

PHILIPS RECALL

The Philips recall continues to wreak havoc on the sleep world. Respironics is a huge player in the market and as they work on replacing recalled units, the other PAP suppliers in the market are struggling to keep up. It is our understanding that the supply chain issues are forecast to be impacted for about a year, hopefully resolved around Q3/Q4 of 2022.

That timing puts providers in a tough spot in terms of advising patients on what to do. Philips' official stance is that all patients stop using their recalled device. However, when a patient has apnea, and particularly severe apnea, we all have to weigh what the greatest risk really might be.

As a dentist-owned practice, we cannot and do not diagnose or direct care. When patients have called our office to ask what they should do with a recalled unit, we reiterate that their first step needs to be that they register their unit so they can get in queue for a replacement once available. Once they do that, our second recommendation is that they talk with their primary care provider for direction on care. Here are the options we have provided to them to consider for that discussion:

- Continue to use the CPAP as-is.
- Consider getting an Rx for a travel CPAP, which can be purchased online.
- Consider switching treatment to an oral appliance. If they were having any issues
 tolerating their PAP anyway, this might make sense. This is a new scenario for us,
 but we are hopeful insurance will cover a custom-made oral appliance in this case,
 and we would verify this for our patients, via pre-auths. Your notes regarding
 intolerance and an Rx for the oral appliance would be needed.
- Consider a temporary oral appliance. These are not as comfortable or durable as a permanent, custom-fit oral appliance, but could get them by for a year. We would make this in our office and do follow-up testing to measure effectiveness.

As you navigate treatment options with your patients, please know that we stand ready and willing to help your patients who need to discontinue CPAP or need to begin sleep apnea treatment and may benefit from oral appliance therapy (OAT). Because of the supply issues, now might be a good time to consider starting any new mild & moderate apnea patients on oral appliance therapy and to "save" the CPAPs for the severe cases. As you consider options, below are some links to information provided by Philips, as well as the AASM/AADSM OAT practice guidelines, a fact sheet about OAT, and a PDF compilation of some key research regarding OAT.

Please <u>let us know</u> how we can help your patients continue to receive treatment for their sleep apnea during this recall/shortage.

Philips recall notification

Philips clinical information for physicians and providers
Clinical Practice Guidelines for Oral Appliance Therapy
OAT Fact Sheet
OAT Evidence Brief

#1 Choice in Sleep Apnea Treatment!



In June, we were honored and humbled to be named #1 in Sleep Apnea Treatment by Omaha voters. We appreciate our community so much, which is what makes this win mean so much!

Our goal is to normalize health risks in as many people as we can, in the most efficient and effective way, and we are thrilled to know that our efforts are seen and appreciated.

We Make It Easy To Partner

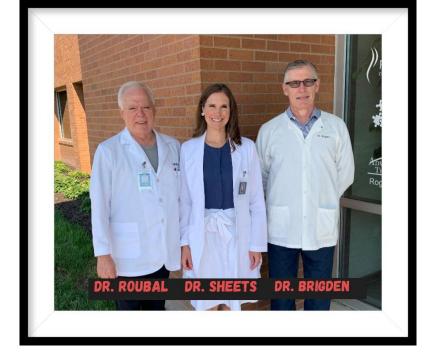
Both diagnosed and non-diagnosed patients may be referred.

We are Omaha's first and only one-stop shop for sleep. We know how complicated treating sleep disorders can be for both providers and patients and it is our goal to streamline the entire process for everyone involved. With that in mind, we are able to offer: 1) Home Sleep Testing - either diagnostic or guidance depending on the case. 2) CPAPs, and 3) Oral Appliances. Along with our dedicated dental sleep team, we work with Sleep Physicians for direction on patient care.

We want you to know that if you have a patient that you suspect has sleep apnea or has struggled with prescribed treatment, we will take great care of them.

Patients can be referred directly through our <u>website</u>, or you can <u>fax a referral</u> to us at 1-877-811-8129.

If you'd like any paper screening tools, informational brochures from our office, or would like to coordinate a time to speak with one of our providers, please connect with Brea at brea@whywesnore.com or 402-996-0387.



** Know that we are in-network with medical insurance, including Medicare and Tricare. Those with Medicare supplement plans typically have low or no out-of-pocket costs. All patients know what their out of pockets costs will be before moving forward with treatment.

Visit our website

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