*TB MED 245

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY TECHNICAL BULLETIN

WARNING TAG FOR MEDICAL OXYGEN EQUIPMENT (DD FORM 1191)

Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington, DC
12 November 1987

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1. General

Extreme care must be exercised in handling oxygen to prevent contact of oxygen under pressure with oils and grease, organic lubricants, rubber, or other materials of an organic nature. Any published safe practices for handling oxygen should include the following:

a. Never permit oil, grease, or readily combustible materials to come in contact with oxygen cylinders, valves, regulators, gauges, or fittings.

b. Never lubricate regulators, fittings, or gauges with oil or other combustible substances.

c. Never handle oxygen cylinders or apparatus with oily hands, greasy gloves, or rags.

d. Always properly chain or support freestanding cylinders in a cylinder stand or cart.

e. Never drop, drag, roll or otherwise mishandle an oxygen cylinder. Always transport an oxygen cylinder in a cart.

f. Always secure the oxygen cylinders to transport carts or medical administering apparatus prior to clearing dust and dirt particles from each cylinder's opening. Clearing should be done by slightly opening and closing the valve before applying any fitting to the cylinder.

g. Never take an anesthetic apparatus to the patient without first opening the high pressure valve on the oxygen cylinder.

h. Never permit oxygen to enter the regulator suddenly. Open the valve slowly. When opening the valve, point the face of the gauge or regulator away from the operator. Ensure that regulator valves are completely closed before opening the cylinder valve.

i. Never drape an oxygen cylinder with any materials such as hospital gowns, masks, or caps.

j. Never use oxygen fittings, valves, regulators, or gauges for any other service except oxygen.

k. Never mix gases of any type in an oxygen or any other cylinder.

l. Never use oxygen from a cylinder except through a pressure reducing regulator.

m. Never attempt to use regulators that are in need of repair or cylinders having valves that do not operate properly.

n. Never attempt to repair defective oxygen equipment unless properly qualified by knowledge and experience.

o. Always transport the cylinder with the cylinder valve cap in place.

p. Never transport oxygen-supplied equipment with the oxygen bottle in the open position, except while in actual support of a patient.

q. Never use oxygen in the immediate area of electrical equipment unless approved for use in an oxygen enriched area (that is, nurse call units, TV remote controls, etc.)

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r. Always place the valve to an empty cylinder in the closed position.

s. Ensure that all cylinders have been hydrostatically tested within the last 5 years.

t. Ensure that the valves on cylinders equipped with pin-index safety systems are free of foreign matter which prohibits correct matching of pins projecting from the yoke assembly on medical administering apparatus.

u. Never completely discharge cylinders.

2. Purpose

DD Form 1191 (Warning Tag for Medical Oxygen Equipment), when used as prescribed below, will aid in preventing accidents from misuse of oxygen equipment.

3. Instructions for use

DD Form 1191 will be attached to all types of—

a. Oxygen cylinders (size A, B, D, E, M, and G) upon receipt from the vendor at the medical receiving dock.

b. Oxygen equipment used in hospitals, infirmaries, dispensaries, and other medical treatment facilities.

c. Oxygen equipment used in orthopedic shops, medical treatment maintenance shops, etc., in medical facilities.

d. Resuscitators and other rescue equipment when oxygen is used therewith.

4. Availability of tags

These tags are available through normal publications channels.

5. References

a. Publications

(1) AR 700–68/DLAR 4145.25/NAVSUPINST 4440.128/MCO 10330.2/AFR 67–12 (Storage and Handling of Compressed Gases and Gas Cylinders).

(2) National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Code 99 (Standard for Health Care Facilities). (This publication may be obtained from the National Fire Protection Association, Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269.)

(3) Unnumbered Publication (Handbook of Compressed Gases, Compressed Gas Association). (This publication may be obtained from the Compressed Gas Association, 1235 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202.)

b. Prescribed form. DD Form 1191 (Warning Tag for Medical Oxygen Equipment).

The proponent agency of this regulation is the Office of The Surgeon General . Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) direct to HQDA (DASG–PSP), 5109 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3258.

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