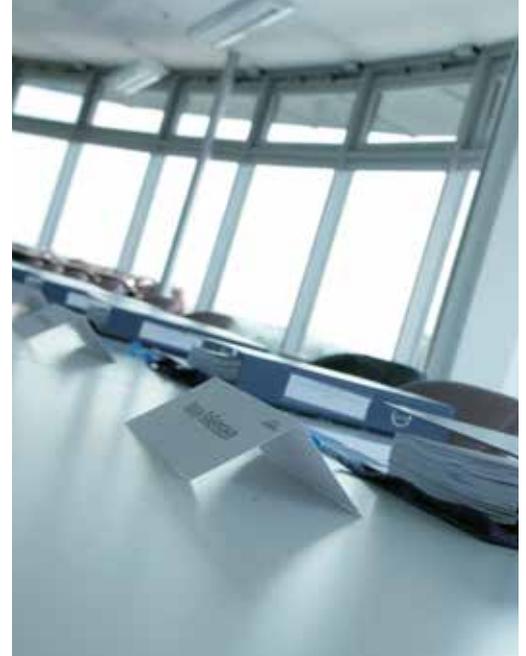


QI Training. Ensuring competence for hospital staff on safe storage, handling and use of medical gases.



Safety starts with you.

Healthcare facilities depend on the correct medical gas being delivered safely to the point of use, every time it is needed. This requires safe working systems, and detailed routines that ensure the quality and continuity of the gas supply. All relevant staff should know how to safely perform their duties involving medical gases and know what to do in an emergency! Plant and equipment must also be correctly installed, continuously monitored and maintained to assure quality standards for delivery of gases is maintained.

- Most hospital patients are administered medical gases at some time during their stay.
- Most hospital staff will handle or administer medical gases at some time, often daily – and usually when they are under time pressure.
- Medical gases are pharmaceutical products in most countries, requiring strict guidelines on use and handling to be maintained.
- International and National Standards on handling medical gases stipulate that institutions offer appropriate training at regular intervals.

Understanding the application and issues surrounding medical gases is vital. Unless your hospital has the procedures, regular training and systems in place to manage medical gases safely and effectively, you and your patients could be at risk.

QI Training courses are designed to ensure you meet best practice standards. QI Training offers a suite of courses, from full accredited training that will lead to certification as an Authorised Person, to web-based e-learning courses that ensure and track essential basic knowledge.

Support where it's most important.

As a physician or nurse, you need to fully understand how to handle and use medical gases, and know what to do following an emergency or shut-down. As a pharmacist, you have responsibility to monitor that the in-house systems for monitoring correct use and distribution of gases is covered. As a hospital technical or engineering staff member, you are entrusted with ensuring the quality of the medical gas systems and infrastructure.

Assuring your compliance to regulatory standards and safety is a key focus of all our training courses, as well as those issues specific to medical gas system management, and maintenance.

Our range of QI Training programmes covers:

- Safe and efficient operation of medical gas systems, from liquid storage vessels through to gas application equipment.
- Safe procedures for the handling, storage and use of compressed gas cylinders.
- Safe working practices.
- Understanding the hazards associated with gases.

Clinical and other staff.

For medical staff, training typically covers the safe use, storage and handling of medical gases, and also how to react in rare emergency situations associated with Medical Gas Pipeline systems or cylinders. Courses are tailored to the staff position; for example, nurses, designated medical or nursing officer, midwives, community nurses or appointed instructors. We also offer medical gas safety courses for designated porters and for the safe handling of liquid nitrogen.

Several courses are also available as web-based e-learning packages, enabling remote learning at your preferred schedule and location; even at home. These e-courses still allow hospital management to track compliance, ensuring all staff have completed the necessary modules successfully.

Engineering staff.

Because they have the responsibility for the supply, maintenance, and distribution of medical gases, training for engineering staff is far more detailed. The training requirements for designated staff (as detailed in International Standards, e.g. Authorised Persons or Competent Persons) are specifically documented. These individuals must be adequately trained and prove competence before they can be appointed. In addition, they are required to undergo regular refresher training; e.g. every 3 years. A full Authorised Person course typically runs for 5 days, complete with practical assessments and a final examination. Refresher courses are generally 3 days' duration.

Linde Healthcare has worldwide experience in providing the highest quality training for engineering and designated staff, with courses developed over many years and accredited by the relevant local authorities. QI Training programmes can be set up locally and comprise multiple modules designed to meet the needs of any particular staff group.

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