

Transporting Your Child with Respiratory Equipment

Your child is safest in the back seat. It is best to have a person in the back seat with them when you travel. This person can watch your child for any changes and respond to any needs. You may not be able to get out of heavy traffic to care for your child's needs.

Your child should be in a car seat or restraint device that is right for your child's age and condition. Staff at the Kohl's Safety Center can help you decide the best option for your child. Use a car safety seat with a three-point or a five-point harness and no tray, shield or armrest for a child with a tracheostomy.

Babies and young children who cannot walk need a sturdy stroller that is large enough to hold all the equipment your child needs.

Older children who can't walk need a wheelchair or other system that can support your child and their equipment.

Tie down your child's equipment below the window line of your car.

Tanks should be secured in the back seat, side-lying on the floor, pointing towards the doors. Tanks should be padded to prevent rolling and to protect the tank stem from damage. Never travel with a tank in the front seat or trunk of the car.

Be sure you have enough battery power for the length of your trip. If needed bring more external battery sources with you. Bring all electrical cords with you to charge the equipment when away from home.

If your child has a medical emergency, **call 911**. It is best for an ambulance to take your child to the nearest emergency room. It is safer for your child to be driven in an ambulance. There is more space to give your child the care they need. These drivers are trained to drive in an emergency. You can go with your child. Be sure to bring the "Go bag" and any other equipment that might be needed.