

NFPA 99-2012, 2015 and 2018 Editions

Health Care Facilities Code

TIA Log No.: 1353

Reference: 11.7.4, 11.7.4.2(new)

Comment Closing Date: February 15, 2018

Submitter: Robert Sontag, State of Colorado, Division of Fire Prevention & Control

www.nfpa.org/99

2012 Edition Text:

1. *Revise 11.7.4 to read as follows:*

11.7.4 Maximum Quantity.

11.7.4.1 The maximum total quantity of liquid oxygen permitted in storage and in use in a patient bed location or patient care room shall be 120 L (31.6 gal), provided that the patient bed location or patient care room, or both, are separated from the remainder of the facility by fire barriers and horizontal assemblies having a minimum fire resistance rating of 1 hour in accordance with the adopted building code.

11.7.4.2 One liquid oxygen portable container (limited to 1.5 L (0.396 gal) capacity) per patient is permitted to be stored or used in a patient bed location or patient care room without having to meet the fire separation requirements of 11.7.4.1.

2015 Edition Text:

1. *Revise 11.7.4 to read as follows:*

11.7.4 Maximum Quantity.

11.7.4.1 The maximum total quantity of liquid oxygen permitted in storage and in use in a patient bed location or patient care vicinity shall be 120 L (31.6 gal), provided that the patient bed location or patient care vicinity, or both, are separated from the remainder of the facility by fire barriers and horizontal assemblies having a minimum fire resistance rating of 1 hour in accordance with the adopted building code.

11.7.4.2 One liquid oxygen portable container (limited to 1.5 L (0.396 gal) capacity) per patient is permitted to be stored or used in a patient bed location or patient care vicinity without having to meet the fire separation requirements of 11.7.4.1.

2018 Edition Text:

1. *Revise 11.7.4 to read as follows:*

11.7.4 Maximum Quantity.

11.7.4.1 The maximum total quantity of liquid oxygen permitted in storage and in use in a patient bed location or patient care vicinity shall be 120 L (31.6 gal), provided that the patient bed location or patient care vicinity, or both, are separated from the remainder of the facility by fire barriers and horizontal assemblies having a minimum fire resistance rating of 1 hour in accordance with the adopted building code.

11.7.4.2 One liquid oxygen portable container (limited to 1.5 L (0.396 gal) capacity) per patient is permitted to be stored or used in a patient bed location or patient care vicinity without having to meet the fire separation requirements of 11.7.4.1.

Substantiation: Local, state, and national AHJ's are interpreting 11.7.4 to be preemptory and exclusive of other provisions in Section 11.3 permitting storage and use of oxygen in limited quantities throughout health care facilities. The intent of this revision is to clarify the intent of the code to allow the limited

storage of small quantities of LOX to be readily available for patient's use when they leave the restricted areas defined in 11.7.4.1.

Emergency Nature: The standard contains an error or an omission that was overlooked during the regular revision process. The NFPA Standard contains a conflict within the NFPA Standards or within another NFPA Standard. The proposed TIA intends to offer to the public a benefit that would lessen a recognized (known) hazard or ameliorate a continuing dangerous condition or situation. The proposed TIA intends to correct a circumstance in which the revised NFPA Standard has resulted in an adverse impact on a product or method that was inadvertently overlooked in the total revision process or was without adequate technical (safety) justification of the action.

Without this revision to 11.7.4 facilities are being expected to either increase the fire resistant construction of all patient rooms containing even small amounts of liquid oxygen or to commit staff to continually run these small portable containers back and forth between storage areas and patient rooms every time the patient leaves or returns to the patient bed location or patient care vicinity. This is an unreasonable expectation of staff and leads to unsafe conditions of the patient venturing from these locations without their requisite oxygen source.

Anyone may submit a comment by the closing date indicated above. To submit a comment, please identify the number of the TIA and forward to the [Secretary, Standards Council, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471](#).