

How to use a NIPPY 4 ventilation machine to help with your breathing

Respiratory Physiology Unit

Information for Patients

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What is a NIPPY 4?

Your doctor has asked us to treat you with non-invasive ventilation. This involves using a piece of equipment, called a ventilator, to help your breathing. The ventilator you have been given is called a NIPPY 4.

Getting started

The NIPPY 4 works on mains electricity. It also has a battery in case there is a power cut. It should be left plugged in so that the battery is always charged up. The mains cable plugs into the grey port on the right hand side at the back of the ventilator.

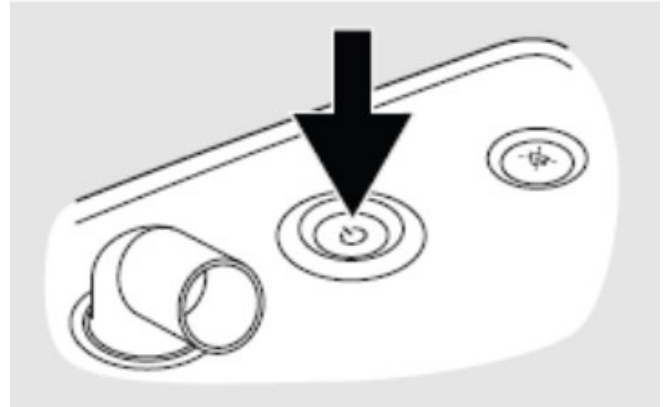
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or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

How to switch it on

Stand-by mode

1. Do a short press of the large on/off button on the top of the ventilator.
2. After pressing the button it will take about 15 seconds to power up and enter stand-by mode. The screen will be lit up ready to start using.



Starting treatment

Press and hold the large on/off button until the progress bar on the screen has completely changed to blue, this will start the treatment.

(See picture on the right)



Quick start option

To do a quick start of the ventilator, when the NIPPY 4 is in stand-by mode, do a short press of the on/off button on the top panel.

When asked to confirm the action, press the 'Start' option to confirm in the top right part of the main screen.

Instructions for switching off

There are 2 options to stop the ventilator.

1. Press and hold the large on/off button until the progress bar on the screen is full. Then press the alarm silence button on the top right hand side of the ventilator.
2. Press and hold the large on/off button until the progress bar on the screen is full. When asked to confirm the action, press the 'Yes' option to confirm in the top right part of the main screen.

Please note: If the alarm sounds, while switching off the ventilator, press the alarm silence button and start the process again.

Ventilator alarms

If the alarm sounds a message will pop up on the screen explaining why. Please read the message and where possible act to resolve the issue.

The alarm can be silenced for 1 minute by pressing the alarm silence button at the top of the machine, this will allow you time to find the problem.

The most common alarm you will hear is when the mask does not have a good seal around the face and there is air leaking. A message will come up on the screen saying "High flow alarm".

When you move the mask to make sure there is no leakage, that should silence the alarm.

If there are any alarms that you cannot fix please take a note of what the message says on the screen and contact the department for advice.

Checking the filter

There are 2 filters under the right hand side panel of the ventilator. These trap dust particles and should be checked once a month.

You access this panel by lifting the handle and pressing the small blue/grey button.

1 filter is a black sponge filter, this should be rinsed and patted dry every month.

The other is a white cloth filter, this should be replaced every month.

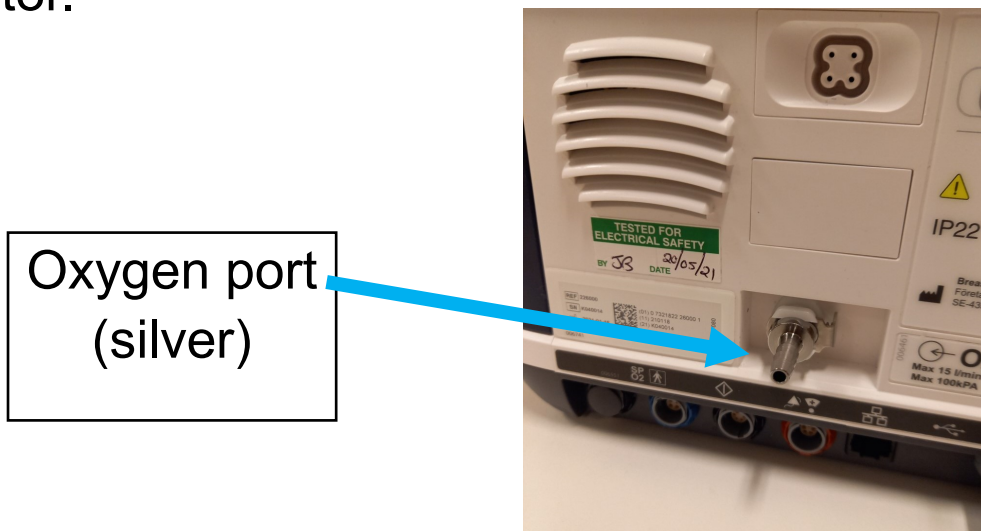
When replacing the filters, remember the white one goes nearest the white of the ventilator and the black sits on top of it nearest the panel.

Please contact the department if you need any more white filters.

Adding oxygen through the ventilator

Some patients may need to use oxygen while using the ventilator.

If you have been asked to use oxygen through the ventilator, you should connect your oxygen tubing to the silver metal port at the back of the ventilator. Do not leave the oxygen flowing through the ventilator if the machine is not in use. Always turn off the oxygen when switching off the ventilator.



Please note: You should only use additional oxygen through the ventilator if this has been prescribed by your doctor.

How to use the humidifier

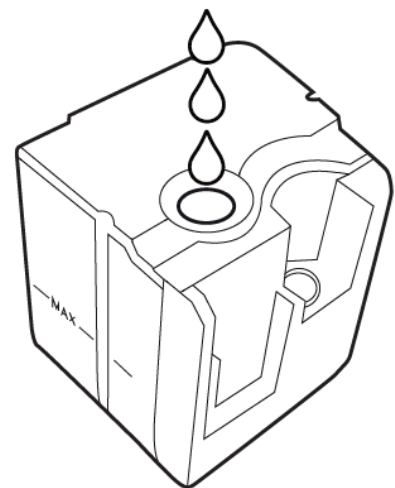
Not everyone needs a humidifier, however if you have one it is important that the machine is plugged in at all times as it will not work on battery. Always stop the ventilator before removing or fitting the humidifier.

Fitting the humidifier chamber

1. The water chamber you have been issued with fits into the left hand side of the ventilator behind the blue/grey plastic panel. To access this you lift the handle and press the small button on the right.
2. You need to remove the white air plastic block by pressing the left hand button under the handle. The filled humidifier chamber can then be pushed into place. A loud click should be heard.

Filling the humidifier

1. To fill the humidifier, first switch off the ventilator and remove the chamber.
2. The chamber should be filled to the maximum fill line on the side with cool boiled or sterile water.
3. Fill the chamber through one of the airway connections as shown in the picture.
4. You can also fill the chamber by removing the lid.
5. Always make sure the lid of the chamber is totally sealed to prevent any leaks.



The humidifier should already be set to **on** in the humidifier settings, and will start to work when the ventilator is plugged into the mains and the treatment started.

Please note: Once filled with water the ventilator **should not** be moved as water may splash into the internal workings of the ventilator and cause the ventilator to stop working.

Changing humidifier settings for comfort

There are 5 settings to set the level of moisture you get from the humidifier.

1 is the lowest (most dry) setting, 5 is the highest (most moist) setting

You will be advised on the best setting, but if the air is still too dry, you can increase the setting, or too wet you can reduce it.

1. Plug the ventilator into the mains supply
2. Press the button next to the word MENU on the front screen
3. Using the up and down arrows, select the Humidifier settings option, then press SET
4. Use the up and down arrows to change the humidifier setting you want and press SET to confirm.

How to clean the humidifier

Always remove the chamber and empty out any unused water after each use.

At least once a week, open the humidifier and clean both parts using a mild detergent.

If you see any lime scale in the humidifier, you can dissolve it by soaking the chamber in lemon juice and water for 30 minutes. Do **not** use any other descaling products.

There is a video available online showing how to use the humidifier.

Nippy 4 and 4+ humidification:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=kwy1rXtL1VY

Internal battery

All NIPPY 4 ventilators have an internal battery. This is automatically charged as long as the ventilator has been left plugged in. If there is a power cut this would run the ventilator for at least 2 hours. An alarm will sound to let you know that the ventilator is now running on battery power.

Remember to tell your energy provider that you are using a ventilator so that you can be put on their priority list in case of a power cut.

Click-in battery

You may have been given a click-in battery to give you 6 more hours of charge.

This is clicked into place where the humidifier chamber would sit, behind the panel on the left hand side of the ventilator.

The click-in battery will charge straight away when put in the NIPPY 4 and the ventilator is plugged into the mains power.

You can check how much charge is in each battery by looking at the battery symbols at the bottom of the main screen on the ventilator.

Contact details

If you have any problems or concerns please contact the Respiratory Physiology Unit:

For Respiratory Physiology appointment enquiries - 0116 258 3420

For equipment or mask enquiries - 0116 258 3419

For any non-urgent ventilation queries - email:

RPUSupport@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

Please note: we do not work at the weekends or overnight, however, in the case of equipment failure, the Respiratory Support Team may be contacted at the weekend and bank holidays from 8am to 6pm on 07977 582194.

During the night, a message can be left on the answer machine on 0116 258 3419 and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

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