

The Supplemental Oxygen Access Reform (SOAR) Act (S.1406 / H.R.2902)

What is supplemental oxygen and how many people use it?

- Supplemental oxygen is a medical treatment that delivers concentrated oxygen to patients with low oxygen levels to reduce shortness of breath and fatigue while improving overall quality of life.
- Supplemental oxygen comes in several modalities, including compressed oxygen tanks, liquid oxygen, and oxygen concentrators, which can be stationary or portable.



At Home Concentrator



Portable Concentrator



Compressed Oxygen

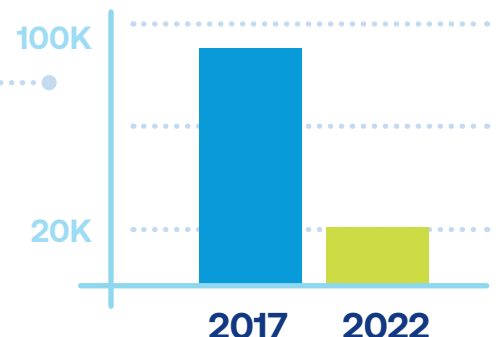


Liquid Oxygen

- Approximately 1.5 million people in the United States rely on supplemental oxygen.

What challenges are patients on Medicare facing in accessing supplemental oxygen?

- Supplemental oxygen is a durable medical equipment (DME) benefit for Medicare beneficiaries.
- Since the implementation of the DME competitive bidding program, claims for all oxygen modalities have dropped significantly despite no changes to respiratory disease patterns.
 - Claims for portable liquid oxygen went from 95,859 in 2017 to 20,341 in 2022
 - Claims for stationary liquid oxygen went from 62,371 to 10,220 in the same time frame
- Medicare patients are struggling to access the oxygen modality and respiratory services that are needed for them to live their fullest possible lives.





The Supplemental Oxygen Access Reform (SOAR) Act (S.1406 / H.R.2902)



From 2017 to 2022
claims for portable liquid oxygen saw a 79% decline and stationary liquid saw a 84% decline

What will the SOAR Act do?

The SOAR Act will:

- Ensure that supplemental oxygen is patient-centric and create a patients' bill of rights;
- Enable access to liquid oxygen and other portable modalities for patients for whom it is medically necessary by removing supplemental oxygen from Medicare's competitive bidding program;
- Provide adequate reimbursement for respiratory therapists to ensure that patients have access to their services; and
- Strengthen fraud and abuse protections and ensure program integrity by establishing standardized documentation requirements that rely upon a template and implementing notice requirements for people receiving oxygen or oxygen related equipment, supplies or services.

**Reform of Supplemental Oxygen in Medicare is Urgently Needed:
Please Cosponsor the SOAR Act**