

# ISRAEL NEEDS OXYGEN<sup>O2</sup>



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### 1. WHY DOES UNITED HATZALAH NEED NEW OXYGEN TANKS?

Israel's Ministry of Health issued a nationwide product recall affecting oxygen tanks supplied by a specific manufacturer used by medical institutions across the country, including United Hatzalah. The recall resulted from the deaths of two oil refinery workers in Israel, believed to have died from receiving the wrong gas mixture in their oxygen tanks. Under this directive, all health care organizations must immediately suspend use of these tanks. Along with other EMS organizations, hospitals, and health care providers, United Hatzalah uses the affected oxygen tanks. As a result, we must replace our oxygen tanks to ensure full compliance with the government's directive and continue our lifesaving operations.

### 2. WAS UNITED HATZALAH INVOLVED IN THIS TRAGIC INCIDENT?

No.

The incident did not involve any United Hatzalah first responders, vehicles, or oxygen tanks.

### 3. WHY IS UNITED HATZALAH AFFECTED?

The Health Ministry's directive to suspend the use of these oxygen tanks impacts Israel's entire healthcare network, including hospitals, health providers, and emergency response organizations. United Hatzalah uses the affected brand of oxygen tanks along with these other institutions. United Hatzalah has complied with the government's order and is moving fast to replace our oxygen tank inventory, so that we can continue our life-saving operations.

### 4. WHAT ACTIONS IS UNITED HATZALAH TAKING?

We have ceased the use of the affected oxygen tanks and have already put new tanks into use. Working with a new supplier, we are quickly coordinating the purchasing and replacement of up to 15,000 oxygen tanks used in our inventory nationwide. United Hatzalah is closely following the Health Ministry's guidelines and expects to have specifics on exactly how many tanks will need to be replaced in the coming days.

### 5. ARE UNITED HATZALAH RESPONDERS STILL OPERATING?

Yes. United Hatzalah volunteers continue responding to emergencies across Israel. We have already put new tanks on the road in our ambulances and other vehicles, and we are in the process of replacing all necessary tanks to ensure continued lifesaving services.



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[israelrescue.org/campaign/oxygenresupply/](https://israelrescue.org/campaign/oxygenresupply/)**

United Hatzalah helps save thousands of lives each year across Israel by providing medical treatment in an average response time of 3 minutes or less.

To learn more, visit [israelrescue.org](https://israelrescue.org)