

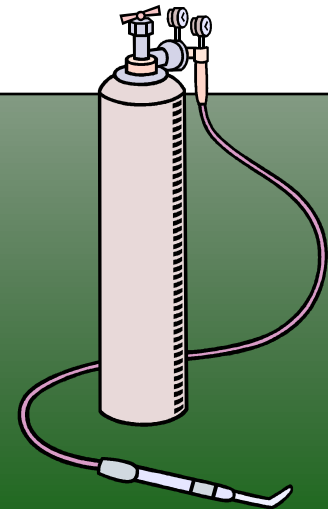
Compressed Gas Cylinder

Mon Health Medical Center



Compressed Medical Gases

- **Medical gas refers to oxygen, nitrous oxide, medical air, carbon dioxide, helium, nitrogen, instrument air, and mixtures of these gases.**



COMPRESSED GASES POSE SEVERAL SPECIAL HAZARDS:

- **Projectile:** If a compressed gas cylinder ruptures or if the cap is knocked loose, the cylinder turns into a very dangerous projectile that can cause serious injury and damage. **For this reason alone, it is very important to always keep cylinders secured. Empty cylinders can have residual pressure and still be dangerous.**

A cylinder went through this wall like a missile!



COMPRESSED GASES POSE SEVERAL SPECIAL HAZARDS:

- **Fire:** Some gases are flammable, and some gases are oxidizers, which promote fire through the release of oxygen. If an acetylene gas cylinder ruptures, it is both a hazardous projectile and a fire hazard.
- **Oxygen Displacement:** When large containers are ruptured, the contents are released with such force that breathable oxygen is actually forced out of a room. This is especially hazardous in small rooms or areas where very large volumes of compressed liquids are used, such as in an MRI facility.

MRI Room Dangers

- **All equipment used in the MRI suite is specially made out of non-ferrous (non-magnetic) material, such as aluminum.**
- Special cylinders are used in the MRI scan room that are non-magnetic so the magnet does not pull the tank into the chamber like in the picture below:



Storage

- **Full tanks: Store in the designated Clean Supply Room racks.**
- **Partial tanks(>500 psi): Store in cylinder holders on beds, pull carts, wheelchairs, or in designated racks in equipment or clean rooms.**
- **Empty tanks: Store in designated Soiled Utility Room racks.**
 - **Compressed gas cylinders must be secured at all times! Utilize carts or holders for transport. Unsecured tanks are potential missiles and have the potential to cause immense damage and harm.**

Oxygen Cylinders

- Oxygen cylinders should **ALWAYS** be stored in either a pull cart, cylinder rack or other designated rack for cylinders. They should **NEVER** be left free-standing or lying on the ground.

YES!



NO!

