



Section 13: Appendix 1: Medications

OXYGEN (O₂)

Pregnancy Category - B

E	EMT	E
A	AEMT	A
P	PARAMEDIC	P

ACTIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increases oxygen content of blood 2. Improves tissue oxygenation 3. Decreases energy expended for respirations
INDICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cardiac chest discomfort / ACS 2. Suspected stroke 3. Hypoxemia 4. Cardiopulmonary emergencies 5. Trauma 6. Shortness of breath / dyspnea 7. Sedative drug administration 8. Unknown oxyhemoglobin saturation
CONTRAINDICATIONS	None in the prehospital setting
PRECAUTIONS	Be aware for respiratory depression in COPD patients on prolonged high flow oxygen
SIDE EFFECTS	High concentrations of oxygen may reduce the respiratory drive in some COPD patients; these patients should be carefully monitored
SUPPLIED	As a compressed gas in cylinders of varying sizes
ADULT DOSAGE	12 - 15 lpm via NRB mask or 2 - 6 lpm via nasal cannula, 6 - 10 lpm via small volume nebulizer, unless otherwise indicated
PEDIATRIC DOSAGE	12 - 15 lpm via NRB mask or 2 - 6 lpm via nasal cannula, or 6 - 10 lpm via unit dose nebulizer, unless otherwise indicated
KEY POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never withhold oxygen to those who need it • All sedative medication administration must have oxygen administration