

# Good Homecare Practice

# EIGA

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## Supporting the medical community

A sound partnership between the medical community and the HSPs is a vital component of our industry's success.

- GHP creates trust with the physician through close patient follow up
- GHP documents provide an overview of equipment, which complements manufacturers' own product information
- GHP documents provide industry best practice for the safe operation of equipment
- GHP documents are all free of charge and available to all

## What key capabilities do HSPs need to comply with GHP?

- A regularly audited Quality Assurance system
- A team continually monitoring national and international regulations
- Thorough, up to date knowledge of medical and gas equipment
- An ongoing focus on the safety and behaviour of patients and service technicians
- An appropriate and efficient organization for delivering a 24/7 service
- Carefully selected staff, who are trained and qualified for their tasks along with a comprehensive training system
- Staff awareness of – and commitment to - ethical practice

## European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA)

EIGA represents the vast majority of European companies, as well as a number of non-European companies, that produce and distribute industrial, medical and food gases. Member companies work together to achieve the highest level of safety and environmental care and set standards.

### Where can I get further information?

For more details of specific Good Homecare Practice guidelines visit [www.eiga.eu](http://www.eiga.eu)

A presentation providing a more detailed overview of EIGA's GHP can be downloaded from the 'Campaigns' section of the EIGA website.

## European Industrial Gases Association AISBL

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# Good Homecare Practice

European Industrial Gases Association AISBL [www.eiga.eu](http://www.eiga.eu)

# Good Homecare Practice

## Setting standards in homecare

With over a million patients in Europe receiving respiratory homecare services, there is a clear need for recognized quality and safety guidelines. Best practice has existed for some time, but until now there have been no agreed standards for the sector.

To bridge this gap, members of EIGA have joined forces to create a set of industry guidelines.

## Good Homecare Practice

Good Homecare Practice (GHP) is a quality assurance management system for Homecare Service Providers (HSPs), developed by EIGA.

It is a set of minimum requirements for HSPs to follow in order to safely supply products, devices and services to patients in their homes.



## Adding value

1. EIGA guidelines support the efficient delivery of the prescribed therapy
2. Following GHP enhances patient Quality of Life, a measure recognized by health economists
3. Using EIGA guidelines helps communicate and evaluate the commitments that stakeholders expect

## Preventing accidents

The safety of patients and employees is the top priority for EIGA members. Compliance with EIGA's guidelines is an effective way of reducing risks and preventing accidents while improving quality of service for the patient.

### EIGA can provide:

- Risk assessment recommendations on all aspects of the service
- Guidelines on ensuring the safe supply of the therapy
- Examples of how to mitigate risk

## Ensuring service levels

EIGA's GHP defines standards of expertise, training, documentation and follow-up including:

- Patient training and education
- Patient reference documents such as the importance of the therapy and safety recommendations at home and while travelling
- Guidelines and checklists for carrying out a risk assessment during a first installation
- Periodic follow-up with patients and carers

### EIGA publishes guidelines on:

- The safe transportation, supply, use and reprocessing of respiratory devices
- The safe design and operation of purpose-built transport vehicles for oxygen therapy equipment

