

Medicare Home Oxygen - Documentation Requirements

All orders must:

- be legible...including the progress notes
- have a documented diagnosis of chronic lung disease
- have documentation that the patient has a severe lung disease or hypoxia-related symptoms that might be expected to improve with oxygen therapy
- not be solely for pneumonia...acute exacerbations alone are not covered

Hospital orders	Outpatient orders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence that the saturation or ABG test was performed with 2 days of discharge. • Alternate treatments including <u>(insert any relevant treatments)</u> have been tried and ruled out thereby necessitating long term home oxygen therapy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The patient was in a chronic state state when tested and the oximetry results were not obtained during an acute exacerbation. • Alternate treatments including <u>(insert any relevant treatments)</u> have been tried and ruled out thereby necessitating long term home oxygen therapy. • Signed documentation in progress notes patient was seen by the treating physician within 30 days of the order. <p><i>Note: Patients cannot come in for quick "sat check", they must have documented office visit.</i></p>

Chart test results from one of these two scenarios into progress notes:

Patient is...	document this in progress notes:
88% or below resting on room air*	<p><i>oxygen saturation was ___% at rest on room air</i></p> <p><i>Medicare requires a specific value. <u>DO NOT document a range.</u></i></p>
88% or below at exertion*	<p><i>at rest on room air was ___%</i></p> <p><i>during exertion WITHOUT O₂ was ___%</i></p> <p><i>during exertion WITH ___ LPM O₂ improved to ___%</i></p> <p><i>ALL three sats MUST be performed at the same time and charted during the office visit or hospitalization.</i></p>

**PO₂ of 55 or below is also accepted. If the PO₂ is 56-59 or the SAT is equal to 89% then there must be documented evidence of one of the following: CHF with dependent edema, cor-pulmonale or pulmonary HTN, or hematocrit > 56%.*