

# HOME VENTILATOR PROGRAM



www.blackburnsmed.com



## What Is Mechanical Ventilation?

Mechanical ventilation, in an acute care setting, long-term setting, or home, helps patients breathe by assisting the inhalation and exhalation of air in and out of the lungs. Depending on the patient's condition, mechanical ventilation can assist or completely control breathing.

Our goal for patients living with a ventilator is to live a full life, and, if not to return to spontaneous breathing, then to live well with ventilator support. Ventilator types, daily activities, and caregiver support will have a positive effect on patient experience. Many patients cope well with a ventilator, and manage exceptional independence during treatment.

Home care ventilation requires preparation. Our program includes training in the facility for both patient and caregiver prior to discharge. At BLACKBURN'S, our goal is to ensure a safe and effective transition from the facility. Our staff of highly qualified respiratory therapists will be with you every step of the way from our initial introductory meeting, home assessment, training, pre-discharge care meeting, and discharge. Our dedicated team will be in contact with discharge planners, physicians, insurance providers and caregivers through the entire process to ensure a smooth transition to home.



## The Process: Step-By-Step

### Step 1: Intake and Introduction

Once BLACKBURN'S is contacted by the referral source, and all pertinent information is obtained and insurances verified, an introductory meeting is scheduled at the facility with the patient, caregivers and discharge planners. The program is explained and the Home Assessment is scheduled.

### Step 2: Home Assessment

A home visit is scheduled to assess structural, mechanical and environmental safety of the proposed home setting. This will assure an effective and safe environment for the patient. All identified issues will be addressed, and a corrective action plan put into place. All emergency contacts and an exit strategy plan are discussed. If the assessment is found to be acceptable, training will be scheduled.



### Step 3: Training

Training on the ventilator and associated equipment will take place at pre-scheduled intervals and times sufficient to meet the needs of the caregivers involved. Typically, training sessions last 1-2 hours in length.

Training will include "hands-on" use of all equipment, theory of operation and troubleshooting. It will be our goal that all caregivers involved will be competent, and completely at ease with the equipment. They should feel confident with the care of the individual on the ventilator.

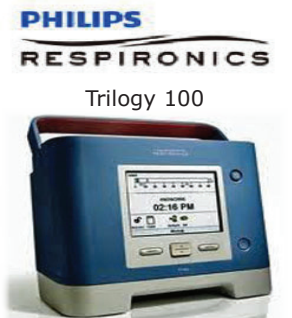
### Step 4: Pre-Discharge Strategy

It is recommended that prior to discharge, a strategy meeting take place to ensure a safe and smooth transition from the facility to home. All arrangements for transport, delivery of equipment and supplies with time lines are planned. All insurance authorizations are confirmed, all prescribed ventilator use and acclimation period to the home ventilator completed.

### Step 5: Discharge and Follow-up

Discharge Day is exciting! BLACKBURN'S staff will be with you every step of the way. We will be at the home to ensure a safe transition. A 24-hour follow-up, with subsequent weekly follow-ups will be scheduled until the caregivers, and patient feel comfortable and confident with the home ventilator. Monthly follow-ups are then continued.

Our goal is to provide the ventilator-dependent patient a consistent quality of care. We strive to provide exceptional customer service, and especially, to ensure that they consider BLACKBURN'S Home Ventilator Program the best choice in providing care to their loved one.



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**For more details, contact BLACKBURN'S Respiratory Department**

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