



NON-HOSPITAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL FACILITIES  
ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

# Accreditation Standards

Medical Gas – Free-standing Tank System



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### INTRODUCTION

Class 2 and class 3 facilities are not required to have a central medical gas pipeline system. However, these facilities are required to have oxygen cylinders located at the bedside in addition to the supply on the emergency cart.

#### MEDGT1.0 MEDICAL GAS – FREE-STANDING TANK SYSTEM

<b>MEDGT1.1</b>	<b>Medical gases are safely and effectively managed</b>
MEDGT1.1.1	<b>M</b> Each medical gas supply cylinder is clearly labeled with the cylinder’s contents.
MEDGT1.1.2	<b>M</b> Each medical gas supply cylinder is clearly marked as full, in use or empty.
MEDGT1.1.3	<b>M</b> Cylinders not in use or empty are shut off and capped.
MEDGT1.1.4	<b>M</b> A wrench for shutting off cylinders is readily available in each place where cylinders are in use or stored. <i>Guidance: Oxygen tanks need a cylinder wrench to turn the tank valve on and off.</i>
<b>MEDGT1.2</b>	<b>The medical gas supply is safely stored and secured.</b>
MEDGT1.2.1	<b>M</b> All cylinders are secured to prevent falling during storage, transportation and use. <i>Guidance: Cylinders are secured in carts, vertical stands or with safety straps/chains. Cylinders are to be kept in the upright position, whenever practicable.</i>
MEDGT1.2.2	<b>M</b> Extra cylinders are located in a locked room or an area accessible only to authorized personnel. <i>Guidance: Facilities that use only free-standing tanks are not required to have a dedicated medical gas supply room. However, at minimum extra tanks must be located in an area accessible only to authorized personnel.</i>
MEDGT1.2.3	<b>M</b> A “no smoking” sign is posted in the area where extra cylinders are stored.
MEDGT1.2.4	<b>M</b> The exit from area where extra cylinders are stored is unobstructed. <i>Guidance: If there is a door on the area where extra cylinders are stored, the exit door should open outward.</i>
MEDGT1.2.5	<b>M</b> The temperature in the area where extra cylinders are stored is monitored. <i>Guidance: The temperature is not to exceed 40°C for any gas and is never below 15°C for nitrous oxide and carbon dioxide. Temperature is recorded in a log each surgical/procedural day.</i>

MEDGT1.2.6	<b>M</b>	Medical gas supply levels are verified before the first case of the day. <i>Guidance: The first procedure of the day does not start until sufficient medical gas supply is confirmed. There should also be an adequate emergency supply of oxygen.</i>
MEDGT1.2.7	<b>M</b>	Personnel are knowledgeable regarding the procedures for attaching the regulator to the cylinder. <i>Guidance: There must be a least one person on site each surgical/procedural day who is competent in the attaching the regulator to the medical gas cylinder. Personnel education and training (in-servicing) on medical gas safety is on file.</i>
<b>MEDGT1.3</b>		<b>Policies and procedures contain all the information necessary for the safety of patients, staff and visitors.</b> <i>Intent: Policies and procedures ensure that activities/procedures are performed consistently and accurately by all personnel within the non-hospital facility.</i>
MEDGT1.3.1	<b>M</b>	There is policy and procedures for the medical gas management. <i>Guidance: Medical gas management policy and procedures include the safe use, handling and storage of medical gases, medical gas supply replenishment, how to attach the regulator, and daily checks including verification of supply levels.</i>



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