



RESOLVED

Safer Practice Notice

Status

Resolved

Ensure the safe transfer of patients who use Portable Oxygen

The SPN originally issued on 20 Jan 2014 is now considered resolved because:

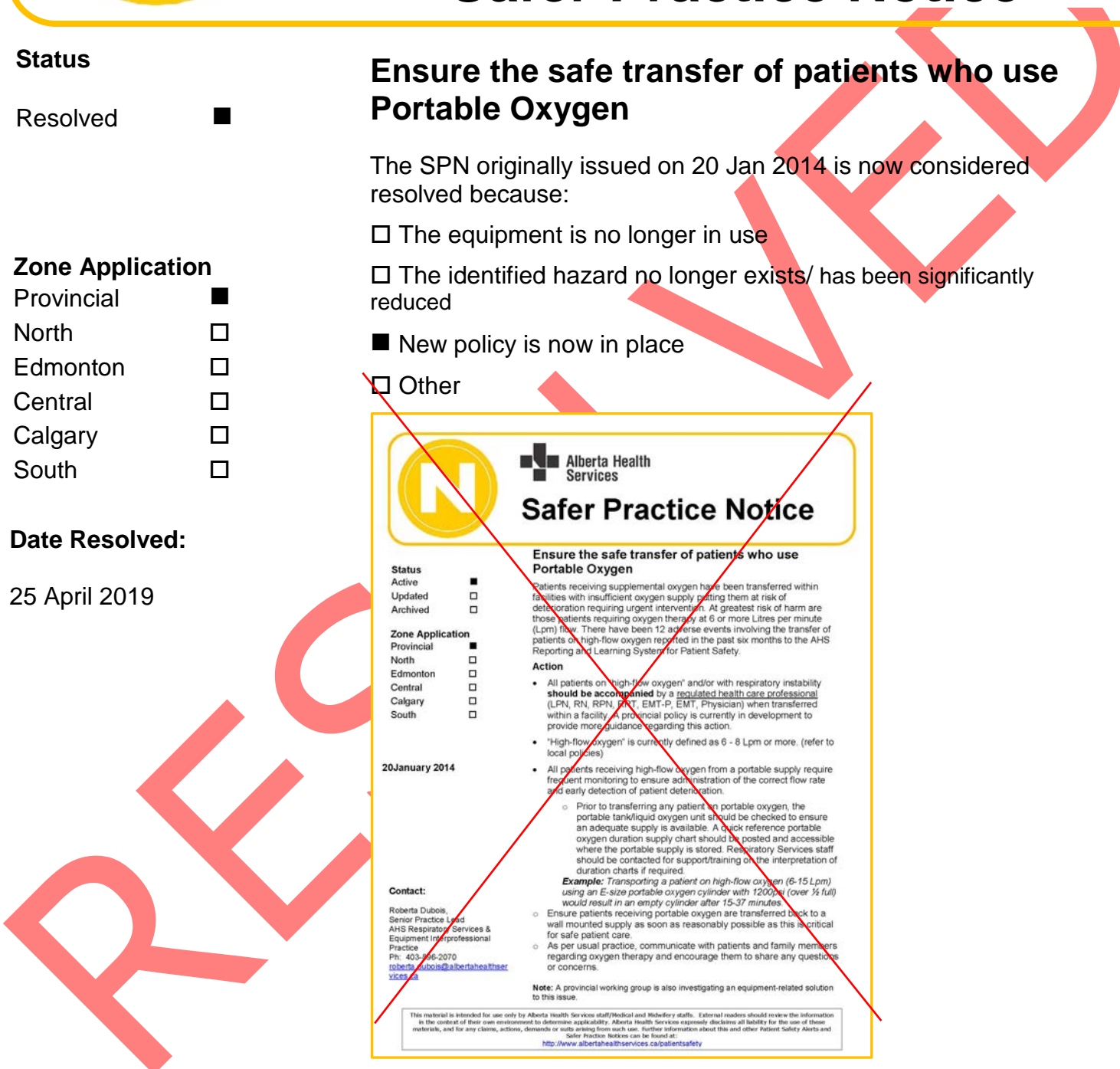

- The equipment is no longer in use
- The identified hazard no longer exists/ has been significantly reduced
- New policy is now in place
- Other

Zone Application

- Provincial
- North
- Edmonton
- Central
- Calgary
- South

Date Resolved:

25 April 2019

Alberta Health Services

Safer Practice Notice

Ensure the safe transfer of patients who use Portable Oxygen

Status

- Active
- Updated
- Archived

Zone Application

- Provincial
- North
- Edmonton
- Central
- Calgary
- South

20 January 2014

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Action

- All patients on "high-flow oxygen" and/or with respiratory instability **should be accompanied by a regulated health care professional** (LPN, RN, RPN, RMT, EMT-P, EMT, Physician) when transferred within a facility. A provincial policy is currently in development to provide more guidance regarding this action.
- "High-flow oxygen" is currently defined as 6 - 8 Lpm or more. (refer to local policies)
- All patients receiving high-flow oxygen from a portable supply require frequent monitoring to ensure administration of the correct flow rate and early detection of patient deterioration.
 - Prior to transferring any patient on portable oxygen, the portable tank/liquid oxygen unit should be checked to ensure an adequate supply is available. A quick reference portable oxygen duration supply chart should be posted and accessible where the portable supply is stored. Respiratory Services staff should be contacted for support/training on the interpretation of duration charts if required.
 - **Example:** Transporting a patient on high-flow oxygen (6-15 Lpm) using an E-size portable oxygen cylinder with 1200psi (over 1/2 full) would result in an empty cylinder after 15-37 minutes.
 - Ensure patients receiving portable oxygen are transferred back to a wall mounted supply as soon as reasonably possible as this is critical for safe patient care.
 - As per usual practice, communicate with patients and family members regarding oxygen therapy and encourage them to share any questions or concerns.

Note: A provincial working group is also investigating an equipment-related solution to this issue.

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Action

- Please remove the original SPN from bulletin boards

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