

POLICY NO: M - 001

POLICY: ADMINISTRATION OF OXYGEN

ORIGINAL POLICY: OCTOBER 1994

LAST REVIEW DATE: OCTOBER 2002

REVIEW DATE: CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW

1. BACKGROUND

Although the use of oxygen for medical purposes has been regarded as important and urgent for decades and was first compressed into cylinders in 1868, first aid organisations have been slow to incorporate its use into their services. It is logical that if oxygen is helpful in the management of such emergencies as near drowning, heart attack, major injuries, asthma and many other disorders, the sooner it is administered the better the likely outcome. It is part of the duty of care of all organisations involved in first aid services to provide the highest possible standards and this must now include the availability of oxygen.

2. POLICY

- 2.1 The Royal Life Saving Society Australia strongly endorses the use of oxygen in first aid by appropriately trained and accredited personnel.
- 2.2 The types of oxygen equipment should conform to Policy Statement M002 -Types of Oxygen Equipment.
- 2.3 The award structure for the training of first aiders in the use of oxygen is documented in Policy Statements M003 and M004.
- 2.4 All oxygen awards remain current for a maximum of one year.
- 2.5 All oxygen awards are valid only for the equipment on which teaching and examination are performed.
- 2.6 An award may endorse more than one type of equipment.