ATTLEBORO AREA MEDICAL EQUIPMENT COMPANY

HAND HELD NEBULIZER OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

A. Procedural Steps:

1.) Review the physician’s order.
2.) Place the nebulizer on a flat sturdy surface. Plug the unit into a properly grounded outlet. Never connect the unit through the use of an extension cord.
3.) Connect one end of the tubing to the outlet port of the nebulizer.
4.) Separate the top from the bottom of the nebulizer cup; place the medication into the bottom of the nebulizer cup, and re-connect the top and bottom. Take care not to spill the medication out of the cup.
5.) Connect the T piece to the top of the nebulizer cup. Insert the mouthpiece into the T piece.
6.) Turn the machine on and off. Place the finder over the other end of the tubing to feel the flow of air coming from the machine.
7.) Connect the other end of the tubing to the bottom of the nebulizer cup. Hold the nebulizer in the air. Observe the mist coming from the nebulizer.
8.) Use proper breathing techniques.
9.) Sit up comfortably, place mouthpiece firmly between lips
10.) Inhale slowly through mouth only
11.) Every third or fourth breath, hold the air in the lungs for a few seconds
12.) Exhale slowly and completely.
13.) Treatment should be taken until the medication is completely nebulized. Notice the difference in the sound of the nebulizer when the treatment is finished.
14.) Due to the operation of the nebulizer, there will always be a small amount of medication left in the bottom of the cup after the treatment is finished.
15.) If you need to cough or to take a break during the treatment, turn the machine off so as not to waste the medication.

B. Equipment is cleaned after each treatment as follows:

1.) Wash your hands.
2.) Remove the tubing from the bottom of the medication nebulizer. This should be done in a gentle twisting motion. There is no need to disinfect the tubing because it makes no contact with the medication.
3.) Unscrew the lid from the medication nebulizer cup and remove the centerpiece.
4.) Wash the mouthpiece and parts of the medication nebulizer in warm water with a mild dishwashing soap and rinse thoroughly.
5.) Then, soak these items in three parts hot water to one part distilled white vinegar (5% acidity) for 30 minutes.
6.) Remove items from the vinegar solution, rinse under hot water and allow to air dry. Do not towel dry or wash in a dishwasher.
7.) When completely dry, reassemble and place in the storage compartment.

C. The following are troubleshooting techniques:

1.) No mist coming from the nebulizer?
   a.) Is the machine plugged in and turned on?
   b.) Is the connective tubing on tightly?
   c.) Can air be felt coming from the other end of the tubing?
   d.) Is the nebulizer cup assembled properly and connections right?
2.) If still no mist, replace nebulizer cup assembly with a new unit.
3.) Machine making an unusual noise?
   a.) Check to see that the unit is properly connected to the electrical outlet.
4.) Still making noise, contact AA Medical Equipment Company.
5.) Nebulizer bubbling but not making mist
   a.) Replace nebulizer circuit

Key Points:

1.) You should contact the physician if you experience any changes or adverse reactions from the treatment.
2.) Do not change the number of treatments to be taken unless ordered by the physician.
3.) **Disposable medication nebulizer cup and mask need to be replaced monthly.**
4.) **Nebulizer filter should be checked weekly for discoloring. Replace as needed.**

24-Hour On-Call Service at (508) 222-9146