

From Around the Network

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International Ventilator Users Network's mission is to enhance the lives and independence of home mechanical ventilator users and polio survivors through education, advocacy, research and networking.

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Special thanks ...
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Product News

BiPAP A40 from Philips Respironics features AVAPS-AE, a new ventilation mode that monitors upper airway resistance to automatically adjust the EPAP, no matter what changes in body position, respiratory mechanics or sleep stages occur. The average volume assured pressure support (AVAPS) mode adjusts the pressure support (up to 40 cm H₂O) to maintain the target volume. It can be used both invasively and noninvasively. Small and lightweight (2.1 kg, 4.6 lbs), the BiPAP A40 also has a detachable external battery that can provide power for up to five hours. Currently, the BiPAP A40 is only available outside the United States. www.healthcare.philips.com/main/homehealth/respiratory_care/bipapa40/default.wpd

SleepWeaver® Élan™ soft cloth nasal mask from Circadiance inflates like a balloon to create a seal – no leaks, pressure points, sore spots or red marks. Hose rotates easily due to double swivel connection. No obstruction to vision. Sizes are regular and large. www.circadiance.com/sleepweaver-elan.php

AMBU®, the company that developed the first self-inflating resuscitator in 1956, is celebrating its 75th birthday. The “Ambu bag” revolutionized emergency medical care. Many vent users rely on Ambu bags to help them breathe during power outages, and for breathing exercises that help expand the lungs. Resuscitation bags are a vital safety accessory for vent users. www.ambuusa.com

Humidification

“**Humidification During Invasive and Noninvasive Mechanical Ventilation: 2012**” is the title of a Clinical Practice Guideline recently released by the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC). It can be downloaded from www.rcjournal.com/cpgs/pdf/12.05.0782.pdf. Other guidelines from AARC are available: www.rcjournal.com/cpgs/index.cfm.

Illinois Waiver Extended

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has granted Illinois a second 60-day extension of the Medically Fragile Technology Dependent (MFTD) Waiver. This money-saving program provides home- and community-based services to prevent costly institutionalization and permanent hospitalization of children with catastrophic medical conditions and expenses. The extension allows the program to continue as is until January 30, 2013. For full details, go to <http://savemftdwaiver.com>. ▲