

Treating CPAP Problems rev 11JUN 2007

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Solution</u>
Sore or dry eyes	Readjust the headgear. Fit the patient for a different mask style or size.
Redness on the face where the mask contacts the skin	Loosen the headgear. Check the mask's spacer to see that it is in good condition. Use a barrier between the skin and the mask, such as 3M's Microfoam™ tape, Squibb's Duoderm™ or Hollister's Restore™. Consider using a Comfort Flap® mask accessory. Consider refitting for a different mask style or size. Contact us if the problem persists.
Dryness or burning sensation in the throat or nose	Consider using a humidifier with the CPAP unit. If using a nasal mask, try a chinstrap to help keep the mouth closed during the night.
Nasal, sinus, or ear pain	May indicate a sinus or middle ear infection. Stop using the CPAP temporarily and contact your physician.
The pressure being delivered feels different.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During the initial adaptation period, one becomes adjusted to the increased work of breathing that CPAP causes. The pressure will feel different after this adaptation period. This process usually takes 2-3 weeks. 2. Check the altitude setting on the CPAP unit if it is equipped with one and change the altitude setting if necessary.
The airflow from the CPAP unit feels warm.	Replace or clean the filter. Make sure that the CPAP unit is not near any bedding or curtains that could block the airflow around it, or near any heating equipment (e.g., forced air vents, radiators).
The CPAP unit makes unusual or harsh sounds during operation.	The CPAP unit will have to be serviced.
The CPAP unit will not turn on.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make sure that the unit is plugged into a working outlet. 2. Replace the fuses if the CPAP unit is equipped with them. 3. Verify that the voltage meter is set correctly if the CPAP unit is equipped with one. 4. If new fuses blow out, the CPAP unit will need to be serviced. 5. If a DC battery is being used, the battery may need to be recharged or replaced or the fuses may need to be replaced.