

**CGA P-83—2019**

**GUIDELINES FOR CLEANING  
EXTERNALLY CONTAMINATED  
MEDICAL GAS CONTAINERS**

**FIRST EDITION**

**CGA**

**Compressed Gas Association**

*The Standard For Safety Since 1913*

## PREFACE

As part of a program of harmonization of industry standards, the Compressed Gas Association (CGA) has issued CGA P-83, *Guidelines for Cleaning Externally Contaminated Medical Gas Containers*, jointly produced by members of the International Harmonization Council and originally published by the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA) as EIGA Doc 222, *Guidelines for Cleaning Externally Contaminated Medical Gas Containers*.

This publication is intended as an international harmonized standard for the worldwide use and application of all members of the Asia Industrial Gases Association (AIGA), Compressed Gas Association (CGA), European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA), and Japan Industrial and Medical Gases Association (JIMGA). Each association's technical content is identical, except for regional regulatory requirements and minor changes in formatting and spelling.

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Work Item 15-043  
Safety and Health Committee

FIRST EDITION: 2019

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## 1 Introduction

Medical gas containers can become externally contaminated due to their use in healthcare facilities and homecare settings. They can also become contaminated as a result of natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, fires, or earthquakes.

It is important that these containers are cleaned in a manner that removes the contaminants, does not cause damage to the container and its accessories, and does not lead to a hazardous situation during the use of the container's contents.

## 2 Scope and purpose

### 2.1 Scope

This publication addresses the handling and external condition of medical gas containers and the removal of contaminants from these containers.

The internal condition or product quality of the container is not addressed in this publication.

### 2.2 Purpose

The purpose of this publication is to ensure that external contamination is removed from medical gas containers so that the process does not damage the container or its accessories and protects personnel handling medical gas containers.

## 3 Definitions

For the purpose of this publication, the following definitions apply.

### 3.1 Publication terminology

#### 3.1.1 Shall

Indicates that the procedure is mandatory. It is used wherever the criterion for conformance to specific recommendations allows no deviation.

#### 3.1.2 Should

Indicates that a procedure is recommended.

#### 3.1.3 May

Indicates that the procedure is optional.

#### 3.1.4 Will

Is used only to indicate the future, not a degree of requirement.

#### 3.1.5 Can

Indicates a possibility or ability.

### 3.2 Technical definitions

#### 3.2.1 Cleaning

Removal of contaminants to the extent necessary for further processing or for intended use.

#### 3.2.2 Disinfection

Process to destroy viable microorganisms.