

Home oxygen

Parent information

Home oxygen is used when a baby is ready to go home but still needs some oxygen. This is mostly, but not always, babies who have been diagnosed with neonatal Chronic Lung Disease (CLD). For further information please see '[Neonatal Chronic Lung Disease - Parent information sheet](#).' Some babies may need oxygen for reasons other than CLD. Your doctor will have spoken to you about this.

What is involved in arranging home oxygen?

- The Medical Aids Subsidiary Scheme (MASS) provides:
 - the oxygen cylinders which they deliver to your home, this includes smaller oxygen cylinders you can use to go out with.
 - equipment, including the nasal prongs, tapes, oxygen tubing
 - training on how to use and care for the oxygen equipment.
- Nursing staff will show you how to care for the nasal prongs and your baby's skin.
- The Discharge co-ordinator and Social Work Department help with obtaining a Health Care Card (HCC) through Centrelink.
- The HCC is normally required prior to the oxygen being delivered; this means there is no cost to the parent/carer. Home oxygen can be organised without the HCC; however, MASS will need to have a copy once it has been obtained. The Discharge co-ordinator will assist with the MASS application paperwork and submit the forms on your behalf.

Ongoing care after discharge from the nursery?

Prior to discharge referrals will be made to a General Paediatrician in your local area and to a Respiratory Paediatrician at the Queensland Children's Hospital (QCH).

The Respiratory Paediatrician and their team at the QCH provide all ongoing respiratory care and advice. There is also the Infant Team and the Chronic Lung Disease Team at the QCH who work closely with the Respiratory Paediatrician to provide ongoing support of your baby's growth and development.

Any other medical supplies for your baby will come from the QCH or your closest hospital. If you are outside the Brisbane area back transfer to your closest regional hospital with a special care nursery is usually advised.

Any further questions?

This fact sheet provides general information. If you have any questions about your baby's care, we encourage you to speak to the nursing and medical staff.



Consumers contributed
to this information.