

4.0 Provider Maintenance

4.1 Routine Maintenance

The NewLife Elite unit has two or three filters and a 9-volt battery that require scheduled maintenance and replacement.

To ensure that the unit's output of oxygen is within specification, you must perform a test of oxygen concentration. Test the unit upon delivery to a patient and at periodic intervals. Equipment Providers, based on their expertise and documentation, may establish and implement their own protocol to check oxygen concentration. The interval established may be longer or shorter than 90 days, which is AirSep's default time period for providers who do not choose to establish their own protocol.

AirSep does not require preventative maintenance on the concentrator. You do not need to perform any maintenance as long as the NewLife unit remains within specifications at the desired flow rate.

4.1.1 Air Intake Gross Particle Filter/GPF

The external air intake gross particle filter is located on the back of the unit. You can easily remove it by hand. Instruct the patient to clean this filter weekly. (Refer to Section 3.2.1.)

NOTE

The filter may require more frequent cleaning if the NewLife unit operates in a harsh environment such as a house heated by wood, kerosene, or oil, or one with excessive cooking or cigarette smoke.

4.1.2 Product Filter Replacement

The product filter must be replaced after every 25,000 hours of use.

- 1 Set the unit's ON/OFF switch to the *OFF* position, and unplug the power cord.
 - 2 Remove the side panels to locate the product filter.
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NOTE

Observe the position of the filter before removal.

- 3 Cut the tie-wraps, and separate the green tubing from both sides of the filter.
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- 4 Install the new filter with the inlet side in the same position as before. Push the tubing together so that the tubing overlaps the product filter connections, and secure it with the tie-wraps.
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- 5 Record information about the product filter replacement on the History Record Label, which is discussed in Section 4.1.5.
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- 6 Reconnect the back and side panels.

4.1.3 Optional Filter Replacement

The optional internal felt filter requires changing every 5,000 hours of use. See below on instructions for changing the filter.

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- 1 Set the unit's ON/OFF switch to the *OFF* position, and unplug the power cord.
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- 2 Remove right side panel to locate the felt intake filter.
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- 3 Remove filter in the unit, and replace with a new filter.
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- 4 Remove left side panel and record information about the filter replacement on the History Record Label.
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- 5 Reconnect both side panels.

4.1.4 Battery Replacement

Each time the NewLife unit is turned on, the alarm must sound loudly for approximately five seconds to indicate a good battery. An alarm that does anything other than sound loudly for five seconds indicates a weak battery and requires replacement.

To replace the battery, take the following steps:

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- 1 Set the unit's ON/OFF switch to the *OFF* position, and unplug the power cord.
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- 2 Remove the left side panel.
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- 3 Lift the battery out of the battery holder.

- 4 Install the new battery, maintaining proper polarity, and secure it with the Velcro strap.
- 5 Set the ON/OFF switch to the *ON* position to test the alarm.
- 6 Record the battery replacement information on the History Record Label.
- 7 Reconnect the side panel.

4.1.5 Recording Maintenance

As the Equipment Provider, you can record all routine maintenance and repairs performed on the NewLife unit, including hours and dates of service.

A History Record Label is located inside the unit. Keep this label current to avoid unnecessary replacement of parts (i.e., product filter and battery).

4.2 Cleaning and Infection Control

With the growing concern about possible cross infection from home oxygen equipment (i.e., oxygen concentrators) from one home care patient to another, a clarification on this topic is necessary.

The organisms of most concern are M. Tuberculosis, HIV, and Viral Hepatitis. These are potentially pathogenic.

Tuberculosis can survive outside of the human body, but its mode of transmission is by droplet nuclei. When infected individuals cough, they release droplet nuclei into the air, and these carry the Tuberculosis organism. These droplet nuclei may be breathed in by another person, but prolonged exposure to the infected person is usually necessary for infection to occur.

HIV and Viral Hepatitis are both viruses, which are not living cells themselves but which can duplicate when in a living “host” cell. Both of these organisms are usually passed on by person-to-person contact, and both need to be in the human body to survive. Once outside the body, viruses do not survive.

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