

Hazards of Oxygen use around Ignition Sources

When oxygen is in use all ignition sources should be eliminated in the immediate area surrounding the individual using the oxygen. Hair dryers have exposed heating elements that are considered ignition sources. Oxygen accumulation in the patient's clothing, hair and other areas on the patient that can trap oxygen not being inhaled by the patient create an oxygen enriched environment. Combustible items are primarily anything on the patient that can burn (hair, clothes, lip stick, lotion and even the oxygen tubing). Bringing an ignition source near an oxygen enriched area with combustibles is hazardous. The following link <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wMRL2bVKc4> best demonstrates the hazards associated with oxygen use near an ignition source.

NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, 2000 Edition requires the facility to comply with NFPA 99, Standard for Health Care Facilities, 1999 Edition concerning medical gases. NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, 2000 Edition requires the facility to comply with NFPA 99, Standard for Health Care Facilities, 1999 Edition concerning medical gases. Click the link to review the [NFPA information.](#) or (<http://www.nfpa.org/index.asp?cookie%5Ftest=1>)