29 October 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

TSANZ Acute Oxygen Guidelines – “Swimming between the flags”


The guidelines recommend oxygen is used in a prescribed concentration range with a specified mode of delivery, flow rate and target range of oxygen saturation. This is an improvement on current practice where the delivery of indiscriminately high concentrations of oxygen is inappropriate and may be harmful to the patient.

These guidelines carry important information for clinicians engaged in pre-hospital care, hospital emergency departments, and acute care of inpatients. The intended users are all health professionals responsible for the administration and/or monitoring of oxygen therapy in the management of acute medical patients in the community and hospital settings (excluding peri-operative and intensive care patients), those responsible for the training of such health professionals, and both public and private health care organisations which deliver oxygen therapy. Key decisions makers in this sector must also be advised and act upon this knowledge to improve acute care.

The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand is the peak respiratory body for medical, nursing and allied health professionals and research scientists. We have developed these guidelines through an evidence review of the latest research in respiration and respiratory disease as we believe the highest quality and standards of patient care are paramount for the health of Australians and New Zealanders. We will continue to collaborate with all national organisations whose objects are to improve the wellbeing of individuals with lung disease to promote better lung health for the community.

Sincerely,

Prof Peter Gibson
President

REFERENCE

ENCLOSURE
Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand Oxygen Guidelines for Acute Oxygen use in Adults, “Swimming between the flags”.