Portable medical oxygen in the home has grown over the past decade. Medical oxygen adds a higher percentage of oxygen to the air a patient uses to breath. Fire needs oxygen to burn. If a fire should start in an oxygen-enriched area, the material burning will burn more quickly.

Homes where medical oxygen is used need specific fire safety rules to keep people safe from fire and burns.

**SAFETY TIPS**

>>> There is no safe way to smoke in the home when oxygen is in use. A patient on oxygen should not smoke.

>>> Candles, matches, wood stoves and even sparking toys, can be ignition sources and should not be used in the home.

>>> Keep oxygen cylinders at least five feet from a heat source, open flames or electrical devices.

>>> Body oil, hand lotion and items containing oil and grease can easily ignite. Keep oil and grease away where oxygen is in use.

>>> Never use aerosol sprays containing combustible materials near the oxygen.

**FACTS**

⚠️ Oxygen saturates fabric covered furniture, clothing, hair and bedding, making it easier for a fire to start and spread.

⚠️ Smoking materials is the leading heat source resulting in medical oxygen related fires, injuries and deaths.

Post **No Smoking** and **No Open Flames** signs in and outside the home to remind people not to smoke.