

SPO2

Readings can be affected by many patient specific factors: diagnoses, symptoms and external factors such as ambient light, nail polish, nail length, cold weather, finger calluses or contractures.

Assess for the following conditions that may lead to inaccurate readings:

Non-Bluetooth models:

- Is the finger sensor connected securely to the oximeter cable, then attached securely to the monitor?
- Is the finger sensor light on and visible?
- Correct port programmed into the monitors? (COM2) recommended
- Correct finger positioning: Is the light going through the nailbed, is the connective wire, finger design, on top of the hand?
- Sensor placed on correct finger – on the opposite hand from BP cuff?
- Correct any equipment issues and secure all connections, look for bent or missing pins on the oximeter cables

Bluetooth models:

- Ensure oximeter is fully charged see battery power display on device screen
- Full charge is reached in 4-5 hours-do not charge any longer, may lead to battery damage
- A full charge will render up to 250-300 readings (Most agencies do not leave the oximeter charger in the home for risk of overcharging and ruining the battery)
- The reading displays on the device but not on the tablet? Check to insure the correct oximeter is paired and communicating with the Tablet?
- Ensure that monitor prompts are followed, the device is turned on, placed on finger, pulse wave length visible

Trouble Shooting All models:

- Readings may be affected by diagnoses such as: PVD, advanced COPD, atrial fibrillation, hypotension, poor perfusion, and/or tremors
- Does the patient have a history of poor readings on a particular hand or finger?
- Is reading being obtained with/without patient on oxygen?
- Is reading being affected by external factors such as ambient light, relative temperature in home, extremities, time of day, and/or anxiety/stress?
- When the finger sensor is used the heart rate is captured from the finger sensor

Techniques to correct issues identified above:

- Apply warmth to the hand prior to collecting SPO2 reading
- Change the sensor to another finger
- Remove nail polish
- Obtain a manual reading to re-test, Vitals Now from the Genesis Touch

	Telehealth Tools
	Obtaining Accurate SPO2 Readings

Perform a Retest on DM:

- Place the finger sensor correctly and rest the arm
- Press the Blue Retest button, say “No” to a complete set of vital signs, say “No” to retest weight & blood pressure, say “Yes” to retest your pulse oximetry
- The pulsing bar graph will rise to full height on the front of the monitor
- Document this reading and any notes about client circumstances

Perform a Retest on the Genesis Touch:

- Obtain a vitals now reading
- Touch **Vitals Now**
- Touch the Blood Oxygen button
- Touch the forward arrow button
- Respond “Yes” to the Question: Do you want to send your vitals to your clinician?
And follow the prompts