



www.homecarespecialistsinc.com

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 Oxygen Humidifier

You may have an optional humidifier bottle if your physician has determined that additional humidification is needed (usually for patients on oxygen at more than four liters per minute).

Daily Care:

1. Wash your hands.
2. Remove the humidifier jar and empty any remaining water.
3. Rinse the jar under a strong stream of warm water.
4. Using distilled water, refill the jar until it is half full. Do not overfill your humidifier, as too much water in your humidifier will cause water to collect in your oxygen tubing.
5. Screw the humidifier bottle back onto the bottle lid until it is tight, making sure the threads are correctly aligned. Cross threading will create a pressure loss.
6. Always have an extra humidifier bottle on hand as a replacement if the bottle or lid becomes cracked.



Minimum of Every Third Day:

1. Wash your hands.
2. Remove the entire humidifier. Unscrew the lid and empty remaining water.
3. Wash the disassembled parts in liquid detergent (such as Joy) and warm water.
4. Rinse thoroughly.
5. Shake off excess water.
6. Soak the humidifier in 50/50 mixture of white distilled vinegar and water solution for at least 30 minutes. Discard after use.
7. Remove from disinfectant. Rinse and shake off the excess water.
8. If the equipment is not going to be used immediately, air dry between folds of paper towels or on a clean hand towel.
9. When thoroughly dry, store the equipment in a plastic bag until ready to use.

If you are using a humidifier, you may occasionally have moisture accumulate in your tubing. If this is uncomfortable, remove the humidifier bottle from the outlet tube, connect your oxygen tubing directly to the outlet tube, and allow oxygen from your concentrator to run through your tubing for a few minutes to dry the tubing and clear the

water. Then disconnect the tubing from the outlet tube and reattach your humidifier. Be sure your humidifier bottle is not overfilled as this can accelerate water accumulation in your tubing.

After you have reattached all your tubing, check your liter flow indicator on your concentrator unit to verify that oxygen is flowing at the proper prescribed level.