

Overview

This standard covers the safe storage and transport of medical gas cylinders, including correct handling techniques, safe positioning, labelling, segregation of gases, and secure transportation. It emphasises the importance of risk assessment, incident reporting, and maintaining safety for individuals, staff, and others.

Users of this standard will need to communicate effectively to meet individuals' needs and wishes and work in line with health and safety legislation, policy and practices.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

P1. identify and agree the roles and responsibilities of yourself and others in storing and transporting medical gas cylinders

P2. check that medical gas cylinders are stored in accordance with organisational requirements and that they are:

- a. not subject to extremes of temperature
- b. in dry, clean and well-ventilated areas
- c. away from highly flammable liquids and other combustible materials
- d. away from sources of heat and ignition

P3. ensure cylinders that are filled, empty or of different gases are all stored according to organisational instructions

P4. use correct handling techniques, securing devices and equipment when lifting, moving and transporting cylinders

P5. transport cylinders in accordance with organisational procedures

P6. make sure cylinders do not come into contact with oils which may react with the gas contained within them and if they are contaminated/soiled that they are cleaned in line with recommendations in the manufacturer's instructions

P7. check stock levels and report low numbers to an appropriate person

P8. take precautions to protect cylinders from theft

P9. check labels and make sure that:

- a. the label is intact
- b. the cylinder you are transporting is the one requested

P10. check the cylinder for leaks and report any damage in accordance with the instructions for use.

P11. dispose of waste in accordance with organisational procedures

P12. complete all relevant documentation required for storing and transporting medical gas cylinders

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1. how to access and interpret all relevant work instructions, legislation, guidelines, policies, procedures and protocols needed to store and transport medical gas cylinders
- K2. the scope and limitations of your own competence, responsibilities and accountability as it applies to your job role
- K3. specific procedures for reporting issues which are beyond your competence, responsibilities and accountability
- K4. the hazards and risks which may arise during the execution of your work role and how you can minimise these
- K5. the correct use of any equipment and PPE to protect the health and safety of you and others
- K6. how to dispose of waste in accordance with organisational procedures
- K7. the correct manual handling techniques for moving and transporting cylinders
- K8. how to store medical gas cylinders safely and why this is important
- K9. the colour coding and symbols on medical gas cylinders
- K10. the importance of maintaining records of medical gas supplies
- K11. the potential danger with high pressure gas cylinders exploding if in contact with oil, grease and creams when handling cylinders
- K12. low stock levels for each type of gas required by the organisation
- K13. the organisational procedure for reporting any leaking equipment
- K14. how to complete and safely store all relevant documentation in accordance with organisational requirements and the manufacturers requirements for safe use

SFHGEN76



Store and transport medical gas cylinders

Developed by	Skills for Health
Version Number	3
Date Approved	13 Feb 2026
Indicative Review Date	13 Feb 2031
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Skills for Health
Original URN	SFHGEN76
Relevant Occupations	Health and Safety Officers, Health and Social Care, Health Associate Professionals, Health Professionals, Health, Public Services and Care, Healthcare and Related Personal Services
Suite	General Healthcare
Keywords	Store, transport, medical, gas, cylinders
