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Respiratory Therapy & Medical Equipment Services

HCS... *The Leading Company in the Merrimack Valley,
North Shore and Southern New Hampshire*

**24 Hour
Emergency
Number:
1-978-373-7771
1-800-698-8113**

Patient Instructions **Large Volume Nebulizer**

THIS UNIT IS TO BE USED ONLY AS PRESCRIBED BY A PHYSICIAN

NEBULIZER OPERATION:

1. Place the compressor on a stable surface so the controls can be easily reached.
2. Attach the nebulizer jar to the air outlet on the compressor. Fill the nebulizer jar approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ full with sterile, distilled water, normal saline, or attach a pre-filled nebulizer (per your physician's order).
3. Attach a three-foot section of corrugated aerosol tubing to the nebulizer outlet.
4. Attach a drainage bag to the end of the three-foot tubing and add six feet of aerosol tubing to the other end of the drainage bag.
5. Attach mask or "T" adapter to the distal end of the six-foot tubing.
6. Plug air compressor into a grounded outlet. Be sure the circuit is not overloaded.
7. Turn air compressor "on" and adjust pressure to 15 to 20 psi. (A dense mist should be visible.)
8. Adjust the air entrainment ring on the nebulizer to provide sufficient mist to meet the patient's needs.
9. Supplemental oxygen can be added by using an oxygen cylinder or concentrator as the oxygen source.
 - A. Place bleed-in adapter into the nebulizer outlet.
 - B. Bleed oxygen via connecting tubing.
 - C. Adjust oxygen flow rate to achieve prescribed oxygen concentration.
 - D. Oxygen concentration must be checked and stabilized with an oxygen analyzer.

10. Follow physician prescription for frequency of use and the cleaning and disinfecting procedures to prevent infection.
11. Call if the unit malfunctions in any way.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING THE NEBULIZER:

After each treatment:

- A. Rinse nebulizer cap.
- B. Shake off excess moisture.
- C. Lie on a towel to dry.

Daily:

- A. Disassemble nebulizer and hand wash parts with liquid detergent and warm water.
- B. Rinse well and shake off excess moisture.
- C. Place on paper towel to air dry. **DO NOT RUB WITH PAPER TOWEL TO DRY.**

Every other day:

- A. Soak the pre-washed nebulizer for 20 minutes in 1-part white vinegar and 1-part water solution. Store vinegar/water solution in a tightly covered food grade container and change weekly.
- B. Rinse well and shake off excess water.
- C. Place on paper towel to air dry. **DO NOT RUB WITH PAPER TOWEL TO DRY.**

The tubing, which runs from the compressor to the nebulizer, carries dry, filtered air. If the tubing becomes dirty or develops moisture, clean and dry by connecting to compressor outlet and turn on compressor until tubing is dry.