Colour Change for All Medical Gas Cylinders

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Functional Sub group
Corporate Administration - Asset Management
Corporate Administration - Governance
Clinical/ Patient Services - Critical care
Clinical/ Patient Services - Nursing and Midwifery
Clinical/ Patient Services - Medical Treatment

Summary  ANZIGA is coordinating a change over program for medical oxygen valve outlets and the cylinder colour change for all medical gases across Australia as required by Australian Standards AS 2473.3 & AS 4484. This Information Bulletin should be read in conjunction with IB2009_008.

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MEDICAL GAS CYLINDERS – COLOUR CHANGE

PURPOSE
This information bulletin is to inform the Clinical Patient Services, Asset Managers and Health Facility Planners in the Area Health Service of the change - over program for medical oxygen valve outlets and the cylinder colour change for medical gases across Australia.

KEY INFORMATION
- Australia New Zealand Industrial Gas Association is coordinating a change - over program for medical oxygen valve outlets and the cylinder colour change for medical gases across Australia as required by Australian Standards AS 2473.3 & AS 4484. This Information Bulletin is to be read in conjunction with Medical Gas Cylinders – Changes IB2009_008.
  - Large medical oxygen cylinders (D, E and G size including bundles/packs) will be supplied with a different valve outlet, called a pin index valve outlet, and will also be coloured white from nominated time.
  - Prior to change over time medical oxygen cylinders (D,E & G size) will need to have the medical regulator replaced.
  - Users of medical oxygen with manifold systems will need to have their manifold connections and/or flexible connections changed prior to the change over date.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS
1. Important Changes to Medical Gas Cylinders
26/05/2009

Professor Debora Picone AM
Director-General
NSW Health Department
Locked Mail Bag 961
North Sydney NSW 2059

Dear Professor Picone,

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO MEDICAL GAS CYLINDERS

As previously advised ANZIGA is coordinating a change-over program for medical oxygen valve outlets and the cylinder colour change for all medical gases across Australia as required by Australian Standards AS 2473.3 & AS 4484.

The timing of the change-over program for the conversion of large medical oxygen cylinders to pin index valves is outlined below. The valve conversion in each state or territory will be completed at the beginning of the month indicated in the following table. After this date medical oxygen cylinders will not be supplied with a threaded outlet connection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>September 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>February 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Australia</td>
<td>May 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Queensland</td>
<td>August 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>New South Wales/ACT</td>
<td>February 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria/Tasmania</td>
<td>June 2011</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Prior to the above dates, medical oxygen cylinders which already have a pin indexed valve outlet, will be changed to the new prescribed colour scheme. The new colour scheme is a white cylinder body with a letter ‘N’ marked twice on the shoulder of the cylinder (as shown below).
Note: the cylinder product label must always be used to correctly identify the contents of the cylinder.

Within the 6 months following the dates above, all remaining medical oxygen cylinders will be changed to the new colour scheme.

What does this mean for you?

Large medical oxygen cylinders (D, E and G sizes including bundles/packs) will be supplied with a different valve outlet, called a pin indexed valve outlet, and will also be coloured white from a nominated time. A picture showing this change is attached for your information.

Prior to the changeover time, if you use large medical oxygen cylinders (D, E & G size) you will need to arrange for a replacement medical oxygen regulator. Contact your regulator supplier or medical gas supplier for assistance with your requirements as soon as possible.

This valve change does not affect small medical oxygen cylinders (C size and smaller) as they are already supplied with the pin indexed valve outlet.

Users of medical oxygen with manifold systems will need to have their manifold connections and/or flexible connections changed prior to the change-over date.

Further communication will be sent from ANZIGA and your medical gas supplier leading up to the change-over implementation date for your State/Territory.

Please do not hesitate to contact ANZIGA or your medical gas supplier if you require further information.

Yours sincerely,

Kathryn Walton
Executive Officer
Australia New Zealand Industrial Gas Association

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Type ten threaded connection

Pin index connection

Current valve & colour scheme

NEW valve & colour scheme
Contacts

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