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

- 28.14 Appendix 4 Safety Precautions for gas handling and transportation
- 1. Before use, identify the gas type by checking the official labelling and markings on the cylinder
- 2. Understand the properties and hazards associated with the gas before using it.
- 3. Oil and grease should not be allowed on valves or cylinders. Valves must always be closed when not in use.
- 4. Do not attempt to repair or modify cylinder valves or safety relief devices.
- 5. Never use a cylinder without appropriate regulator, the pressure within a cylinder is approx 137 bar.
- 6. Do not attempt to lift a cylinder by the valve guard or remove valve guards

- 7. Always transport cylinders in an upright position.
- 8. Protect eyes, hands and feet when handling cylinders. Always wear goggles, gloves and safety boots.
- 9. Never smoke when dealing with gas, nor use direct heat on a cylinder.
- 10. Ensure cylinders are secure and unable to move in the vehicle. Open vehicles are recommended.
- 11. Fire extinguishers should be available and gas information sheets carried on any vehicle transporting gas cylinders.
- 12. Keep cylinders cool and away from intense heat.