# Oxygen Therapy

#### **Clinical Guidelines:**

- ♦ Children will receive oxygen therapy as ordered by a healthcare prescriber or as needed in emergency situation for identified respiratory compromise and/or respiratory distress.
- ♦ The healthcare prescriber will specify the delivery mode, amount of oxygen in liters per minutes or milliliters per minute, or as the fraction of inspired oxygen (FiO2) as appropriate.
- In the inpatient setting, children receiving oxygen therapy will be monitored by clinical blood gas analysis as ordered by the healthcare prescriber or by continuous or intermittent pulse oximetry to monitor child's oxygen saturation levels.
- Selection of the oxygen administration device will be based on the child's condition, preference, age, and ability to use a specific device.
- Oxygen may be administered by the use of a nasal cannula, nasopharyngeal catheter, mask, or hood when the oxygen level is below normal or the demand is increased.
- Nasal cannulas and nasopharyngeal catheters are contraindicated in children with nasal obstruction (e.g., nasal polyps and choanal atresia).
- Partial rebreather or non-rebreather masks are not appropriate for use in the neonatal population.
- Restrict the use if ignition sources in child's room (e.g., sparking toys, cigarette, candles) when oxygen is in use.
- Secure cylinders of oxygen in upright position.

#### **Indications for Oxygen Administration:**

1-Hypoxemia documented by invasive or non-invasive assessment.

2. Any one of the following diagnoses or circumstances:

Myocardial infarction.	2. Post anesthesia.
3. Acute anemia.	4. Post cardiopulmonary or respiratory arrest.
5. Methemoglobinemia.	6. Reduced cardiac output.
7. Carbon monoxide poisoning.	8. Hypotension.
9. Cyanosis.	10. Tachycardia and bradycardia.
11. Dyspnea.	12. Chest pain.
13. Acute neurological dysfunction.	14. Severe trauma.

## Modes of Oxygen delivery:

Method of	Percentage of	Liter flow	Nursing care considerations
delivery Nasal Cannula	oxygen delivered 21% oxygen plus 3% per liter.	0.5-6 L/minute	<ul> <li>Dries mucosa; give with humidification. Provides limited oxygen delivery.</li> <li>Easy to use and well tolerated.</li> <li>Child can eat and talk without altering FiO2. Contraindicated in children with nasal obstruction.</li> <li>In newborns and infants flows should be limited to a maximum of 2 L/ minute.</li> <li>Older children and adolescents can be maintained up to 6 L/minute.</li> </ul>
Simple face mask	35-50% FIO2	4-8L/minute	<ul> <li>Good for short-term use (e.g during procedures. For Transport in emergency situations).</li> <li>Eating disrupts oxygen delivery.</li> </ul>
Partial rebreathing mask	40%-60% FIO2	6-10 L/minute	<ul> <li>Allows greater concentration of oxygen to be delivered.</li> <li>Eating disrupts oxygen delivery.</li> <li>Not appropriate for neonates.</li> </ul>

Non-rebreathing mask	>60% FIO2	6-10 L/minute	<ul> <li>Allows greater concentration of oxygen to be delivered.</li> <li>Eating disrupts oxygen delivery.</li> <li>Child inhales only from gases in the bag; thus. Kinks in the tubing may cause hypoxia.</li> <li>Not appropriate for neonates.</li> </ul>
Bag valve mask	65%-95% FIO2	10-15 L/minute	<ul> <li>Excellent method for assisted ventilation.</li> <li>Mask is selected to fit over the child's mouth and nose.</li> </ul>
Oxygen hood	Can delivered FIO2 up to 100%	2- 3L/kg/minute	<ul> <li>Easy visibility and access to child.</li> <li>Need to remove infant for feeding and care. Need oxygen analyzer to gauge percentage of the oxygen delivered.</li> <li>Flows &gt;7 L/minute are required to wash out carbon dioxide.</li> <li>Temperature in hood needs to be monitored.</li> <li>High gas flows may produce harmful noise levels.</li> </ul>

## **Assessment:**

## Assessments should focus on the following:

- 1-Doctors order for oxygen concentration , method of delivery ,and parameter for regulation(blood gas levels, pulse oximetry values).
- 2-baseline data: LOC,respiratory status(rate, depth,signs of distress),blood pressure ,and pulse.
- 3-color of skin and mucous membranes.

## Oxygen therapy procedure:

#### **Equipment's:**

- 1. Appropriate –sized oxygen delivery device.
- 2. -No smoking sign.
- 3. Oxygen flowmeter.
- 4. Oxygen tubing.
- 5. Pulse oximeter.
- 6. Paper tape.
- 7. Disposable gloves.
- 8. Goggles (if needed).
- 9. Humidification attachment (if ordered)...
- 10. Humidifier and sterile water.



flowmeter

Nasal Cannula, Mask procedure			
Steps	Rationale		
Perform hand hygiene. Gather all necessary supplies.	* Reduces transmission of microorganisms. Promotes efficient time management and provides an organized approach to the procedure.		
2. Select proper size of cannula, or mask.	* Improper sizing of the equipment can lead to nasal obstruction.		
3. Remove all friction toys or open flames from the area and display —no smoking signs.	* Sparks or static electricity will ignite the oxygen.		
4. Connect the flowmeter to either the oxygen wall unit or the freestanding tank.	* Allows for the oxygen to flow from source at the prescribed rate.		
5. Connect the humidifier to the oxygen setup.	* Provides for moisture in the system.  Humidified air is less drying to the nares and the lungs.		
6. Following instructions for the particular oxygen setup, fill reservoir with sterile water.	* Use of sterile water decreases the incidence of bacterial growth and mineral buildup within the system.		
7. Attach tubing to the oxygen source.	* Allows oxygen to flow from the source to the child.		
8. Check all electrical equipment in area to ensure that it is grounded.	Decreases chance of electrical sparks igniting the oxygen.		
9. Connect the distal end of oxygen tubing to the delivery device (cannula, or mask).	* Completes the cycle of supplying oxygen from the source to the patient.		

\* Verifies that equipment is 10. Turn on the flowmeter to the prescribed amount and check to see whether you feel functioning. oxygen flowing through the system. 11. Don disposable gloves. If child is coughing or \* Gloves and safety equipment protect has copious secretions a mask and goggles against transfer of pathogens. may also be worn. 12. Place the child in supine semi-Fowler's \* Raising the head of the bed helps protect the airway if the child should position. Place the infant's head in a midline —sniffing vomit during airway placement. Maintains proper alignment of the position. mouth, pharynx, and trachea. 13. A. For nasal cannula: 1. Place the nasal prongs just inside the \* Allows the oxygen to flow in external proximity to the respiratory system of the child. The means of securing the meatus of the nares. nasal cannula in place vary on the 2. Either loop the head attachment around basis of manufacturer. The result the child's ears and tighten it under the chin or loop it around and behind the should be the same: a secure nasal head and tighten. cannula. A restless child can easily dislodge the nasal cannula. Paper tape or other adhesive materials may be used sparingly to secure the Displacement can lead to loss of tubing to the face. oxygen delivery. Care should be taken 3. Instruct child to breath through nose. to keep cannula tubing and straps away from the neck to prevent airway obstruction in infants. Reminder: Whatever type of attachment is used, take care to avoid undue pressure on the nasal tissue front tightening the attachment too much. Advise parents to watch for redness and irritation at any pressure points. Pressure on an area of skin can lead to tissue breakdown. Pressure in the nares can cause discomfort and erosion of the mucous membranes of the hares. Skin irritation can also occur from local allergic reaction to the polyvinyl chloride content of cannula. B. For mask: 1. Place the oxygen mask over the mouth \* Properly secured mask allows the and the nose such that the nurse can prescribed amount of oxygen to flow easily fit one finger between the strap into the respiratory system. and the child's face.

## Child and family evaluation:

- > Evaluate the child / family's level of understanding of how and why oxygen therapy is being used.
- ➤ Discuss safety concerns with the family, giving special attention to avoidance of smoking, open flames, and electrical or friction toys.
- > Evaluate the respiratory status of the child.
- > Evaluate child's temperature.

#### **Documentation**:

- > Document the following:
  - 1. Type of oxygen delivery system that is in use (i.e., cannula, mask, or hood).
  - 2. Time that oxygen therapy was initiated.
  - 3. Setting of the oxygen flowmeter and the frequency and length of time that the hood is open or the oxygen device is not in place
  - 4. Skin status for redness or irritation at pressure points of straps or cannula
  - 5. Child's respiratory status.
  - 6. Pulse oximeter reading.