

How to choose the right oxygen concentrator

If you or a loved one needs medical oxygen therapy after an illness or overload, there is no doubt that you should consider purchasing an **Oxygen Concentrator**. These devices are specially designed to collect oxygen and nitrogen from the ambient air and, after rapidly filtering the air, deliver it to the patient as safe, oxygen-enriched air for easier breathing.

So how exactly do **Oxygen Concentrators** work? First, the device draws in ambient air (mainly nitrogen and oxygen) through a compressor. The air is then discharged through several filtering devices that remove nitrogen and purify oxygen. The purified oxygen is then released through a pressure regulator that controls air flow and then delivered to the patient through oxygen tubes and a mask or nasal cannula.

Due to the popularity and undoubted usefulness of **oxygen concentrators**, they have become indispensable not only in medicine, but also in many families and workplaces.

Oxygen concentrators have many properties and benefits. We will help you choose the right product. This article provides information to help you determine which **Oxygen Concentrator** is best for you, and outlines some of the key features and benefits to consider when purchasing.

How to choose?

Different **Oxygen Concentrators** have a number of different functions and benefits that can make them more or less ideal for any patient. Therefore, we have highlighted the most important aspects to consider in order to make it easier for you to choose the best **Oxygen Concentrator** for your needs.

Flow rate

One of the most important factors to consider when purchasing an **Oxygen Concentrator** is the flow rate options. Flow rate refers to the rate at which oxygen can move from the device to the patient.

Your doctor will usually recommend the patient's ideal flow rate, so it is recommended that you discuss all possible purchases of **Oxygen Concentrators** with your doctor in advance.

Some **Oxygen Concentrators** may have a lower flow rate (in the range of 250 to 750 milliliters per minute), while others may offer a higher flow rate (for example, in the range of 2 to 10 liters per minute). Since not all **Oxygen Concentrators** provide the same flow rate range, it is important that customers check the flow rate offered by the product before purchasing.

Portability

One of the first and most important questions to consider when choosing **Oxygen Concentrators** is how mobile your concentrator will need to be. **Oxygen concentrators** can vary greatly in size and portability.

Some units are heavy-duty products that are designed for tough jobs and offer higher flow rates, but they are usually larger and heavier. These models are often designed for higher flow rates and are great for home use.

There are several types of portable **oxygen concentrators** available. These portable **oxygen concentrators** typically weigh between 2 and 5 kg and do not generate higher flow rates, making them much easier to transport and use outdoors. This makes them ideal for patients who do not require high oxygen flow rates. At the same time, the result of oxygen therapy will be moderate.

Oxygen concentration

In the **Oxygen Concentrator**, the oxygen supplied to the patient is compressed and concentrated to a specific percentage of ultrapure oxygen. This value is called the oxygen concentration. Oxygen concentration levels are affected by the number and design of filtration systems included in your oxygen concentrator, as well as the effectiveness of the sieve system to remove nitrogen in the concentrator.

While most products have an oxygen concentration of 87 to 99 percent, it is important to note that this value can vary in **Oxygen Concentrators**. Typically, higher performance products for patients requiring high oxygen consumption can also deliver higher oxygen concentrations, whereas lightweight, portable **oxygen concentrators** generally do not require such high oxygen concentrations.

Sound

The level of noise generated by the **Oxygen Concentrator** during normal operation is often ignored. Due to their design, layout and power level, oxygen concentrators can vary in the level of noise they generate during operation.

Some smaller portable hubs are very quiet and discreet. Other products, such as high-flow, high-flow devices, may be slightly noisier during operation because they both require more power and produce higher oxygen levels.

Additional options

Many products offer many additional features or elements that can help make the **Oxygen Concentrator** simpler or more efficient. These additional features include container transport (crates, bags), flow blocker, settings, easily replaceable filter systems, oxygen concentrator accessories, and more. Since the selection of additional features is different for each product, it is worthwhile to familiarize yourself with the additional features offered by the hub manufacturer before purchasing.

Frequently asked Questions

Q: Do I need a prescription to buy an **Oxygen Concentrator**?

A: It depends on national legislation. In most European Union countries, prescriptions are not required, but doctors' advice is important when choosing the right equipment. When purchasing an **Oxygen Concentrator**, you will need a prescription to cover the purchase price from your insurance company.

Q: Can I sleep and use an **oxygen concentrator**?

Answer: Yes. However, in order to sleep using an **Oxygen Concentrator**, your doctor will likely want to do a sleep study to determine the best flow rate for you. Then you can choose a hub that is quiet enough so that you can sleep peacefully while it is running.

Q: What is the typical service life of an **oxygen concentrator**?

A: This number varies by model, but portable concentrators typically last 4 to 7 years, while standard oxygen concentrators last longer, 6 to 10 years.

Finally, it is recommended to replace the oxygen concentrator as soon as its oxygen concentration begins to drop closer to 80 percent (as opposed to the normal range of 87 to 99 percent). At this point, you need to either replace the filters or buy a new product altogether.

Q: What are the side effects of using an **Oxygen Concentrator**?

A: Skin irritation and dry nose are the most common side effects, as is the case with most oxygen therapy instruments. This is the result of a constant flow of air in the sinuses and usually occurs with prolonged use of oxygen or high oxygen flow rates.

Recommendations

1. The Solano Piccolo™ Portable **Oxygen Concentrator** with a continuous flow of 93% oxygen per liter per minute is a convenient oxygen concentrator with accessories and features specifically designed for an active lifestyle. It is equipped with a modern electronic digital display.
2. The Solano Lumino™ Home Stationary **Oxygen Concentrator** with a continuous 93% oxygen flow of 5 liters provides a constant high level of oxygen for home use. It is one of the smallest and lightest stationary concentrators, providing continuous flow up to five liters per minute. This model can be used by two users at the same time.
3. **Oxygen concentrator** Solano Spring™ for professionals, doctors and home use with a constant flow of 93% oxygen at a rate of 10 liters per minute. An oxygen concentrator that is versatile and ideal for the active user. This model can be used by two users at the same time.

All units are equipped with a large digital display and a remote control.

We recommend that you consult with a specialist to select the most suitable **Oxygen Concentrator**.

Be sure to check out our range of nasal cannulas, oxygen masks, tubing and oxygen cylinder filling systems.

Summary

Oxygen concentrators are an invaluable tool for convenient and effective delivery of oxygen to those patients who cannot fully breathe or are receiving enough oxygen on their own. These devices use the ambient air in any room to filter, process, and compress, and then deliver clean, oxygen-rich air to patients who need it.

However, since there are many different oxygen concentrators on the market, it can be difficult to choose the right one for your needs. Some users may prefer the lightweight, portable Solano Piccolo hub, while others may prefer the high power and flow rate of the Solano Lumino. Still others believe that the most important factor is how quiet the hub is.

Choosing the right oxygen concentrator may seem daunting, but it really isn't that hard to sit down and methodically consider each function.

We hope we helped you choose an **Oxygen Concentrator**.

See www.solano-labs.com for details on each model.