New Equipment and Masks

iVent™ 101 Expert from GE Healthcare offers pressure-regulated volume control (PRVC) as well as standard ventilation modes. It is small and weighs 13.4 lbs., with an internal battery that lasts up to four hours and a color touch screen. Two additional home care models include the Signature for pressure support & SIMV (VC & PC) and the Performance for control ventilation (VC & PC). Available for use by children or adults worldwide. www.gehealthcare.com

Verone and Verone+ nasal masks from Air Liquide Medical Systems, Inc., can be used with leak ventilation. Verone Blue and Verone Blue+ can be used with valve ventilation. Verone+ and Verone Blue+ offer optimal adjustment for the forehead support pad. User’s field of vision is unhindered. Available outside the USA. www.airliquidemedicalsystems.com

NP15 nasal pillow mask from Weinmann has two ball-and-socket joints that enable more freedom of movement without affecting the fit. Exhaled air is directed away from the face. Made of silicone, the pillows come in three sizes. Available outside the USA. www.weinmann.de

Neck Support

Headmaster Cervical Collar™ from Symmetric Designs of Canada can be easily formed by hand to fit the chin and has a washable fabric cover. Worldwide distributors. www.symmetric-designs.com. See photo on p. 1 of the collars, as worn by two satisfied consumers.

Muscular Dystrophy

The diagnosis and management of Duchenne muscular dystrophy is an international consensus document about best practice in care for Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD). Published in Lancet Neurology in January and February 2010, it is the product of an extensive review process by 84 international experts (including pulmonologist David Birnkrant, MD) in DMD diagnosis and care.

Part 1: Diagnosis, and pharmacological and psychosocial management
http://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S1474442209702716
Lancet Neurol. 2010 Jan; 9(1):77-93

Part 2: Implementation of multidisciplinary care
http://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S1474442209702728

Grants and Scholarships Available

CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries, Inc., is offering scholarships to individuals with severe disability who want to pursue post-graduate education. The minimum amount is $500, but may be as high as $1,000. Quality of life grants to individuals who are disabled and need financial assistance with in-home care are also available. Lott is a ventilator user and member of the Christian Metaphysicians and Mystics Society. Deadline for the scholarship application for each academic year is July 1. More information and applications are online: visit www.deshae.net.