

TACT 158: Medical Oxygen Cylinders on TACT Vehicles Policy



Policy: TACT (hereinafter “the Authority”) shall comply with all applicable state and federal legislation and regulations that govern use and transportation of medical oxygen cylinders on public transportation vehicles.

Purpose: To develop and maintain a clear, uniformly enforceable policy that governs transportation and use of medical oxygen cylinders on Authority vehicles.

Scope: This statement applies to transportation and use of all medical oxygen cylinders on Authority vehicles.

1.0 General

1.1 According to federal regulations the Authority “shall not prohibit an individual with a disability from traveling with a respirator or portable oxygen supply, consistent with applicable Department of Transportation rules on transportation of hazardous materials (49 CFR Subtitle B, chapter 1, subchapter C)”.

1.2 Commonly used portable oxygen concentrators are not considered hazardous materials and do not require the same level of special handling as compressed oxygen cylinders.

2.0 Safe Transportation Guidelines

2.1 Oxygen should be transported on Authority vehicles only when medically necessary.

2.2 Oxygen should be transported in a cylinder maintained in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions. Manufacturer’s instructions and precautions are typically printed on a label attached to the cylinder.

- A cylinder that is dented, gouged, or pitted should not be transported.
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- 2.3 Oxygen cylinders must be secured to prevent movement and leakage. Cylinders must be secured in an upright position. “Secured” means that cylinders are not free to move when the vehicle is in motion.
- 2.4 Oxygen cylinders must not be stored in the aisles so as not to restrict movement by passengers and Authority personnel.
- 2.5 Since the release of oxygen from a cylinder could accelerate a fire, cylinders should be secured away from forces of heat or potential sparks. Under no circumstances should smoking or open flames be permitted where oxygen cylinders are present.
- 2.6 The passenger is responsible for ensuring that oxygen cylinder capacity is sufficient to provide necessary oxygen for the entire duration of a trip, including both from the passenger’s home to their destination including intended duration and the return trip home.
- 2.7 If a single oxygen cylinder has insufficient capacity for the entire duration of the trip, the passenger is responsible for providing an additional oxygen cylinder.
- This cylinder must be secured in the same manner as described above in 2.3 and 2.4.
- 2.8 Authority personnel are not permitted to assist a passenger in using, replacing, or adjusting medical oxygen equipment.
- Should a passenger require assistance with their oxygen, the Authority will contact emergency services for dispatch of an ambulance.
- 2.9 Oxygen that is attached to a mobility device shall not impede the ability for the Authority to properly secure the mobility device within the securement location or interfere with the use of any seatbelt devices.

Revision History:

Revision	Date	Description of changes	Requested By
0.0	01/18/2023	Initial Release	Patti Lynn Johnston General Manager
1.0	06/14/2023	Update logo, font, and formatting	Patti Lynn Johnston Executive Director