NHS Lothian Safe Use of Medicines Policy & Procedures – January 2018

28.16 Appendix 6 - Guidelines for women using Equanox[®] and Oxygen during a home birth

GUIDELINES FOR WOMEN USING EQUANOX® AND OXYGEN DURING A HOME BIRTH

Please read this information carefully. Ask your midwife if there is anything you do not understand.

One cylinder each of Equanox[®] and oxygen will be delivered to your home between the 36 and 37th week of pregnancy. Your midwife will teach you how to use these. The Equanox[®] is to relieve pain during labour. The oxygen is for your baby's use in the rare event that extra oxygen is needed

PLEASE REMEMBER

Equanox[®] (50% oxygen and 50% nitrous oxide) and oxygen are fire hazards and must not be used in the presence of a naked flame. Lighters, matches, etc., must be removed from the area where Equanox[®] and oxygen are being used.





It is essential that no-one smokes in the same room while you are receiving Equanox® or oxygen.

Do not let children or untrained people tamper with the Equanox® or oxygen equipment. No oil, grease, acid or corrosive substances may be kept near these cylinders.

Your midwife will arrange for return of these cylinders when you no longer require them.