

I am writing concerning the FAA assessment of the Inogen One portable oxygen concentrator that is being considered for inclusion on the list of permissible oxygen devices for airline travel.

I am a physician in the State of New Jersey. Also, and more importantly, my wife has interstitial lung disease and requires oxygen therapy at night and intermittently during the day. She uses an oxygen concentrator at night which uses AC power. The machine is quite heavy and cannot be used in situations where we travel.

Since she is becoming more and more oxygen dependent, it is critical that she have access to oxygen wherever she goes. While small portable liquid oxygen tanks are helpful when she is up and about near home, these require refillings on a daily basis and serve no use for travel.

A lightweight, battery operated pulsed oxygen delivery system is a godsend to all patients dependent on oxygen therapy. Inogen One promises to be the best solution to many of these individuals.

Those with chronic debilitating respiratory diseases may have a rapid or lingering decline in their functional capacity. Inogen One promises to give them a better opportunity to live a fuller existence--to be able to travel for work, pleasure, visit family members--without having to worry about the critical oxygen that they need. Moreover, Inogen One promises to provide a single solution for a multifaceted problem--it will help people at home or on the road (when using AC power), in their car (with a DC adapter) in the airport (using battery) and in the air (using power or the battery). An economical single solution is what oxygen-dependent people need to live a more fuller life.

While my knowledge about the Inogen One device is only general in nature--information gleaned from my perusal of the world wide web--I am willing to take the time to write these comments because I feel that if this device receives full regulatory approval from all government agencies, it will then be able to be marketed successfully and will then become available to those people who need it most. There is the promise that this will be the best product in its class. I have held off purchasing an existing FAA-approved lightweight portable concentrator for my wife, waiting for the release of this product. I hope you consider the merits of this product and approve it for air and airport use.