

## **BiPAP**

*Respiratory Failure is a disorder that causes people to frequently stop breathing for short periods of time while they are sleeping. This causes a patient to not receive a restful night's sleep and the body does not get the oxygen it needs.*

*If left untreated, respiratory failure increases ones risk of developing high blood pressure, heart problems, and increases the potential for a stroke. BiPAP is utilized for the treatment of respiratory failure. Your physician has prescribed a BiPAP System for you to use at home for the treatment of your respiratory failure.*

*This equipment will deliver a flow of air at a prescribed amount of pressure applied through a mask over the nose. These pressures prevent the structures in your throat from blocking air movement in and out of your lungs while you sleep. You will experience almost immediate relief from your symptoms by using BiPAP Therapy.*

### **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

*This system has been prescribed by your doctor. It is important that you use the system EXACTLY as your physician has prescribed.*

*The pressures (and other settings if applicable) have been prescribed specifically to treat your disorder. These settings have been made to your BiPAP device according to what your physician prescribed, and can not be changed without consulting your physician.*

*We provide 24 hour service to assist you with any problems you may encounter. However, BiPAP therapy is not a life sustaining form of treatment and most services will be provided during normal business hours.*

### **RECOMMENDED CLEANING PROCEDURE**

*Expiration valve (when applicable), nasal mask/pillows*

### ***EACH Morning***

- \* *Disassemble the mask and tubing and wash with liquid dish washing detergent and warm tap water in a clean basin or container.*
- \* *Rinse well with clear warm running tap water. Proper rinsing reduces the potential for skin irritation resulting from soap residue.*
- \* *Air dry.*
- \* *Reassemble when dry.*
- \* *If still damp when ready to use, assemble the nasal mask/pillows to the swivel and then to the hose. Attach the other end of the hose to the flow generator. Turn the generator on and allow these items to blow dry for 10 to 20 minutes.*

### **FLOW GENERATOR CABINET**

- \* *Once a week, unplug the unit and wipe the outside of the cabinet with a cloth slightly dampened with warm water.*
- \* *NEVER immerse the BiPAP unit in water or allow water to enter any vents or ports*
- \* *Make sure the unit is completely dry before plugging in*

### **FILTERS**

- \* *Clean and/or replace your filters at least every month, and as needed.*
- \* *Either a Williams Bros. Health Care Pharmacy representative will be changing your filter or you will be trained on the procedure for replacing the filter.*

### **HUMIDIFIER (IF APPLICABLE)**

- \* *Clean and disinfect your humidifier daily as instructed by our representative using a hot water and detergent solution and then soak in a 1 to 3 Part vinegar/water solution. Rinse thoroughly after soak in water.*
- \* *Refill humidifier using only sterile or distilled water.*

### **HEADGEAR/SOFTCAP AND STRAPS**

- \* *These items should be washed once a week using mild detergent and warm water either by hand or in the washing machine.*
- \* *NEVER PLACE IN A DRYER.*
- \* *Always hang to dry.*

### **HELPFUL HINTS**

*Washing your face with soap and water to remove excess facial oils before putting on the nasal mask helps prolong the life of the mask and headgear/softcap and straps.*

*Once the straps are properly adjusted, the mask and headgear/softcap can be removed and reapplied by unfastening or loosening one strap only. You can mark the positions where the end of each strap is fastened to the velcro with a permanent marker for easy adjustment after washing.*

*A tighter fit is NOT necessarily better. It can be as loose as desired as long as you are able to maintain a seal.*

*If you are using a room humidifier, please be sure that it is placed at least six feet from your BiPAP system.*

### **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

*If supplemental oxygen is being used in conjunction with your system, this equipment must be kept away from heat or open flame. Smoking in the area of this device is absolutely prohibited.*

*When using supplemental oxygen, make sure that the BiPAP System is running before the oxygen source is turned ON. Turn the oxygen flow OFF before turning the System OFF.*

*To avoid electrical shock, unplug the unit before cleaning or changing the fuses.*

*The System must be positioned on its base on a level, secure surface for proper operation.*

*DO NOT block the vents and filter openings of your unit. Air must flow freely around the unit for the system to work properly. Make sure that bedding, draperies, curtains, etc. do not restrict airflow.*

*Tobacco smoke will cause tar build-up that may result in the units malfunctioning. Do not permit smoking in the room with the unit.*

*Do not use the system around water, other than that contained in the humidifier. Electrical shock may occur.*

*All settings must be determined by your physician through appropriate diagnostic studies and monitoring. These settings are to be adjusted only by authorized personnel in compliance with your physician's prescription.*

*This system must never be turned on and left unattended.*

*If your system is dropped or otherwise damaged, or if any liquid is spilled into the system, do not use the equipment and call Williams Bros. Health Care Pharmacy immediately.*

*Make sure that all fittings and connections have been properly secured prior to use. The exhalation port/valve on your mask system is designed to exhaust CO<sub>2</sub> (Carbon dioxide) from the patient circuit. Continuous flow is required for safe operation. Do not block or try to seal the exhalation opening.*

*If using a mask that covers your mouth and nose, do not eat or drink for two to three hours prior to bedtime.*

*Read and understand all literature prior to using your system. If you have questions contact our office.*

*It is recommended that you not plug your system into an outlet that is controlled by a wall switch.*

*Your system is not intended for life support.*

### **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE**

*There are no user-serviceable components in your system. DO not attempt to open the enclosure or service this device.*

*At least once a year arrangements should be made to have your unit tested. This check up is necessary to assure the long life of your unit and to ensure that you are getting the treatment prescribed by your physician. Our representative will check your equipment periodically including the circuit, mask fit, and the pressure being delivered by your unit. In typical use, the hose, mask*

*nasal/pillows, and headgear/softcap may need to be replaced once or twice a year and the hose annually.*

### **TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE**

*Common problems such as air leaks around the mask, sore or dry eyes, skin irritation, dryness or burning sensation in the throat, nose, or nasal sinuses, or ear pain; feeling that the pressure is too high or too low; air from the device seems warm, etc. follow the instructions given by the Williams Bros. Health Care Pharmacy clinician. If you need further assistance, please call our office if you are unable to correct the problem.*

### **TRAVEL TIPS**

*When transporting your system, precautions should be used to avoid exposure to extreme temperatures. If exposure to such temperatures does occur, the unit should be allowed to return to room temperature before being turned ON.*

*The voltage selector switch, if applicable, must be set for the proper line voltage. Refer to the operating Instructions for a guide to line voltages/fuse size requires to operate your unit when traveling outside the United States. You can also call our office for assistance prior to your travel.*

*The carrying case, if provided, is designed to be used as an airline carry-on-bag. When traveling, do not check your unit as baggage. Always use the carrying case for the unit's protection. The accessories (including the humidifier) can also be placed inside the carrying case.*

*If your BiPAP unit is used on a 12-volt system in a recreational vehicle or a motor home, do not attempt to use any power cord other than the DC power cord provided by our representative. Using a different power cord may result in damage to your vehicle and/or to your BiPAP system.*

### **REMEMBER**

*Your physician has prescribed your course of treatment, which involves this system. You have been instructed on the use of this system. Should any problem occur, contact our office or your physician immediately.*

*Information obtained from:*

*PIC Product Information for Customers from the MED Group*

*The Bi PAP S/T-D Ventilatory Support System Clinical Manual from Respirationics*

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