

New Fire Safety Guidelines Published

A new Fire Safety Health Technical Memorandum was released in August 2008. HTM 05-03 Part A references an 'in-line oxygen arrester' as an effective measure in lowering the risk of fire where oxygen therapy is supplied in health care facilities. The new development is a natural progression to the mandatory fitting of a 'firebreaks' to domiciliary oxygen systems which is met by the FireSafe™ Cannula Valve; the first and only solution available.

Carnét is first again, providing a unique solution that meets the needs of the new HTM, this time with a range of FireSafe™ Nozzles. Every Carnét FireSafe™ Nozzle incorporates the patented 'thermal fuse technology' that arrests the flow of oxygen when a fire in the PVC tubing tracks back to the device. FireSafe Nozzles are simply screwed to the outlet of any oxygen flowmeter in place of the standard hose barb and are compatible with 95% of existing equipment.

It is now widely recognised that 'no smoking' policies have unintentionally exacerbated the problem of smoking related fires, with some patients smoking illicitly within hospital buildings whilst receiving oxygen, not realising just how big a risk they are taking. Martin Keightley, an Executive Committee Member of the National Association of Hospital Fire Officers stated, "Illicit smoking is on the increase, which means risks are rising. If an oxygen fire reaches the medical gas pipeline system then the situation will deteriorate rapidly, anything that reduces the potential for that to happen has to be implemented".

Fire Safety Officers widely recognise Carnét FireSafe™ solutions as a high value, low cost investment that delivers improved patient and caregiver safety.

The Carnét Suction and Therapy range is manufactured by BPR Medical and distributed in the UK exclusively by BOC Medical.