

## **Medicinal Oxygen Production and Supply during Pandemic Situations**

EIGA is a safety and technically oriented organisation representing the vast majority of European and a number of non-European companies producing and distributing industrial, medical and food gases.

The member companies closely co-operate in technical and safety matters to achieve the highest level of safety and environmental care in the handling of gases.

EIGA is in frequent touch with Standardisation and Regulatory Organisations and Authorities as well as trade and industrial organisations.

The EIGA members manufacture and supply medicinal gases since decades and comply to all applicable European and national regulations on medicinal products and medical devices, to assure safety and health to patients, employees and contractors and communities in general.

### **EIGA is committed to medical oxygen production and supply during COVID-19.**

Since the COVID-19 pandemic our industry has proven that there is no shortage of the medical oxygen molecule thanks to the continuous production of large quantities of cryogenic 99.5% oxygen. In addition, the supply of the medicinal oxygen in liquid form has proven to be the most flexible and efficient way to face the high peak of consumption during the pandemic. However, our industry did incur some supply problems of certain equipment. As result, EIGA published last year a Briefing Note (BN25) on emergency measures and the national health agencies partially or even in total granted these temporary regulatory flexibility rules, for instance on 24/7 transport, usage of different type of cylinders, quick installation of liquid oxygen storage tanks at hospitals, etc.

### **EIGA adheres to strict quality and safety requirements.**

The swift action of the EIGA gases industry in supply of medicinal oxygen is saving lives.

During the entire pandemic situation, EIGA members remained adhering strictly to quality and safety requirements for medical 99.5% oxygen to the well-established and validated European Monograph 0417.

Standard, EIGA members apply on each batch certified to the market by our responsible pharmacists:

- ✓ Analytic instrument control and recording in accordance with this monograph,
- ✓ Production of liquid and gaseous 99.5% purity oxygen in validated and yearly inspected production processes,
- ✓ Controlled, documented and validated GMP production and GDP compliant supply systems,
- ✓ Full traceability of medicinal oxygen product and package from production till healthcare facility, ambulance, etc., and
- ✓ Inspected and compliant pharmacovigilance systems and market surveillance.

**EIGA offers expertise for new revisions or development.**

As a responsible industry of medicinal gases, we offer our expertise to collaborate with regulatory bodies, share our knowledge and invite other industries to strive together for the safety and health of all patients.

## References:

EIGA BN25/20 COVID-19 - *Emergency Measures to Maintain Continuous Supply of Medical Gases* [www.eiga.eu](http://www.eiga.eu)

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