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HEALTH

Oxygen Flow Meter Eases Patient Needs

(NU) - For the 32 million Americans currently suffering from Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), respiratory health and rising Medicare costs are a serious concern. A major cause of hospitalizations, COPD is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States.

Due to COPD's effect on the respiratory system and the tax payer, the majority of COPD patients receive some type of oxygen therapy, but medical professionals and patients alike have found the process to be challenging at times.

Oxyview, a breakthrough technology in the oxygen therapy market, may simplify the oxygen therapy process and save Medicare expenses associated with unnecessary service calls. According to Dr. Vlady Rozenbaum of the National Emphysema COPD Foundation, "Oxyview is a pneumatic realtime oxygen flow meter which can be used with oxygen delivery systems by patients requiring oxygen therapy."

Oxyview provides a visual cue to the patient or administrator, indicating the continuous flow and volume of oxygen during therapy. It allows the user to be sure that they are receiving the proper oxygen level and alerts them if adjustments need to be made.

Dr. Rozenbaum notes that OxyView is "very small and simple to operate" and is a "very accurate gauging device." It "provides a high measure of security to patients, who can quickly be alerted to malfunctioning equipment and take the necessary steps to correct the situation or immediately contact their oxygen provider," he says.

Some medical professionals have suggested that



Oxygen flow meters are taking the guesswork out of monitoring a patient's oxygen.

Oxyview can also help to save money.

Barbara McDonald of Rockford Health System says that her department will cut down on overhead costs by using oxygen more efficiently.

"I was always changing the tanks when they were in the red because I never knew if the patient was getting enough oxygen. Now, with the Oxyview, I know for sure how much O₂ is left," McDonald says.

Gary Scalf, vice president of Respiratory Operations for Specialized Medical Services, feels that Oxyview will benefit Long Term Care facilities as well. He says "the Oxyview offers a quick and simple visual detection of flow, which is starting to be required by some state inspectors."

To learn more about respiratory health aids, visit www.ingen-tech.com.