

## Medicare Coverage of Oxygen Guideline

- 1) O<sub>2</sub> saturation needs to be 88%-89% or below. At 89%, patient needs to have CHF, Cardiopulmonary, pulmonary hypertension or increased hematocrit and needs to be retested within 3 month. At 88% or below, patient qualifies for one year: This saturation must be no older than 30 days if patient in an outpatient. For an inpatient, test must be done within two days of discharge.
- 2) When patient on home O<sub>2</sub> is in for an office visit and O<sub>2</sub> saturations are being done, always perform saturation on room air first, then on O<sub>2</sub> if desired. Saturation value needs to be 88% or below. Walk patient if needed to get level down. Medicare requires us to report the last saturation completed when patient is being re-certified. After their one year re-certification, the patient qualifies for O<sub>2</sub> for Lifetime.
- 3) When patient is qualifying or being re-tested during exercise, three measurements need to be documented in their chart.
  - a. Saturation at rest without O<sub>2</sub>.
  - b. Saturation exercising or walking without O<sub>2</sub>.
  - c. Saturation exercising or walking with O<sub>2</sub>.

Home Respiratory will request a copy of this documentation.