

Entonox (gas and air) charges

Entonox (gas and air) is provided by BOC and is delivered to the clients home. We are often asked to explain our charges as, on first glance, the gas appears to be much cheaper on the BOC website. We are also asked why we charge for gas that is not used by the client – when a cannister is returned still full. We hope that this will explain the charges.

BOC charge us for the gas, delivery and collection as follows:

One cannister of gas	£15.90 per month	Two cannisters	£31.80 pm
Delivery of one cannister	£120.42	Delivery of 2	£156.24
Collection of one cannister	£76.93	Collection of 2	£76.93
Surcharge	£2.20	Surcharge	£4.40
Total	£215.45		£269.37
We charge our client (from 1st Jan 2022)	£150		£200

In addition, the monthly charge applies to every calendar month that the gas is on loan – for example, if the gas was delivered on 20th of October and collected on 3rd December we would be charged for October, November and December. We do not pass this additional charge on to our clients.

As you can see, most of the cost is related to delivery and collection. BOC charge us in full, regardless of whether the gas is used.

The full charges apply to our clients regardless of whether the gas is opened / used or not.

We will request delivery of the gas from BOC and let you know when this will be. BOC are responsible for the delivery and collection. We have no control over this. Normally the gas will arrive in week 36 of pregnancy. If your plans change, please cancel before week 36 and you will not be charged if the gas has not yet been ordered.

After baby arrives, we will request collection of cylinders. This is normally within a week. If you do not allow the cylinders to be collected by BOC on the agreed day, additional collection charges and rental may be incurred.

Medical Nitrous Oxide

Medicinal gas, liquefied

Package Leaflet: Information for the User

Medical Nitrous Oxide
Nitrous Oxide 98%,
Medicinal gas, liquefied

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine.

- Keep this leaflet as you may need to read it again.
- If you have further questions, ask your healthcare professional (doctor, nurse or pharmacist).
- This medicine has been prescribed for you.
- Do not pass it on to others as it may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If any of the side effects become serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your healthcare professional immediately.

This leaflet gives you information about:

1. What is Nitrous Oxide and what is it used for
2. Things to consider before use
3. How to use Nitrous Oxide
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Nitrous Oxide cylinders
6. Further Information

1. WHAT IS NITROUS OXIDE AND WHAT IS IT USED FOR

Medical Nitrous Oxide is a liquefied medicinal gas, supplied in cylinders filled to a high pressure.

Medical Nitrous Oxide is used for:

- anaesthesia
- pain relief
- inflating the abdominal cavities during a laparoscopy (an investigative operation)
- as a refrigerant in cryosurgery (a treatment using extreme cold to remove warts/verruucas).

2. THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE USE

Medical Nitrous Oxide is only given to you in a hospital or clinic under the supervision of a healthcare professional. Ensure that your healthcare professional is aware of any medical conditions that you may have.

Do not use Nitrous Oxide if you have:

- air trapped in a part of the body where it's expansion may be dangerous, such as air lodged in an artery
- a collapsed lung
- decompression sickness (the bends) or if you have been deep diving within 48 hours
- lung disease or breathing difficulties such as emphysema
- injuries to the face and jaw
- head injuries
- a severely bloated stomach
- suspected or known increased pressure on the brain.

Tell your healthcare professional if you have recently had any surgery on your eyes or ears where injections of gas have been used.

Take special care with Nitrous Oxide

If you need to use Nitrous Oxide for more than 24 hours at a time or more frequently than once every 4 days, your healthcare professional will take routine blood tests to ensure the Nitrous Oxide has not affected your blood cell count or the way your body uses Vitamin B₁₂.

Tell your healthcare professional, if you know you have Vitamin B₁₂ deficiency.

Taking other medicines

Please tell your healthcare professional if:

- you are taking Methotrexate for treating arthritis or cancer. Taking Nitrous Oxide with Methotrexate may have an effect on your blood cell count
- you are taking medicines to treat anxiety or help you sleep such as diazepam or lorazepam. These drugs may increase the effect of Nitrous Oxide.

Tell your healthcare professional, if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Nitrous Oxide may be used if you are pregnant or breast feeding.

Ensure that you tell your healthcare professional that you are pregnant before taking Nitrous Oxide as they will advise you on the safe use of Nitrous Oxide.

Driving and using machines

If you have been given Nitrous Oxide, you must wait at least 12 hours after use, before driving or using any machines.

Ensure that your healthcare professional advises you whether it is safe for you to drive.

3. HOW TO USE NITROUS OXIDE

Instructions for use

Your healthcare professional will ensure that your Nitrous Oxide supply is suitable for your use and that the equipment has been set up correctly so that you receive the right amount of Nitrous Oxide.

When you are given your Medical Nitrous Oxide it will be supplied via a facemask or an endotracheal tube (a tube inserted into your airways).

If you use more Nitrous Oxide than you should

Inappropriate or deliberate inhalation of Nitrous Oxide over prolonged periods will result in unconsciousness. If inhaled in a confined or enclosed space for a prolonged period, death from low blood oxygen could occur.

In the event of an overdose your healthcare professional will stop administration and continue the appropriate care.

If you have any further questions on how this product is used, ask your healthcare professional.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, Medical Nitrous Oxide may cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Common side effects that may occur if you use Nitrous Oxide are:

- dizziness
- light-headedness
- sickness
- tingling
- disorientation.

Less common side effects that may occur if you use Nitrous Oxide are:

- problems with the ear due to increased pressure inside the ear
- tiredness
- bowel enlargement due to trapped gas.

Rare side effects that may occur if you use Nitrous Oxide are:

- interference with the way your body uses Vitamin B₁₂, which may affect your blood cell count
- effects on nerve function including sensations of numbness and weakness
- difficulty with breathing
- addiction.

Reporting of side effects

If you experience any of these side effects, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, contact your healthcare professional immediately. You can also report side effects directly to the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) via the Yellow Card Scheme www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard and to BOC Healthcare. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE NITROUS OXIDE CYLINDERS

Expiry Date

Nitrous Oxide should not be used after the expiry date stated on the batch label on the cylinder.

Nitrous Oxide cylinders should be used in strict rotation so that cylinders with the earliest expiry date are used first.

Cylinder Storage

Cylinders should be securely stored, in a well ventilated, dry and clean area, away from oils, greases, flammable materials and sources of extreme temperature.

The healthcare professional in the hospital or clinic will be responsible for making sure the cylinders are stored correctly.

DO NOT SMOKE or have a naked flame near your Nitrous Oxide gas cylinder. The gas will make a flame burn much more violently.

NEVER use oil based moisturising creams with your cylinder equipment.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

What Nitrous Oxide contains

Your Nitrous Oxide cylinder contains a minimum of 98% Nitrous Oxide.

There are no other ingredients.

Nitrous Oxide cylinders

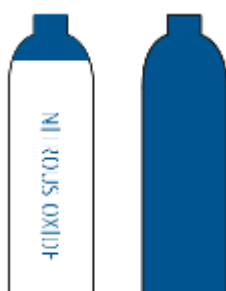
Medical Nitrous Oxide is supplied in the following size cylinders:

Cylinder Size	Cylinder Contents (Litres)	Cylinder Size	Cylinder Contents (Litres)
D	900	G	9000
E	1800	J	18000
F	3600		

The colour coding of the shoulder of Medical Nitrous Oxide cylinders is blue. The body is colour coded white. For a limited period cylinders may have a blue body.



Shoulder of cylinders viewed from above



Body of cylinder types viewed from the side

All cylinders require a separate pressure regulator to be fitted to the cylinder valve before use.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

BOC Ltd

The Priestley Centre

10 Priestley Road

The Surrey Research Park

Guildford

Surrey

GU2 7XY

Tel 0800 111333

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More non stop pain relief...

60% extra gas

ENTONOX portable size cylinders are being up-rated to 217 bar – which means far more gas in the same size cylinder.

Developed in response to customer feedback that “higher pressure cylinders with more gas would be beneficial”.

The new ED cylinder contains all the same features and benefits that the tried and trusted CD had:

- Lightweight portable size.
- Convenient carry handle.
- Integrated pressure regulator with no need to waste time fitting separate regulators.

However, the ED cylinder gives you:

- 700 litres of ENTONOX - 60% more than the 137 bar CD.
- A total of around 116 minutes of pain relief ¹.

For you this means:

- Less cylinder changeovers, with consequently reduced manual handling effort and risk for you.
- Less likelihood of interruption to analgesic therapy during any short term painful procedure – giving you more time to concentrate on patient care.

- Less physical cylinders to transport - of particular benefit to home births.
- Reduced annual cylinder holdings based on maintaining similar quantity of gas on site.
- based on a consumption rate of 6 litres per minute.

ENTONOX

Cylinder code	ED
Cylinder order code	211-ED
Nominal contents (litres)	700
Nominal cylinder pressure (bar)	217
Nominal outlet pressure (bar)	4
Valve outlet pressure connection	EntonoxSchrader (BS 5682)
Valve operation	handwheel
Flow-rate (litres/min) Schrader	40
Dimensions* (inc valve) L x D (mm)	520 x 100
Water capacity (litres)	2.0
Nominal weight full (kg)	4.0

BOC: Living healthcare

BOC Healthcare

Customer Service Centre, Priestley Road, Worsley, Manchester M28 2UT

Tel: 0800 111 333, Fax: 0800 111 555, Email: bochealthcare-uk@boc.com, www.bochealthcare.co.uk

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