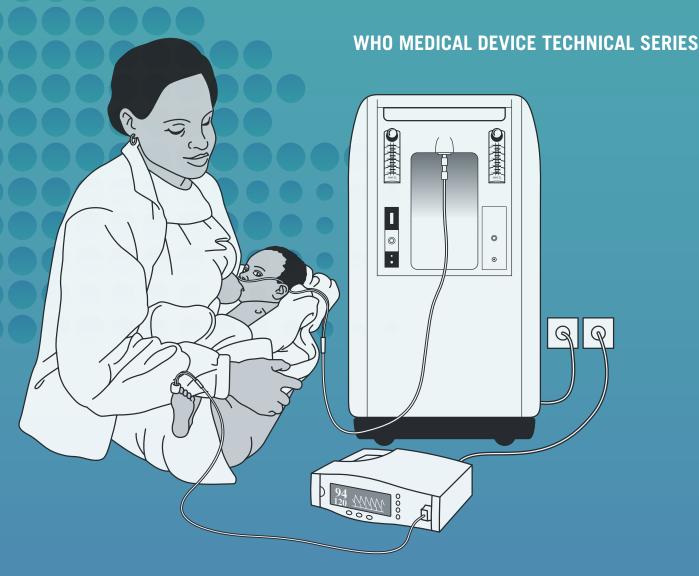


TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS





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Due to the concern over the lack of oxygen supplies in low- and middle-income countries, especially in regards to the treatment of childhood pneumonia, the development of this document was initiated. This document was prepared in line with other similar WHO medical device publications.

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This document builds primarily on the outcomes of a meeting of subject-matter experts in oxygen concentrators, organized by PATH and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle on 13–14 August 2014. The goal of this expert advisory group meeting was to build consensus on approaches to improve oxygen concentrators to treat paediatric patients with hypoxaemia or severe respiratory distress in low-resource settings (LRS). The meeting identified several key issues related to technical specifications for oxygen concentrator equipment, including procurement, performance and maintenance.

A result of this meeting was a first draft of oxygen concentrator technical specifications aimed to guide the development, purchase, utilization and maintenance of oxygen concentrators for use in low-resource settings. Members of the group included: Mike Eisenstein (PATH), Keith Klugman (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), David Mukanga (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) and Muhammad Zaman (Boston University). In addition, WHO expresses its appreciation to members of this expert advisory group meeting that also provided feedback throughout the development of this document: Glenn Austin (PATH), Jim Black (University of Melbourne), Jaclyn Delarosa (PATH), Trevor Duke (University of Melbourne), Penny Enarson (International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease), Mike English (Kenya Medical Research Institute – Wellcome Trust Research Programme), Amy Ginsburg (PATH), Stephen Howie (Medical Research Council), Rasa Izadnegahdar (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), Robert Jacobson (Consultant), David Peel (Ashdown Consultants), Shamim Qazi (WHO MCA), Gene Saxon (PATH), Alec Wollen (PATH) and Grace Wu (PATH consultant).

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