)	1260 mL/min (1.26 LPM)	840 mL/min (0.84 LPM)	450 mL/min (0.45 LPM)	840 mL/min (0.84 LPM)	850 mL/min (0.85 LPM)	780 mL/min (0.78 LPM)
Available Settings	None Selectable	1 to 3	1 to 5	1 to 6	1 to 4	1 to 3	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5
Pulse Delivery Type	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises	Fixed Delivery 8.5mL per setting	Minute Vol. Delivery: Dose decreases as rate rises
	Dose Volumes per Breath***								
	2 LPM Continuous Flow: 15 BPM: 44mL, 30 BPM: 22mL 4 LPM Continuous Flow: 15 BPM: 88mL - 30 BPM: 44mL								
	6 LPM Continuous Flow: 15 BPM: 133mL; 30 BPM: 66mL								
Maximum Delivered Pulse Volume	15 BPM: 22mL	15 BPM: 33mL	15 BPM: 66mL	15 BPM: 60mL	15 BPM: 56mL	15 BPM: 30mL	15 BPM: 56mL	43ml	15 BPM: 52mL
	30 BPM:	30 BPM:	30 BPM:	30 BPM:	30 BPM:	30 BPM:	30 BPM:	HOME	30 BPM:
	11mL	1/mL	33mL	<u>  30mL</u>	28mL	15mL	28mL		26mL
Unit & Battery			Weight (		tery), Add up		,63301163		
(approx.)	3 lbs	4 lbs	6 lbs	7 lbs	5 lbs	5lbs	6 lbs	10 lbs	7 lbs
	Standard Single Battery Operation Times								
Approx. Battery Time at Pulse setting 2	1.5 hrs	2.5 hrs	2.0 hrs	4.0 hrs (est.)	3.0 hrs (est.)	4.0 hrs	2.5 hrs	3.0 hrs	3.2 hrs
	All Units Approved For Flight By FAA								
Max Altitude	10,000 ft	12,000 ft	12,000 ft	10,000 ft	10,000 ft	10,000 ft	10,000 ft	8,000 ft	9,000 ft



\*Look for a device (or set of devices) that has the capability to adequately oxygenate at most or all daily activities

\* Resting, Exercising, Sleeping, Household Chores, Shopping, Traveling, etc.

\*Remember, the smallest, lightest device may not meet most needs

\*Think about the future - try to consider a product that can meet oxygenation needs today, and can meet them in the future when health conditions change



\*Understand how the device delivers its oxygen

\*CF devices are less variable in their output than IF devices - 2 LPM is 2 LPM, whether from LOX or cylinders.

\* Purity - 100% VS. 90-95%, but FiO2 difference relatively minimal

#### \*Pulse devices widely differ in their output

\* "2" does NOT equate to 2 LPM, rather "2" equates to a certain volume delivered.

\* Ex. "2" on IF POC = 32 mL of ~93% pure oxygen, peak flow 5 LPM

- \* "2" on IF OCD = 18 mL of 100% oxygen, peak flow 12 LPM
- \* If the device uses minute volume delivery, know possibility that pulse setting needs to be increased at activity (higher breath rates) to maintain oxygen saturations

\*Medicare cuts are affecting  $O_2$  equipment availability

- \* LOX users appears to be most affected- providers are dropping LOX
  - \* High flow oxygen users are especially affected- portable equipment options for high flow users are much more limited than for low flow users
- \*Be your own advocate sadly, you cannot rely on providers or clinicians to understand oxygen equipment and how it may benefit you.
  - \* Educate yourself as much as possible
  - \* You may need to consider paying out-of-pocket for device you want
- \* One more time: Don't be tempted by smallest/lightest units that may not meet oxygenation needs- the first priority in selecting a device should always be that it oxygenates at most/all activities now and in the future.

### Looking Ahead:

- \* No significant product developments foreseen in immediate future
  - \* Independence POC to 4LPM
  - \* New 5lb Respironics/SeQual POCs
    - \* Likely lower production than CF models
- \*Auto-adjusting delivery systems
  - \*Track SaO2, adjust pulse delivery as needed
  - \* Technology exists, patented, yet still in development limbo
- \* Advancements in oxygen separation/production
  - \*Membrane technology
  - \* Nanotechnology



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