

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Medical Liquid Oxygen

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Oxygen Ph. Eur. 100 %

There are no other ingredients

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Inhalation gas

Light blue cryogenic liquid of about -180 deg C contained within a closed container/vessel (see section 6.5). The liquid rapidly evaporates to form oxygen gas

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

Normobaric oxygen therapy:

- Treatment or prevention of acute or chronic hypoxia, irrespective of genesis.
- As part of the fresh gas supply in anaesthesia or intensive care.
- As the propellant gas in nebuliser therapy.
- Treatment of acute attack in patients with an established diagnosis of cluster headache

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy:

For treatment of decompression sickness, air/gas embolisms of other genesis and carbon monoxide poisoning.

- In carbon monoxide poisoning hyperbaric oxygen therapy is indicated in patients that are or have been unconscious, that have shown neurological signs, cardiovascular dysfunction or severe acidosis and in pregnant females all irrespective of COHb.
- As adjunctive treatment for osteoradionecrosis and clostridial myonecrosis (gas gangrene).

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Method of administration

Oxygen is administered via the inspiratory air.

Oxygen can also be administered through a so-called oxygenator directly to the blood in, among other things, heart surgery with a cardio-pulmonary bypass system, and in other conditions that require extracorporeal circulation.

Oxygen is (preferably) administered via special equipment. With this equipment, oxygen is administered with the inspiratory air, and on exhalation the exhaled gas with any oxygen excess leaves the patient and is mixed with the surrounding air (non-rebreathing system).

For anaesthesia, special equipment is often used, when the exhaled gas is recirculated and can be rebreathed (circular system with rebreathing).

There are a large number of devices intended for administration of oxygen.

Low-flow systems:

The simplest systems, which deliver a mixture of oxygen to the inspiratory air, e.g. a system in which the oxygen is administered via a simple rotameter connected to a nasal catheter or facemask.

High-flow systems:

Systems designed to provide a gas mixture corresponding to the patient's entire inspiratory atmosphere. These systems are designed to deliver a fixed oxygen concentration that is not influenced – diluted by the surrounding air, e.g. Venturi mask with fixed oxygen flow in order to give a fixed oxygen concentration in the inspiratory air.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy

(HBO) is given in a specially constructed pressure chamber designed for hyperbaric oxygen treatment, in which pressures up to 3 times atmospheric pressure can be maintained. HBO can also be administered within the chamber via a very closely fitting facemask, a hood that closes around the head, or through a tracheal tube.

Posology

The purpose of oxygen therapy is to ensure that the partial arterial oxygen pressure (PaO_2) is not less than 8.0 kPa (60 mmHg) or the oxygen saturation of haemoglobin in arterial blood is not less than 90 %, by adjusting the fraction of oxygen in inspired gas (FiO_2).

The dosage must be regulated according to the patient's need. The oxygen fraction must be adjusted according to each individual patient's unique requirement, taking account of the risk of oxygen intoxication. (See 4.9.)

The general recommendation is that the lowest dose – FiO_2 – to achieve the desired result of therapy, a safe PaO_2 , must be the aim. In severe hypoxia, oxygen fractions that may involve a risk of oxygen intoxication may be indicated.

The therapy must be evaluated continuously and the effect of treatment measured with PaO_2 or alternatively arterial oxygen saturation (SpO_2).

For short term oxygen therapy, the fraction of oxygen in inspired gas (FiO_2) (avoid $\text{FiO}_2 > 0.6$ = 60 % O_2 in the inhaled gas mixture) must be kept so that with or without positive end-expiratory airway pressure (PEEP) or continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP), a partial arterial oxygen pressure (PaO_2) > 8 kPa is maintained.

Short term oxygen therapy must be monitored by repeated measurements of arterial blood gases (PaO₂) or by pulse oximetry which provides a numerical value for the haemoglobin oxygen saturation (SpO₂). However, these indices are only indirect measures of tissue oxygenation. Clinical assessment of the treatment is of the utmost importance.

For long term treatment, the need for supplemental oxygen should be determined by obtaining arterial blood gas values. To avoid excessive retention of carbon dioxide, blood gases should be monitored so to adjust oxygen therapy in patients with hypercapnia.

If the oxygen is mixed with other gases, its concentration in the gas mixture inhaled (FiO₂) must be maintained at least at 21 % in the inhaled gas. Oxygen inhaled fraction can be increased up to 100 %.

Neonates may be given up to 100% of Oxygen if required. However, careful monitoring should be performed during the treatment. As a common recommendation, oxygen concentrations exceeding 40 % should be avoided on account of the risk of damaging the crystalline lens or lung collapse. The oxygen pressure in arterial blood (PaO₂) should be monitored, and if PaO₂ is kept below 13.3 kPa (100 mmHg) and no major variations in oxygenation is avoided, the risk of damage to the eyes is reduced.

For the indication acute attack of cluster headache, Oxygen is to be delivered by facemask, in a non re-breathing system, with an oxygen flow of about 7 – 10 l/min.

Oxygen therapy should be instituted as early as possible after onset of the attack and should last for about 15 minutes or until pain has disappeared/vanished.

Hyperbaric Oxygen therapy:

Hyperbaric oxygenation (HBO) means delivering 100% oxygen at pressure above 1.4 times the atmospheric pressure at sea level (1 atmosphere = 101,3 kPa = 760 mmHg). For safety reasons the pressure for HBO should not exceed 3 atmospheres.

The duration of a single treatment with HBO at a pressure of 2 to 3 atmospheres is normally between 60 minutes and 4 - 6 hours depending on the indication. Sessions may, if necessary, be repeated 2 to 3 times a day, depending on the indication and the patient's clinical condition. Multiple sessions are often necessary for treatment of soft-tissue infections and hypoxic wounds that do not respond to the usual conventional treatment.

HBO should be given by staff qualified to give this treatment.

Compression and decompression should be slow in accordance with common routines in order to avoid the risk of pressure damage (barotrauma).

Instructions for handling and use of Medical Liquid Oxygen Equipment

Only use equipment designated for use with Medical Liquid Oxygen

Hospital pipelines for medical gases should be installed in accordance with the guidance given in HTM 02.

Equipment for use with oxygen must be clean and dry. If necessary, clean only with plain water. Do not use solvents. Use clean, lint free cloths for cleaning and drying off. Use no oil or grease on equipment for use with oxygen.

Do not allow naked flames near the container. Do not smoke when using oxygen.

Leaks

Should leaks occur this will usually be evident by a hissing noise.

There are no user serviceable parts associated with Medical Liquid Oxygen containers, do not attempt to correct any problems with leakage.

Sealing or jointing compounds must never be used to cure a leak.

Contact Air Liquide to arrange repair of the faulty container.

Use of Medical Liquid Oxygen Containers.

Containers should be handled with care.

Containers must only be moved with an appropriate size and type of trolley.

Smoking and naked flames must not be allowed near containers or pipeline outlets.

Equipment for use with Medical Liquid Oxygen must never be lubricated and must be kept free from oil and grease.

Contact with medical liquid oxygen can cause burns.

Always follow the instructions for use for the equipment.

4.3 Contraindications

Patients should not smoke while on oxygen therapy due to increased risk from fire.

Normobaric oxygen therapy:

None

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT):

Undrained/untreated pneumothorax (see section 4.4)

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use

High oxygen concentrations should be given for the shortest possible time required to achieve the desired result, and must be monitored with repeated checks of arterial gas pressure (PaO₂) or haemoglobin oxygen peripheral saturation (SpO₂), the inhaled oxygen concentration (FiO₂) and clinical assessment.

There is literature supporting the safety of oxygen fraction:

Oxygen is safely administered in the following concentration during the indicated times:

- Oxygen in concentration up to 100 % (FiO₂ 1,0) for less than 6 h
- Oxygen in concentration of 60 – 70 % (FiO₂ 0,6 – 0,7) during 24h

- Oxygen in concentration of 40-50 % (FiO_2 0,4 – 0,5) during the second 24 h
- Any Oxygen concentration > 40 % ($FiO_2 > 0.4$) is potentially toxic after 2 days.

Premature infants are excluded from these guidelines because retrolental fibroplasia occurs with a much lower FiO_2 .

Special precautions for use

Paediatric population:

Because of the higher sensitivity of newly born to supplemental oxygen, the lowest effective concentrations should be sought in order to achieve an adequate oxygenation appropriate for neonates.

In preterm and newborn infants, increased PaO_2 may lead to retinopathy of prematurity (see section 4.8). It is recommended to start resuscitation of term or near term neonates with air instead of 100% oxygen. In preterm, the optimal concentration of oxygen and oxygen target are not precisely known. Supplemental oxygen, if required, will then be closely monitored and guided by pulse oximetry.

Special caution should be observed when treating newborn and premature infants. The absolute lowest concentration which gives the desired result should be used in order to minimise the risk of ocular damage, retrolental fibroplasia, or other potential undesirable effects. The arterial oxygen pressure should be monitored and kept below 13,3 kPa (100 mmHg).

In cases of high concentrations of oxygen in the inspiratory air/gas, the concentration/pressure of nitrogen are lowered. As a result, the nitrogen concentration in tissue and lung (alveoli) is lowered. If oxygen is taken up from alveoli to the blood faster than additional oxygen is delivered by ventilation, alveoli collapse may occur (atelectases).

The formation of atelectasic lung areas may impair oxygenation of arterial blood because there will be no gas exchange in the atelectasic area despite perfusion, there will be ventilation/ perfusion mismatching – an increased shunt.

Patients at risk of hypercapnic respiratory failure:

Special caution should be applied in patients with reduced sensitivity to the carbon dioxide tension in arterial blood or at risk of hypercapnic respiratory failure (“hypoxic drive”) (e.g. patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cystic fibrosis, morbid obesity, chest wall deformities, neuromuscular disorders, overdose of respiratory depressant drugs). The administration of supplemental oxygen may cause respiratory depression and a rise in $PaCO_2$ with subsequent symptomatic respiratory acidosis (see section 4.8). In these patients, oxygen therapy should be carefully titrated; the target

oxygen saturation to be achieved may be lower than in other patients and oxygen should be administered at a low flow rate.

Special caution in patients with bleomycin lung injury: the pulmonary toxicity of high-dose oxygen therapy can potentiate lung injury, even if given several years after the initial lung injury by bleomycin and the target oxygen saturation to be achieved may be lower than in other patients (see section 4.5).

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT):

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy should only be administered by qualified staff and in specialised centres aware and equipped for insuring appropriate precautions for hyperbaric use.

The pressure should be increased and reduced slowly in order to avoid the risk of pressure damage (barotrauma).

Confinement anxiety and claustrophobia can occur during the HBOT session chamber. The benefit/risk ratio of HBOT should be thoroughly evaluated in patients with claustrophobia, severe anxiety, psychosis.

Respiratory disorders:

Because of the decompression, at the end of the hyperbaric session, the gas volume increases while the pressure in the chamber decreases that may lead to partial pneumothorax or aggravation of an underlying pneumothorax. In a patient with an undrained pneumothorax, decompression could lead to the development of a tension pneumothorax. In cases of pneumothorax, pleural cavities must be drained before the session and it may be required to continue the drainage procedure during the HBOT session (see section 4.3).

Moreover, considering the risk of gas expansion during the decompression phase of HBOT, the benefit/risk ratio of HBOT should be thoroughly evaluated in patients with insufficiently controlled asthma, pulmonary emphysema, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), recent thoracic surgery.

Diabetic patients: Blood glucose decrease during HBOT session has been reported. Hence, it may be preferable to monitor blood glucose before HBOT session in diabetic patients.

Coronary diseases: The benefit/risk ratio of HBOT should be thoroughly evaluated in patients with coronary diseases. In patients with acute coronary syndrome or acute myocardial infarction who also require HBOT, such as in case of CO intoxication, HBOT should be used cautiously because of the vasoconstriction potential of hyperoxia in the coronary circulation.

Ear, nose and throat disorders: In relation to the compression/decompression of HBOT, caution and thorough assessment of the benefit/risk ratio of HBOT are required in patients with sinusitis, otitis, chronic rhinitis, laryngocele,

mastoid cavity, vestibular syndrome, hearing loss and recent middle ear surgery.

Relating to hyperoxia induced by HBOT, the benefit/risk ratio of HBOT should be thoroughly evaluated in patients with:

- History of seizure, epilepsy
- Uncontrolled high fever

Risk of fire:

Oxygen is an oxidizing product and promotes combustion. Whenever oxygen is used, the increased risk of fire ignition should be taken into account:

- Risk of fire in domestic environment: Patients and caregivers should also be warned about the risk of fire in presence of other sources of ignition (smoking, flames, sparkles, cooking, ovens etc.) and/or highly combustible substances, especially greasy substances (oils, grease, creams, ointments, lubricants etc.). Only water-based products should be used on the hands and face or inside the nose while using oxygen.
- Risk of fire in medical environment: this risk is increased in procedures involving diathermy, defibrillation and electro conversion therapy.
- Fires can occur at valve opening (frictional heating).

Thermal burns have occurred related to accidental fires in presence of oxygen.

Handling of the cylinders:

Caretakers and all people who handle medicinal oxygen cylinders should be warned about the need to carefully handle cylinders to prevent damages to the equipments, especially the valve. Equipment damage may cause obstruction of the outlet and/or wrong information displayed on the manometer with regards to remaining oxygen content and flow delivery leading to insufficient or lack of oxygen administration.

Frostbites related to direct contact with liquid oxygen:

Oxygen becomes a fluid at approximately -183°C . At such low temperatures, the contact of liquid oxygen with skin or mucous membranes can cause frostbites. Special safety precautions must be taken when handling cryogenic containers: appropriate protective clothing must be worn (gloves, goggles, loose clothing and trousers to cover the shoes). If liquid oxygen comes into contact with the skin or eyes, the affected areas must be washed with copious amounts of cold water, or cold compresses applied; medical assistance should be sought immediately if such injuries occur.

Rebound attacks may be experienced by patients suffering from cluster headaches treated with oxygen.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Inhalation of high concentration of oxygen can exacerbate the pulmonary toxicity associated with drugs such as bleomycin (even if oxygen is given several years after the initial bleomycin-induced lung injury), amiodarone, nitrofurantoin and with paraquat intoxication. Unless the patient is hypoxemic, supplemental oxygen should be avoided.

- Relapse of bleomycin-induced lung disease may be associated with a fatal outcome.
- Patients with pre-existing oxygen radical damage to the lung may have damage exacerbated by oxygen therapy, e.g. in the treatment of paraquat poisoning.
- Respiratory depression due to alcohol may potentiate that caused by oxygen.

In the presence of oxygen, nitric oxide is rapidly oxidized to form superior nitrated derivatives that are irritant for the bronchial epithelium and the alveolocapillary membrane. Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) is the principal compound formed. The oxidation rate is proportional to the initial concentrations of nitric oxide and oxygen in the inhaled air, and to the duration of contact between NO and O₂.

There is a risk of fire in the presence of other sources of ignition (smoking, flames, sparkles, ovens etc.) and/or highly combustible substances (oils, grease, creams, ointments, lubricants etc.) (see section 4.4).

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy:

In animal tests, toxicity to reproduction was observed after administration of oxygen at increased pressure or in high concentration. It is unknown to what extent these findings are relevant to humans.

Normobaric oxygen therapy:

Oxygen can be used during pregnancy only when necessary i.e. in case of vital indications, women either critically ill or with hypoxaemia.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT):

The amount of documented experience with the use of HBOT in pregnant women is limited, but has shown a benefit of HBOT for the foetus in case of CO intoxication in pregnant women. In other situations, HBOT should be used with caution in pregnancy as the impact on the foetus of a potential increase of oxidative stress from excess oxygen is unknown.

The use of HBOT should then be evaluated in each individual patient but is permissible in the case of vital indications during pregnancy.

Lactation:

Oxygen therapy can be used during breastfeeding without risk to the infant.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Normobaric oxygen therapy:

Oxygen has no influence on the ability to drive and use machines.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT):

Vision and hearing disorders which may affect the ability to drive and use machines have been reported after HBOT (see section 4.8).

4.8 Undesirable effects

Different tissues exhibit different sensitivities to hyperoxia, the most sensitive being the lungs, the brain and the eyes.

Description of selected adverse events:

Respiratory adverse events:

- At an ambient pressure, the first signs (tracheobronchitis, substernal pain and dry cough) appear as soon as after 4 hours of exposure to 95% oxygen. A reduced forced vital capacity can occur within 8-12h of exposure to 100% oxygen, but serious injuries require much longer exposures. Interstitial oedema can be seen after 18h of exposure to 100% oxygen and can lead to pulmonary fibrosis. Respiratory effects reported with HBOT are generally similar to those encountered during normobaric oxygen treatment, but the time to symptom onset is shorter.

- With high concentrations of oxygen in the inspiratory air/gas, the concentration/pressure of nitrogen is reduced. As a result, the concentration of nitrogen in tissues and lungs (the alveoli) falls. If oxygen is taken up from the alveoli into the blood more rapidly than it is supplied in the inspiratory gas fraction, alveolar collapse can occur (development of atelectasis). The development of atelectatic sections of the lungs leads to a risk of poorer arterial blood oxygen saturation, despite good perfusion, due to lack of gas exchange in the atelectatic sections of the lungs. The ventilation/perfusion ratio worsens, leading to intrapulmonary shunt.

- There may be a change in the modalities of ventilation control in patients with long-term diseases associated with chronic hypoxia and hypercapnia. Under these circumstances, administration of too high concentrations of oxygen can cause respiratory depression, inducing aggravated hypercapnia, respiratory acidosis, and finally respiratory arrest (see section 4.4).

Early symptoms of oxygen toxicity are pleuritic pain and dry cough.

On continued treatment with 100 % oxygen for more than 24 – 48 hours a condition with acute pulmonary failure may develop Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS).

Central nervous toxicity:

- Central nervous toxicity can be observed in HBOT settings. Central nervous toxicity can develop when patients breathe 100% oxygen at pressures above 2 ATA. Early manifestations include blurred vision, peripheral vision decreased, tinnitus, respiratory disturbances, localized muscular twitching especially eyes, mouth, forehead. Continuation of exposure can lead to vertigo and nausea followed by altered behaviour (anxiety, confusion, irritability), and finally generalized convulsions. The hyperoxia-induced discharges are believed to be reversible, causing no residual neurological damage, and disappearing upon reduction of the inspired oxygen partial pressure.

Eye toxicity:

Progressive myopia has been reported in cases of multiple hyperbaric treatments. The mechanism remains obscure but an increase refractory index of the lens was suggested. Most cases were spontaneously reversible. However, risk of irreversibility increased after more than 100 therapies. After stopping HBOT, reversal of myopia was usually rapid for the first few weeks and then continued more slowly for periods ranging from several weeks to as long as a year. The threshold of number of HBOT sessions, periods or duration cannot be estimated. It was ranged from 8 to more than 150 sessions.

- Retinopathy of prematurity: see below.

Pediatric population

In premature neonates who have been subjected to high oxygen concentrations, retinopathy of prematurity (retrolental fibroplasia) may occur. Retrolental fibroplasia with fibroblastic infiltration of the retina, which can lead to blindness, has been claimed to be associated to oxygen treatment in concentrations greater than 40 % in neonates. Other negative effects of Oxygen therapy in high concentration (FiO₂ 1.0) in neonates are haemolytic anaemia, pulmonary fibrosis, cardiac, renal and hepatic toxicity.

Long-term treatment with 100 % Oxygen may also result in toxic effects on other organs.

Patients should be carefully monitored by competent personnel.

All ages may be at risk for toxic side effects of high inspired oxygen fractions.

In order to reduce the risk of parenchymal damage, including an effect on the lungs (broncho-pulmonary dysplasia), it is of the utmost importance to continually monitor arterial oxygen pressure (see 4.4.).

Risk of fire: The risk of fire is increased in presence of high concentrations of oxygen and sources of ignition potentially leading to thermal burns (see section 4.4).

Frostbites occur in case of direct contact with liquid oxygen (see section 4.4).

Adverse events related to HBOT procedure:

- Undesirable effects of HBOT are barotraumas or consequences of multiple and rapid compressions/decompressions. Most of them are not specific to the use of oxygen and can occur in patients under oxygen as well as in attending healthcare professionals under hyperbaric ambient air. These are ear, sinuses and throat barotraumas, pulmonary barotraumas, other barotraumas (teeth, etc.).

- Due to the relatively small size of some hyperbaric chambers, patients may develop confinement anxiety that is not due to a direct effect of oxygen.

Adverse reactions associated with Oxygen Therapy:

	Very common (> 1/10)	Common (≥1/100 to <1/10)	Uncommon (≥1/1,000 to <1/100)	Rare (≥1/10,000 to <1/1,000)	Very rare (<1/10,000)	Not known
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders			Atelectasis			Pulmonary toxicity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracheobronchitis (substernal pain, dry cough) • Interstitial oedema • Pulmonary fibrosis Worsening of hypercapnia in patients with chronic hypoxia/hypercapnia treated with too much elevated FiO ₂ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypoventilation • Respiratory acidosis • Respiratory arrest
Eye disorders	Retinopathy of prematurity					

	Very common ($> 1/10$)	Common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$)	Uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$ to $< 1/100$)	Rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$)	Very rare ($< 1/10,000$)	Not known
General disorders and administration site conditions						Mucosal dryness Local irritation and inflammation of the mucosa

Adverse reactions specific to Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy:

	Very common ($> 1/10$)	Common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$)	Uncommon ($\geq 1/1,000$ to $< 1/100$)	Rare ($\geq 1/10,000$ to $< 1/1,000$)	Very rare ($< 1/10,000$)	Not known
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders				Dyspnoea		Respiratory disturbances
Nervous system disorders		Seizure				
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders						Localised muscular twitching
Ear and labyrinth disorders	Ear pain		Tympanic membrane rupture			Vertigo Hearing impaired Acute serous otitis media Tinnitus
Gastrointestinal disorders						Nausea
Psychiatric disorders						Abnormal behaviour
Eye disorders	Progressive myopia					Peripheral vision decreased Blurred vision Cataract*
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications	Barotrauma (sinuses, ear, lung, teeth etc.)					
Metabolism and nutrition disorders				Hypoglycemia in diabetic patients		

* The development of cataracts has been reported in patients undergoing prolonged courses and/or frequently repeated sessions of HBOT (> 150 sessions). Some cases of de novo/new cataract have been observed.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the Yellow Card Scheme Website: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store.

4.9 Overdose

Symptoms of oxygen intoxication are those of hyperoxia.

The symptoms of respiratory toxicity include from tracheobronchitis (substernal pain, dry cough) to interstitial oedema and pulmonary fibrosis.

The symptoms of central nervous toxicity that are observed in HBOT settings, include tinnitus, respiratory disturbances, localized muscular twitching especially eyes, mouth, forehead. Continuation of exposure can lead to vertigo and nausea followed by altered behaviour (anxiety, confusion, irritability), and finally generalized convulsions.

Eye toxicity includes blurred vision and reduced peripheral vision within HBOT settings.

Paediatric population:

Eye toxicity in neonates: in premature neonates who have been subjected to high oxygen concentrations, retinopathy of prematurity may occur.

Patients at risk of hypercapnic respiratory failure:

The administration of supplemental oxygen may cause respiratory depression and a rise in PaCO₂ with subsequent symptomatic respiratory acidosis.

In case of oxygen intoxication related to hyperoxia, oxygen therapy should be reduced or if possible stopped, and symptomatic treatment should be started.

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

All other therapeutic products, Medical Gases.

ATC class: VO3A

Oxygen constitutes approx. 21% of air. Oxygen is vital to life and must be continuously supplied to all tissues in order to maintain the cells' energy production. Oxygen is transported via the airways to the lung with the inspired air. In the alveoli a gas exchange takes place through the difference in partial pressure from the inspired air/gas mixture to the capillary blood. The oxygen is transported, mainly bound to haemoglobin, further with the systemic circulation to the capillary bed in tissue where it is transported by the pressure gradient to the different cells. The final target for the oxygen is the mitochondria in the individual cells, where oxygen is consumed in an enzymatic chain reaction forming energy. By increasing the oxygen fraction in inspired air, the inspired gas mixture, the partial pressure gradient transporting oxygen to the cells is increased.

When oxygen is given to a patient at pressure higher than atmospheric (HBO), it greatly increases the amount of oxygen that is transported to the peripheral tissues by the blood. Intermittent hyperbaric therapies generate oxygen transport even within oedematous tissue and tissue with poor perfusion and in this way can maintain cellular energy production and function.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBO) diminishes in proportion to the pressure that is given with the volume of gas bubbles in the tissues, according to Boyle's law.

Hyperbaric oxygen treatment (HBO) inhibits the growth of anaerobic organisms.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties

Inhaled oxygen is absorbed – taken up – by a pressure-dependent gas exchange between alveolar gas and the capillary blood that passes the alveoli.

The oxygen is transported, mainly bound to haemoglobin, with the systemic circulation to all tissues in the body. Only a very small proportion is free, dissolved in plasma. During passage through the tissues, a partial pressure-dependent transport of the oxygen to the individual cells takes place. Oxygen is a vital component in the cell's intermediate metabolism for creation of energy – the aerobic ATP production in the mitochondria.

5.3 Preclinical safety data

Oxygen speeds up the release of carbon monoxide (CO) that is bound to haemoglobin and other iron-containing proteins, and therefore counteracts the negative blocking effects caused by the binding of carbon monoxide to iron.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy also causes the release of carbon monoxide at a rate greater than that achievable by breathing 100% oxygen at normal pressure.

Oxygen taken up in the body is excreted almost entirely as carbon dioxide formed in the intermediary metabolism.

6 PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

6.1 List of excipients

None

6.2 Incompatibilities

Not applicable

6.3 Shelf life

6 months

6.4 Special precautions for storage

Liquid oxygen containers should be kept out of the reach and sight of children.

Oxygen is non flammable but strongly supports combustion. It is highly dangerous when in contact with oils and greases due to the risk of fire.

The normal precautions required in the storage of medical gas containers as described below are applicable:

Containers should be stored separately from containers containing non-medical gases.

Medical containers containing different medical gases should be segregated and identified within the store.

Full and empty containers should be stored separately.

Containers should be stored under cover, kept dry and clean and not subjected to extremes of temperature.

Containers should not be stored near stocks of combustible materials or sources of heat.

Warning notices prohibiting smoking and naked lights should be clearly posted.

Emergency services should be advised of the location of the Medical Liquid Oxygen store.

Precautions should be taken to protect containers from theft

6.5 Nature and contents of container

The medical liquid oxygen is packaged in vacuum insulated containers made of stainless steel specifically designed to store cryogenic gases at low temperatures (about -180 C). The transportable medical liquid oxygen supply vessel – 10 litre, 20 litre, 21 litre, 30 litre, 31 litre, 32 litre, 36 litre, 37 litre, 41 litre, 42 litre, 45 litre, 46 litre, 60 litre, 100 litre, 180 litre, 230 litre, 450 litre, 600 litre, 1000 litre and 23500 litre – is used to fill the medical liquid oxygen storage tank at the customer's location or is supplied for use at the customer's location

6.6 Special precautions for disposal

Contact Linde Gas to arrange refill of the container.

Containers that are no longer required should be returned to Air Liquide.

7 MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Air Liquide Limited
Station Road
Coleshill
Birmingham
West Midlands
B46 1JY

8 MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

PL15929/0009

**9 DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION/RENEWAL OF THE
AUTHORISATION**

01/11/2006

10 DATE OF REVISION OF THE TEXT

02/04/2024