

flow and respiratory support via a face mask and bag. It may also be desirable to allow gas flows to be quickly and easily turned off or reduced.

In this specification, where reference has been made to external sources of information, including patent specifications and other documents, this is generally for the purpose of providing a context for discussing the features of the present invention. Unless stated otherwise, reference to such sources of information is not to be construed, in any jurisdiction, as an admission that such sources of information are prior art or form part of the common general knowledge in the art.

SUMMARY

It is an object of this disclosure to provide for a respiratory therapy system, or devices or patient interfaces therefore, which go at least some way towards providing for an alternative or for providing the industry/public with a useful choice.

In one aspect, this disclosure relates to a respiratory apparatus for providing respiratory support to a patient, the apparatus comprising:

a nasal interface and a gas conduit for delivering a flow of gases to an outlet of the nasal interface, and a device adapted to configure the apparatus between a first configuration for providing a first level of the flow of gases to the outlet and a second configuration for providing a second level of the flow of gases to the outlet, the second level less than the first level, wherein the device is located at the nasal interface or at or near to a patient end of the conduit, wherein the gas conduit is a single gas conduit that delivers the flow of gases to the outlet of the nasal interface, and

wherein the device comprises a collapsible portion of the gas conduit configured to transition between the first configuration and the second configuration.

In a further aspect, this disclosure relates to a respiratory apparatus for providing respiratory support to a patient, the apparatus comprising:

a nasal interface and a gas conduit for delivering a flow of gases to an outlet of the nasal interface, and a device adapted to configure the gas conduit between a first configuration for providing a first level of the flow of gases to the outlet and a second configuration for providing a second level of the flow of gases to the outlet,

the second level less than the first level,

a sensing arrangement comprising a first pressure sensor located downstream of the device, and a second pressure sensor located upstream of the

CLAIMS

1. A respiratory apparatus for providing respiratory support to a patient, the apparatus comprising:
 - a nasal interface and a gas conduit for delivering a flow of gases to an outlet of the nasal interface, and a device adapted to configure the apparatus between a first configuration for providing a first level of the flow of gases to the outlet and a second configuration for providing a second level of the flow of gases to the outlet, the second level less than the first level, wherein the device is located at the nasal interface or at or near to a patient end of the conduit,
 - wherein the gas conduit is a single gas conduit that delivers the flow of gases to the outlet of the nasal interface, and
 - wherein the device comprises a collapsible portion of the gas conduit configured to transition between the first configuration and the second configuration.
2. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein nasal interface is non-sealing.
3. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the apparatus comprises one or more headstraps or headgear.
4. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the first configuration is an open configuration and the second configuration is a partially or substantially closed configuration, the second level of the flow of gases being substantially less than the first level or is a substantially zero flow of the flow of gases.
5. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the nasal interface comprises the device, or wherein the gas conduit is connected or connectable to the nasal interface and comprises the device.
6. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the first patient interface is a nasal cannula comprising a side arm and the side arm comprises the collapsible portion.
7. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the collapsible portion is adapted to transition from the first configuration to the second configuration when: (i) a second patient interface is located upon the collapsible portion, or (ii) a user presses the collapsible portion.
8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the second patient interface is a face

mask and wherein the collapsible portion is of a length that is greater than a width of a section of the mask seal of the face mask that bears over the collapsible portion.

9. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the collapsible portion comprises a cross section comprising a hinged or articulated or a concertina-type or bellows-type conduit wall arrangement allowing for the collapsible portion to be collapsed from a first condition to the second condition under application of a force or load acting on the collapsible portion.

10. An apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the cross section comprises a single folding portion on a side of the collapsible portion extending between an outer side of the conduit and an inner side of the conduit, in use the inner side of the conduit in contact with a patient's face.

11. An apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the folding portion comprises a pair of side portions, the side portions diverging from a folding point to present an externally facing acute or obtuse angle when in the first condition, and in the second condition the cross section deforming at the folding point so that the pair of side portions come together to collapse the collapsible portion to the second condition.

12. An apparatus as claimed in claim 10 or 11, wherein the cross section comprises a first said single folding portion on a first side of the collapsible portion, and a second said single folding portion on a second side of the collapsible portion, the second side opposite to the first side, the first and second folding portions extending between the outer side of the conduit and the inner side of the conduit.

13. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 12, wherein the cross section comprises the single folding portion on a first side of the collapsible portion and a second folding point at a second side of the collapsible portion, the second side opposite to the first side, the outer side of the conduit and an inner side of the conduit diverging from the second folding point.

14. An apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the inner and outer sides of the conduit fold together at the second folding point when transitioning from the first condition to the second condition.

15. An apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the angle is an acute angle.

16. An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the angle is less than 60 degrees, or

55 degrees, or 50 degrees, or 45 degrees or 40 degrees or 35 degrees.

17. An apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein in the second condition, the collapsible portion collapses so that external surfaces of the side portions are in contact.

18. An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein in the second condition, internal surfaces of the side portions contact internal surfaces of the inner side and the outer side of the conduit.

19. An apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 18, wherein the apparatus further comprises a sensing arrangement adapted to configure the apparatus between the first configuration for providing the first level of the flow of gases to the outlet and the second configuration for providing the second level of the flow of gases to the outlet.

20. An apparatus as claimed in claim 19, wherein the sensing arrangement comprises a first sensor upstream of the device and a sensor downstream of the device.