

Basic Airway Management Course

Jordan Nickols, MD

Managing the Airway

Jordan Nickols, MD

Goals and Objectives

- Discuss the indications for intubation
- Review airway assessment
- Explore methods for aligning the axes
- Investigate the concept of bag valve mask
- Review the basic steps for intubation
- Discuss post intubation steps

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Indications for Intubation

- Failure to maintain or protect the airway
- Failure of ventilation
- Failure of oxygenation
- Therapy / Evaluation is required that mandates intubation

Failure to protect or maintain airway

- Altered mental status (GCS <8)
- Excessive Secretions
- Bleeding
- Hematoma
- Angioedema
- Among Others

Failure to Ventilate

- Inability to remove pCO₂
- COPD
- Narcotic OD
- Myasthenia Gravis
- Stroke
- Other

Failure to Oxygenate

- Inability to maintain $pO_2 > 60$
- CHF
- Pneumonia
- ARDS
- Pulmonary Embolism
- Other



PURPOSE:

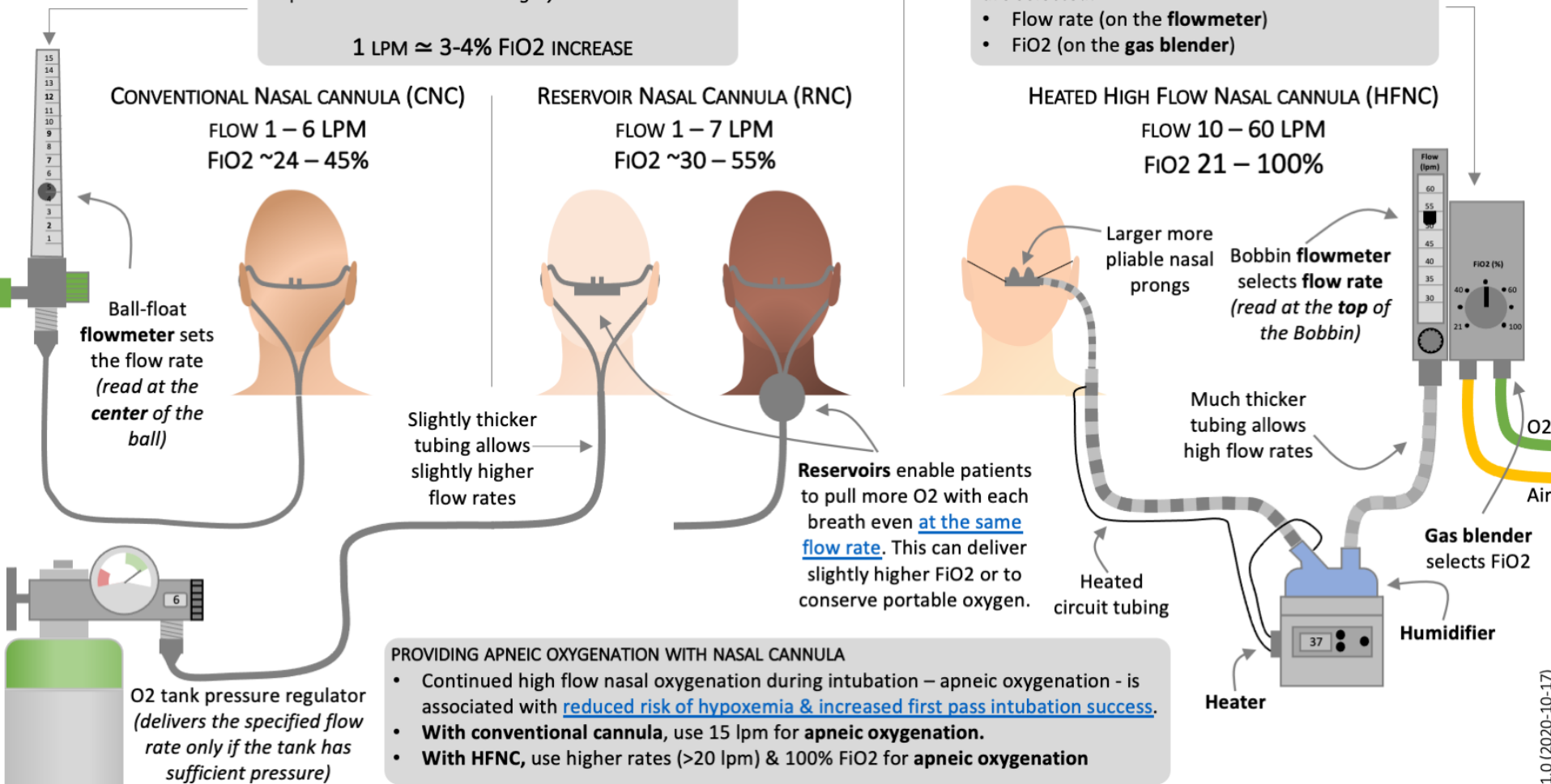
- Nasal cannula can be used to deliver supplemental O₂. Conventional nasal cannula are commonly used deliver low flow rates & **moderate** FiO₂.
- High flow nasal cannula (HFNC) delivers higher flow rates achieving a **higher** FiO₂ with greater patient comfort.
- In hypoxemic respiratory failure **use of HFNC is associated with a lower rate of requiring intubation & lower ICU mortality** compared to CNC or NIPPV. HFNC can prevent re-intubation after **thoracic** and **cardiac** surgeries. Extubation to HFNC is also **associated with lower rates of re-intubation**.

PHYSIOLOGY OF HEATED HIGH FLOW NASAL CANNULA

- Higher flow **washes out CO₂** from anatomical dead space in the nasopharynx
- Higher flow **overcomes resistance** against expiratory flow and creates a small positive nasopharyngeal pressure (**approximately 0.7 cmH₂O of PEEP for every 10 lpm of flow**)
- Patients in respiratory distress generate high flows and will entrain ambient air with conventional nasal cannula. HFNC **can match demand** so **F_iO₂ remains relatively constant**
- Warm humidified gas **preserves mucociliary function & is more comfortable** for patients

For **low flow** O₂ delivery systems, only the **flow rate** is specified. The flow rate **roughly** determines FiO₂

1 LPM ≈ 3-4% FiO₂ INCREASE



OXYGEN DELIVERY BY MASK

by Nick Mark MD



onepagericu.com
@nickmark

Link to the most current version →



PURPOSE:

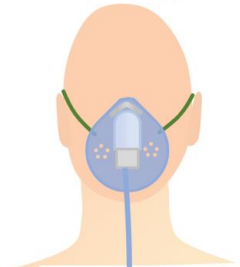
- Masks are often used to deliver supplemental O₂, typically at higher flow rates & greater FiO₂ than by nasal cannula.
- The choice of mask often depends on how much supplemental O₂ is required. The goal is provide [the minimum necessary](#) achieve the goal.
 - In general, the [goal SpO₂](#) should be ≥94% in most people, or 88-92% in people at risk for hypercarbic respiratory failure.
- The amount of oxygen delivered is approximate and can depend on many factors:
 - Patient's inspiratory effort (faster inspiratory flow will entrain more ambient air)
 - Face seal (looser seal will entrain more ambient air)
- Note that higher flow rates can rapidly deplete portable O₂ tanks.

See also [Nasal Oxygen Delivery OnePager](#)

SIMPLE MASK (SM)

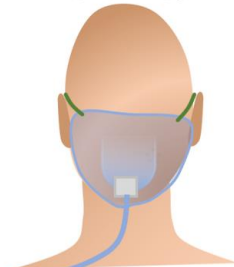
AKA HUDSON'S MASK

FLOW 6 – 10LPM
FiO₂ 35-50%



FACE TENT (FT)

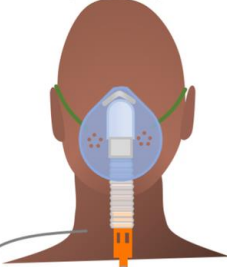
FLOW 10 – 15LPM
FiO₂ 30 – 40%



Face Tents are loose fitting & may be useful in people who do not tolerate a tight-fitting mask (e.g. facial trauma, recent surgery, etc)

VENTURI MASK (VM)

FLOW 2 – 15 LPM
FiO₂ 24-60%



A venturi mask uses a small valve to mix oxygen & ambient air to achieve a desired FiO₂. The venturi valves are color coded; each is sized to provide a different FiO₂ for a specified flow rate:

Valve	Flow	FiO ₂
BLUE	2 lpm	24%
WHITE	4 lpm	28%
ORANGE	6 lpm	31%
YELLOW	8 lpm	35%
RED	10 lpm	40%
GREEN	15 lpm	60%

Blended gas mixture (e.g. 31% oxygen) mixture depends on flow rate & the size of the valve openings

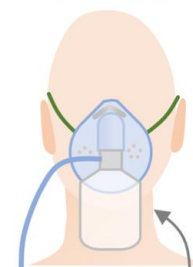


Ambient air (21% oxygen) is entrained through the valve openings by the Venturi effect

Oxygen Line (100% oxygen)

PARTIAL REBREATHER (PR)

FLOW 10 – 15 LPM
FiO₂ 60 – 80%

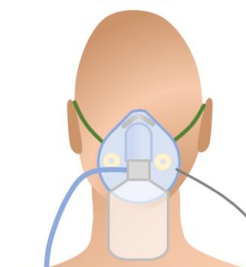


The addition of an inflatable reservoir increases delivered oxygen.

- In the NRB this reservoir is filled with 100% oxygen.
- In the PR this reservoir fills with a mixture of oxygen and exhaled air/CO₂. This is why PR masks are seldom used.

NON-REBREATHER (NRB)

FLOW 10 – 15 LPM
FiO₂ ~80%



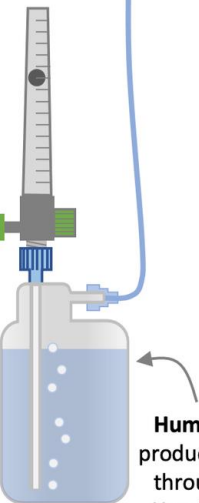
Non-rebreather masks have two one-way valves over the exhalation ports. These permitting exhalation but maintain a higher FiO₂. Note: this can be dangerous if the O₂ supply is exhausted/interrupted!



Ambient air is blocked from entering the mask (keeps FiO₂ higher)



Carbon Dioxide Can be exhaled freely (avoids rebreathing CO₂)



Humidified Oxygen is produced by bubbling O₂ through sterile water. Humidified O₂ **may** be [more comfortable for patients on higher flow rates](#) (>4 lpm)

NON-INVASIVE POSITIVE PRESSURE VENTILATION by Nick Mark MD


onepagericu.com
[@nickmark](https://twitter.com/nickmark)

Link to the most current version → 

PURPOSE & DEFINITIONS:

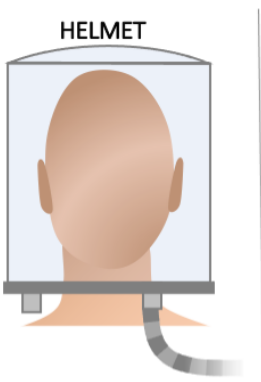
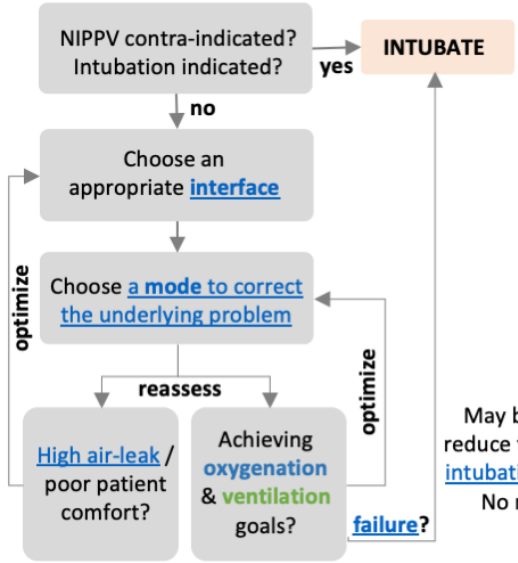
- Non-invasive positive pressure ventilation (NIPPV) is a method of supporting **ventilation** and **oxygenation**. NIPPV can be [used in acute respiratory failure to avoid endotracheal intubation](#). EPAP (expiratory pressure) = PEEP = CPAP

INDICATIONS:

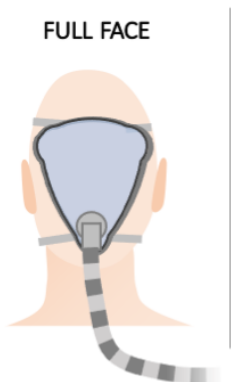
- COPD exacerbation (↓intubation, ↓ mortality)
- Cardiogenic pulmonary edema (↓ mortality)
- Other causes of respiratory failure
- DNI status
- Extubation to NIPPV

CONTRA-INDICATIONS:

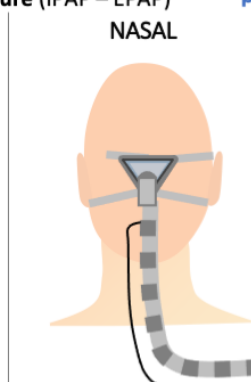
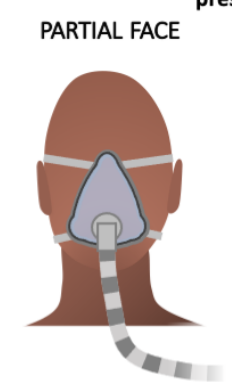
- Unresponsiveness/coma
- Inability to trigger breath
- Inability to protect airway / remove mask
- Risk of emesis / copious secretions
- Recent head/neck surgery



May be **better tolerated**, may reduce the **likelihood of requiring intubation, & decrease mortality**. No risk of pressure ulcers.

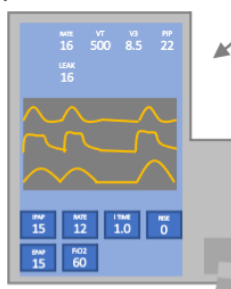


Patients can tolerate higher pressures using masks than nasal interface. Full face masks are less likely than partial to cause pressure ulcers, & generally have less air-leak. Comfort is variable.



May be **more comfortable** for CPAP or low pressure. High air-leak. May cause pressure ulcers on nose. Pt can take oral meds easily.

Scalars correspond to pressure, flow, & volume waveforms



ABG
pH / PCO₂ / PaO₂ / HCO₃

Pulse Ox
SpO₂

VENTILATION
 To increase the pH → increase the **driving pressure (IPAP – EPAP)**

OXYGENATION
 To increase PaO₂ / SpO₂ adjust **oxygenation parameters (FiO₂ & EPAP)**

Heater circuit

(Not all NIPPV devices can be used with heater & humidifier)

Mode	Description	Pro's	Con's	Ventilator settings / example	Monitor
CPAP Continuous positive airway pressure	Delivers a continuous pressure (CPAP == EPAP == PEEP) throughout the respiratory cycle, holding open collapsible airways and improving oxygenation. Patient triggers all breaths.	Improves oxygenation ; relatively well tolerated. Useful in obstructive apneas, reduces intubations in CHF exacerbations.	Does not assist ventilation (risk of hypoventilation)	EPAP, FIO₂ +8, 60%	Ventilation
S/T Spontaneous Timed (a.k.a. BiLevel, BiPAP)	Sets, an inspiratory (IPAP) & expiratory pressure (EPAP). Every breath is supported with positive pressure. Patient triggers breaths, there is also a backup rate. (Similar to pressure support) T - time/pressure/flow, C – flow, L - pressure	Improves ventilation & oxygenation . Useful in COPD to avert intubation & reduce mortality . May also reduce mortality in patients with immunosuppression presenting with hypoxemic respiratory failure .	Can have volutrauma	Backup RR, IPAP, T_i, Risetime, EPAP, FIO₂ 8 bpm, 16 cmH₂O, 1 sec, 0.15 sec, +8, 60%	Ventilation Volumes
AVAPS Adaptive volume assured pressure support (a.k.a. iVAPs)	Hybrid mode that dynamically adjusts inspiratory pressure (IPAP) to deliver a desired tidal volume. (Analogous to PRVC/VC+ modes) T - time/pressure/flow, C – volume, L - volume	Ensures minimum ventilation (within a desired pressure range). Not proven superior	Can have volutrauma With greater patient effort (e.g. gasping) will provide less support.	Backup RR, Goal TV, P_{min}, P_{max}, Risetime, PEEP, FIO₂ 8 bpm, 450cc, 10, 20, 0.15 sec, +8, 60%	Ventilation pressures & volumes

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v1.1 (2021-05-30)

Therapy is required that mandates intubation

- Severe Head Injury – Hyperventilation
- Combative – Need to evaluate/treat
- Surgical intervention/ anesthesia
- Other

Goals and Objectives

- Discuss the indications for intubation
- **Review airway assessment**
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Evaluating the airway

- **Dentition**

- prominent upper incisors, receding chin

- **Distortion**

- edema, blood, vomitus, tumor, infection

- **Disproportion**

- short chin-to-larynx distance, bull neck, large tongue, small mouth

- **Dysmobility**

- TMJ and cervical spine immobility

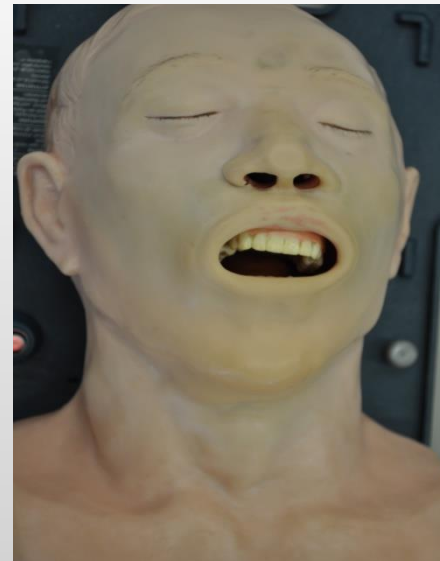
Lemon Law*

- Look Externally
- Evaluate the 3-3-2 Rule
- Mallampati
- Obstruction
- Neck Mobility

*Walls RM, Murphy MF (2008). *Manual of Emergency Airway Management; 3rd edition*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

Look Externally

- abnormal face shape
- sunken cheeks
- edentulous
- "buck teeth"
- receding mandible
- "bull-neck"
- narrow mouth
- obesity
- face or neck pathology



Dentition

- Overbite can impose a variable degree of limitation on alignment of axes during intubation
- Remove teeth that might dislodge during laryngoscopy
- Remove dentures

Evaluate the 3-3-2 Rule

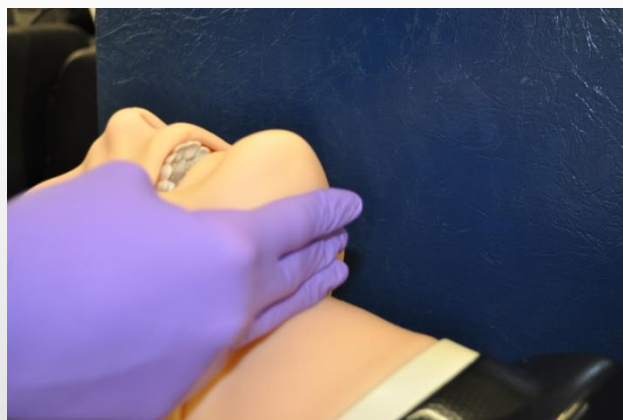
Mouth opening > 3F



(F=fingerbreadths)

Evaluate the 3-3-2 Rule

- Hyoid-chin distance $> 3F$



(F=fingerbreadths)

Evaluate the 3-3-2 Rule

Thyroid cartilage - mouth floor distance > 2F



(F=fingerbreadths)

3-3-2 rule not met,
anticipate challenging anatomy

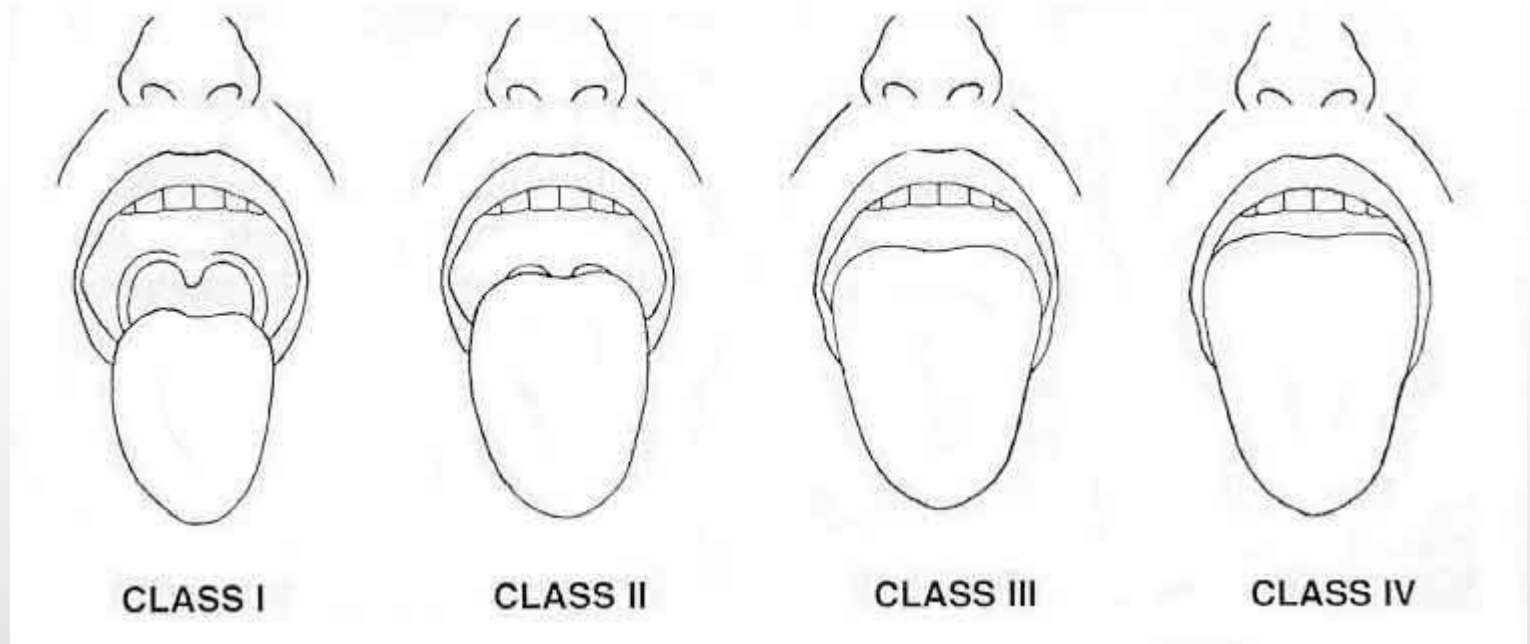


< 3F



< 3F

Mallampati Airway Classification



Classes III & IV are associated with difficulty

Obstruction

- Peri-tonsillar abscess
- Epiglottitis
- Retro-pharyngeal abscess
- Blood
- Tumor

Neck Mobility

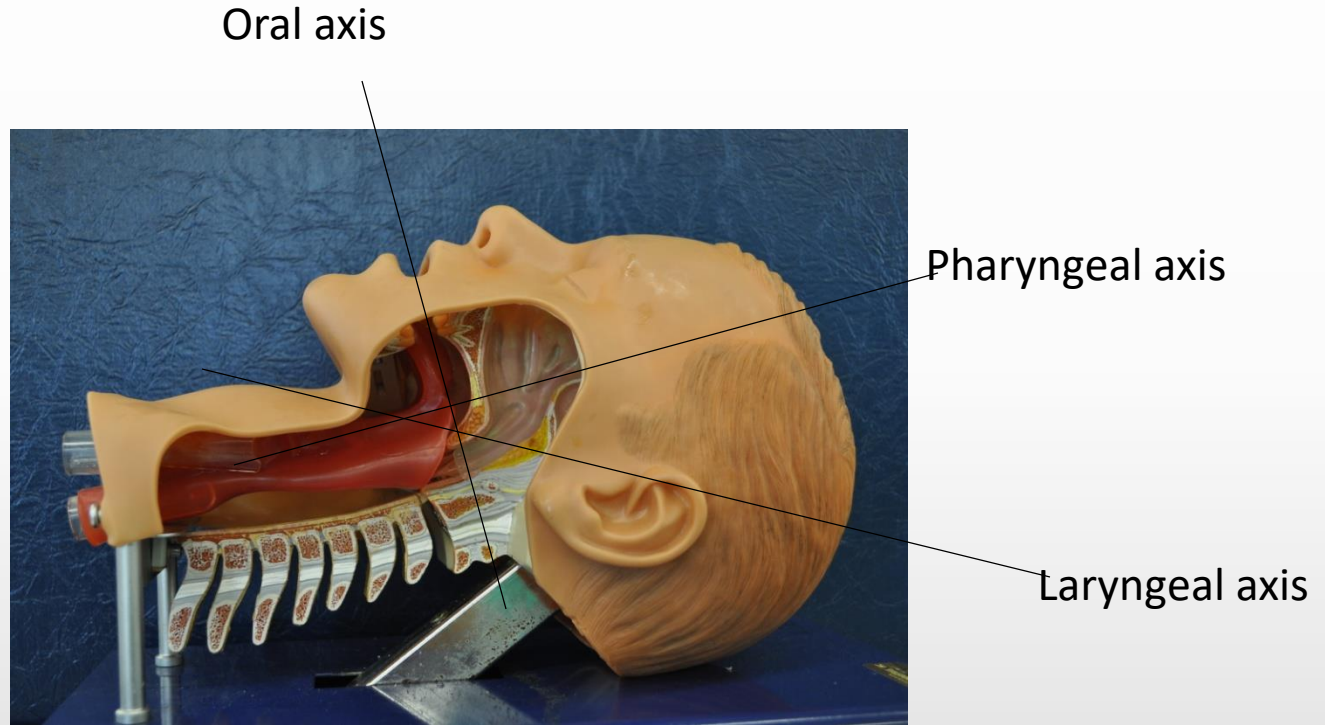
- Extension of the neck at the atlanto-occipital joint brings the oral, pharyngeal, and laryngeal axes into alignment.

Goals and Objectives

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- **Explore methods for aligning the axes**
- Investigate the concept of bag valve mask
- Review the basic steps for intubation
- Discuss post intubation steps

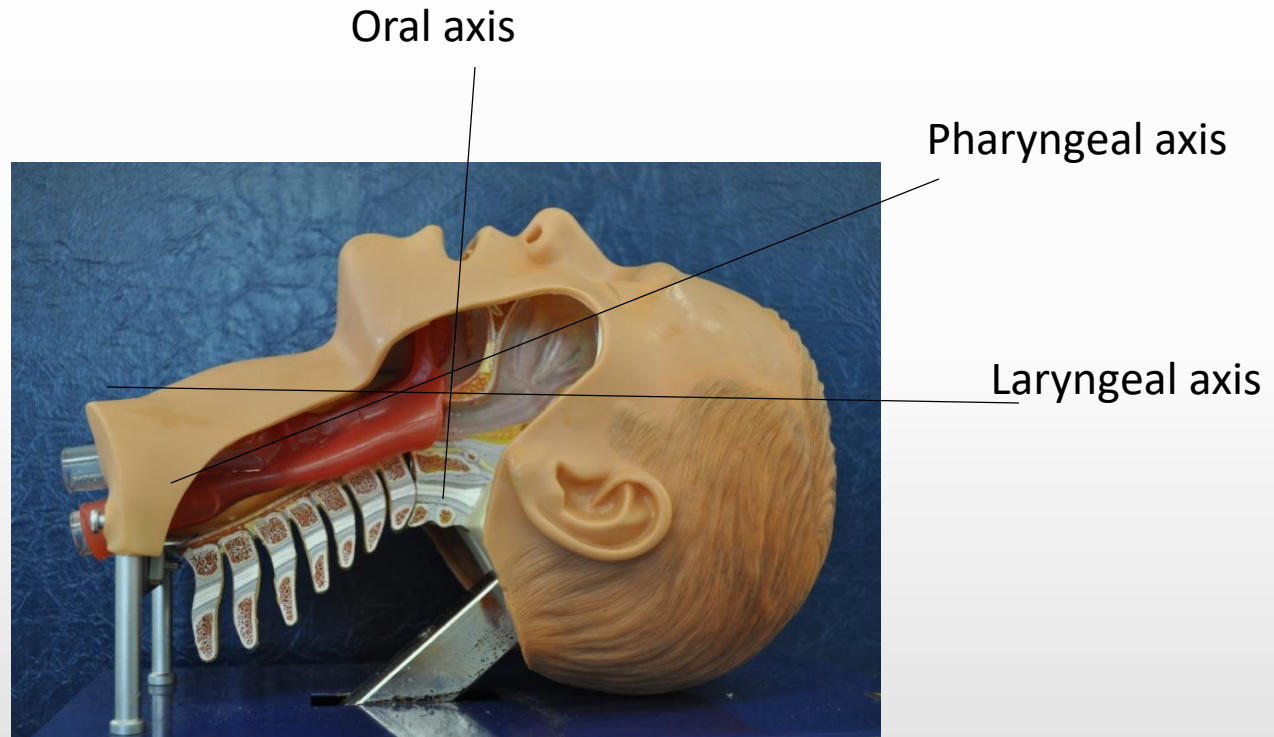
Aligning the Axes

(creates a more direct approach for ventilation during BVM and improved visualization of vocal cords during intubation)



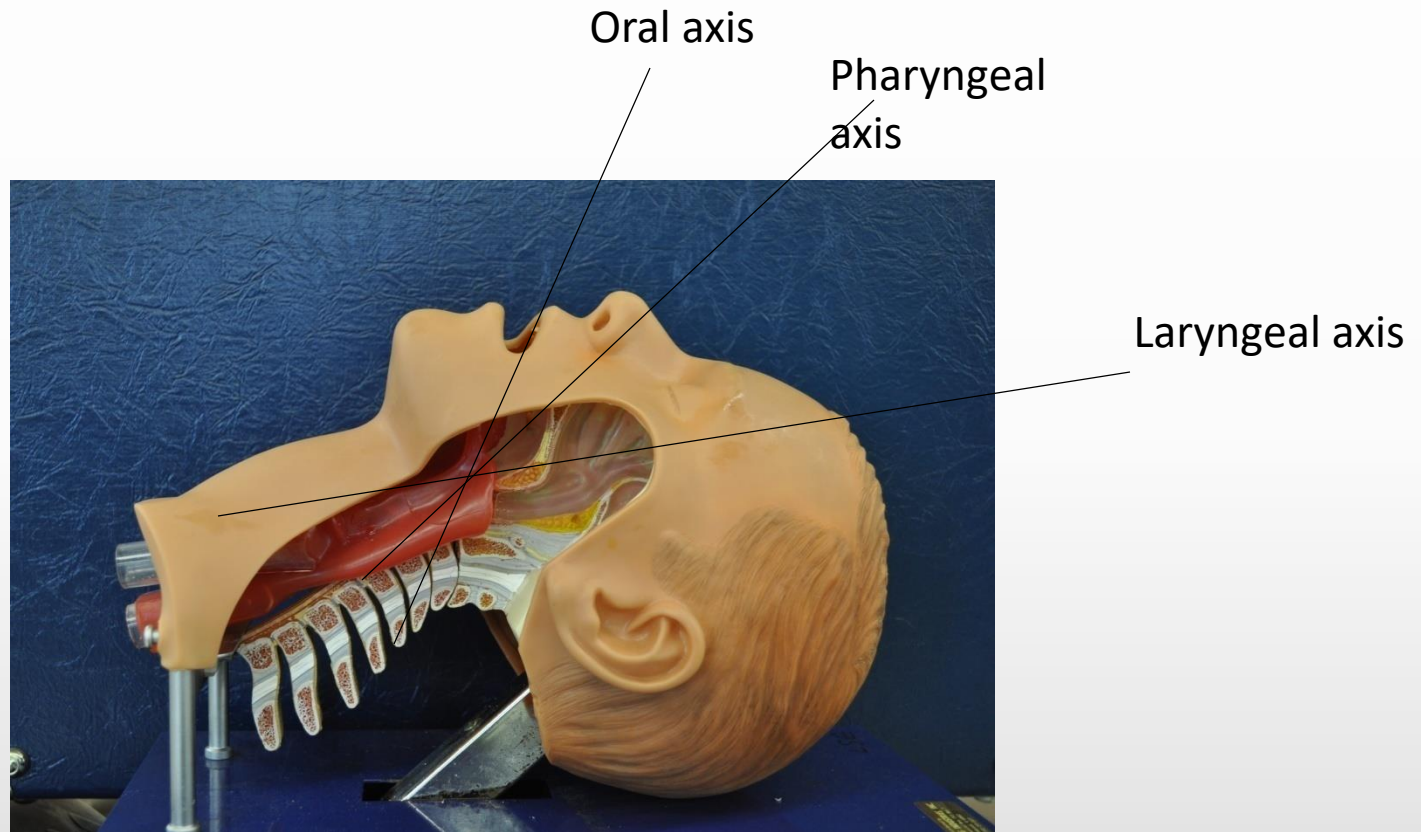
Head on bed, neutral position

Aligning the Axes



Head Elevated, neutral position

Aligning the Axes



Head elevated and extended

Goals and Objectives

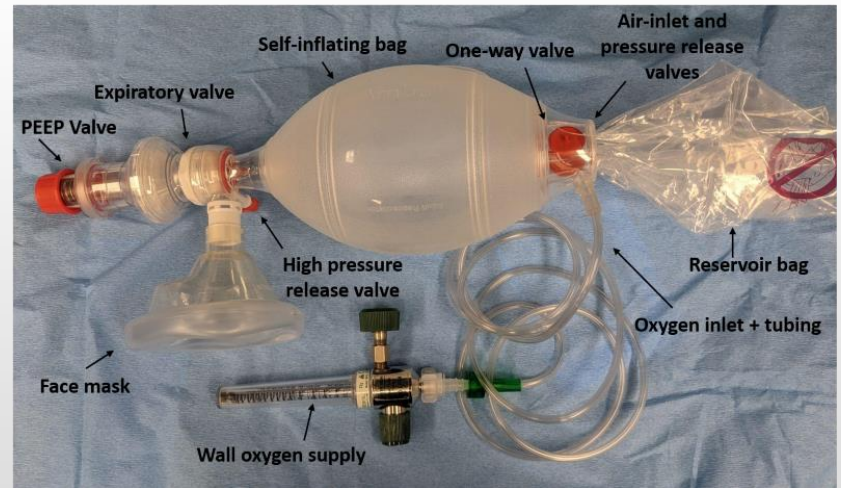
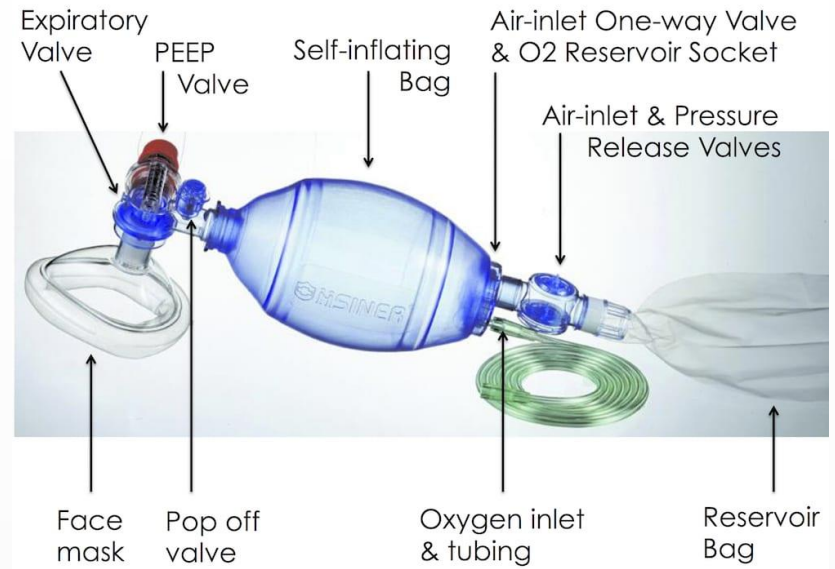
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Bag Valve Mask

- Make sure it is the right size
 - Adult
 - Child
 - Infant
- Facial Landmarks
 - Bridge of nose
 - Malar eminences
 - Mandibular alveolar ridge

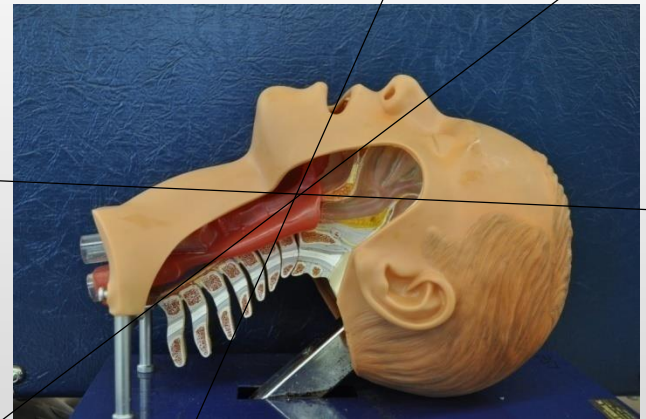
Bag Valve Mask

- Anatomy of a BVM
- Delivers 90 to 97% oxygen
 - Spontaneously breathing
 - Ventilated



Bag valve mask

- Use both hands to make a seal (two operators)
- Lift the jaw
- Align the axes



Single-operator BVM

- Use one hand to make a seal
- Use other hand to deliver breaths
- Lift the jaw
- Align the axes



MOANS*

- BVM assessment/ difficulty is anticipated if these factors are present:
 - **M: Mask seal difficulty**
 - (Beards and facial injuries)
 - **O: Obesity, obstruction**
 - **A: Age (>55)**
 - **N: No teeth**
 - **S: Stiff (also sleep apnea and snorning)**
 - Decreased lung compliance

*Walls RM, Murphy MF (2008). *Manual of Emergency Airway Management; 3rd edition*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

**The Difficult Airway Course™*

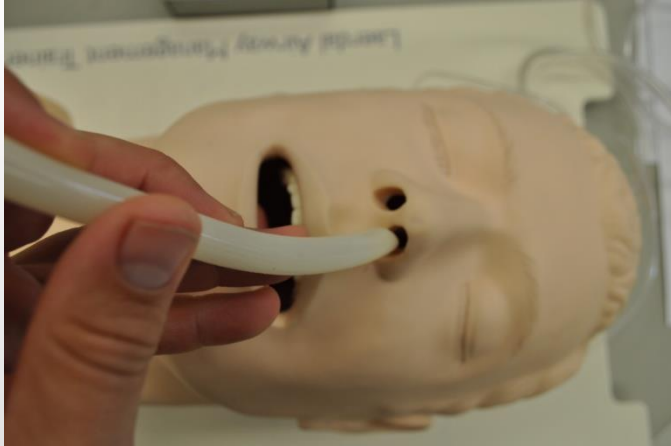
Bag Valve Mask

- Use adjuncts
 - Nasopharyngeal Airway
 - Oropharyngeal Airway



Adjuncts

- Nasopharyngeal Airway
 - Advance until airflow heard
 - Can be used in semi-conscious patient



BVM adjuncts

- Oropharyngeal Airway
 - Unconscious / No gag (could result in vomiting if not)
 - Insert with tongue blade or rotate



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- Investigate the concept of bag valve mask
- **Review the basic steps for intubation**
- Discuss post intubation steps

EMCrit Call/Response Intubation Checklist

Plan

HOp Killers-Hemodynamics, Ox, pH
RSI - Awake - DSI - RSA - ICP/Vascular
Induction Agent/Muscle Relaxant
Push-Dose Pressors
Failed Airway Plan Verbalized
Cric-Con Evaluation (\pm Mark/Inject)
Post-Intubation Sedation

Patient Prep

Denitrogenation
Oxygenated (Consider CPAP)
Look in Mouth - Dentures
Positioning
(Face Parallel, Ears/Notch, 30° Head-Up, Collar Plan)
Monitors (Pulse Ox Visible)
Reliable Access
Nasal Prongs for ApOx
 \pm Gastric Tube

Equipment

Table
BVM (\pm PEEP Valve) on Oxygen
Waveform Capnograph on BVM & Tested
Video Laryngoscope
Intubation Equipment
(Tube, 2nd End Stylet, 2 Syringes, Back-Up Laryngoscope, OPA, Tube-Securing Device)
Failed Airway Equipment at Bedside
(At minimum: Bougie, SGA, Scalpel)
Suction x 2

Team

Roles Assigned for Each Stage of Failed Airway Plan
Pulse Ox Watcher/Reoxygenation Role Assigned
ELM/Head Elev. Assistant Briefed
Team is all in PPE

by Weingart S, Nickson C, Rabinovich J, Strayer R.
version 2013-02-06

Fold and use only this side during Checklist Procedure

Awake Intubation

- Glycopyrrolate 0.2 mg IV & Ondansetron 4mg IV (give as early as possible)
- Suction mouth and then pad dry with gauze
- Nebulized Lidocaine 4% 3ml @ 6 lpm
- Atomized Lidocaine 4% 3ml sprayed into posterior oropharynx
- Viscous Lidocaine lollipop 2%, place on tongue depressor
- Preoxygenate
- Position
- Restrain arms
- Switch to nasal cannula at 15 lpm
- Sedate with aliquots of Ketamine (10-20 mg) or 1-2 ml Ketamine-Heavy Ketofol (75 mg Ketamine, 25 mg propofol in the same syringe)
- Atomized Lidocaine 4% 3ml sprayed through cords
- Intubate awake or place bougie, then sedate/paralyze

Pretreatment

- 3-5 minutes prior to intubation
- Lidocaine 1.5 mg/kg for High-ICP/Vascular with elevated BP
 - Fentanyl 3 mcg/kg for High-ICP/Vascular with elevated BP (alternatively Remifentanyl 3 mcg/kg)
 - Scopolamine 0.4 mg for amnesia in hypotensive pt intubation

Info

Go to emcrit.org/


Initial Post-Intubation Analgo-Sedation

- Fentanyl 2 mcg/kg bolus then 1 mcg/kg/hr or
- Hydromorphone 0.5-1 mg bolus then repeat q 10 minutes until analgesia

and

- Midazolam 0.05 mg/kg bolus then 0.025 mg/kg/hr or
- Propofol 0.5 mg/kg bolus then 20 mcg/kg/min or
- Ketamine 1 mg/kg bolus then 0.5 mg/kg/hr

Titrate to calm, spontaneously-breathing patient

Cric-Con

- All Airways: Discuss/Feel/See It (3)
- Diff. but Stable: Mark/Kit to Bedside/US (4)
- Diff. & Unstable: Inject / Prep / Open Kit / Scalpel in Hand (3)

Push-Dose Epi

- In a 10 ml syringe, add 9 ml NS
- Into this syringe draw up 1 ml of Cardiac-Arrest (1:10000) Epinephrine
- Shake Syringe Hard
- Label "Epinephrine 10 mcg/ml"
- Dose 0.5-2 ml (3-20 mcg) q 1-5 min
- Throw away at end of shift if unused

Intubation Meds

Drug	Normotensive Dose	Normotensive Dose (70 kg Pt)	Hypotensive Dose
Ketamine	2 mg/kg	140 mg	0.5 mg/kg
Ketofol (100 mg ketamine, 100 mg propofol to make 20 ml)	0.2 ml/kg	14 ml	
Etomidate	0.3 mg/kg	20 mg	10 mg
Propofol	1.5-3 mg/kg	150 mg	15 mg
Succinylcholine	1.5-2 mg/kg	140 mg	2 mg/kg
Rocuronium	1.2 mg/kg	80 mg	1.6 mg/kg
Vecuronium	0.3 mg/kg	20 mg	

Sux Contra

- Malignant Hyperthermia History
- Strokes with hemiparesis > 72 hours old
- ICU Stay > 2 weeks
- Burns/trauma > 72 hours old
- NMJ Disease
- Myopathies/Muscular Dystrophies
- Preexisting Hyperkalemia or Strong suspicion
- Guillain-Barre

Initial Vent

- Assist Control/Volume Mode
- Vt 8 ml/kg IBW
- RR 16 (10 in asthma/copd)
- IFR 60 l/min
- PEEP 3 (0 in asthma/copd)
- FiO2 40%

Low pH Tube

- Place on Vent (SMV-Volume, Vt 550, FiO2 100%, IFR 30 lpm, PS 10, PEEP 5, RR 0)
- Place on ETCO2
- RSA or Vent as Bag (Change RR to 16)
- Change Vent to (IFR 60 lpm, RR 30, Vt 8 ml/kg, FiO2 40%)
- Confirm same ETCO2 and send ABG

AirQs

- Females: 3.5, 7.5 ET Max, inflate 4 ml, 18 cm to tip
- Males: 4.5, 8.5 ET Max, inflate 3 ml, 20 cm to tip

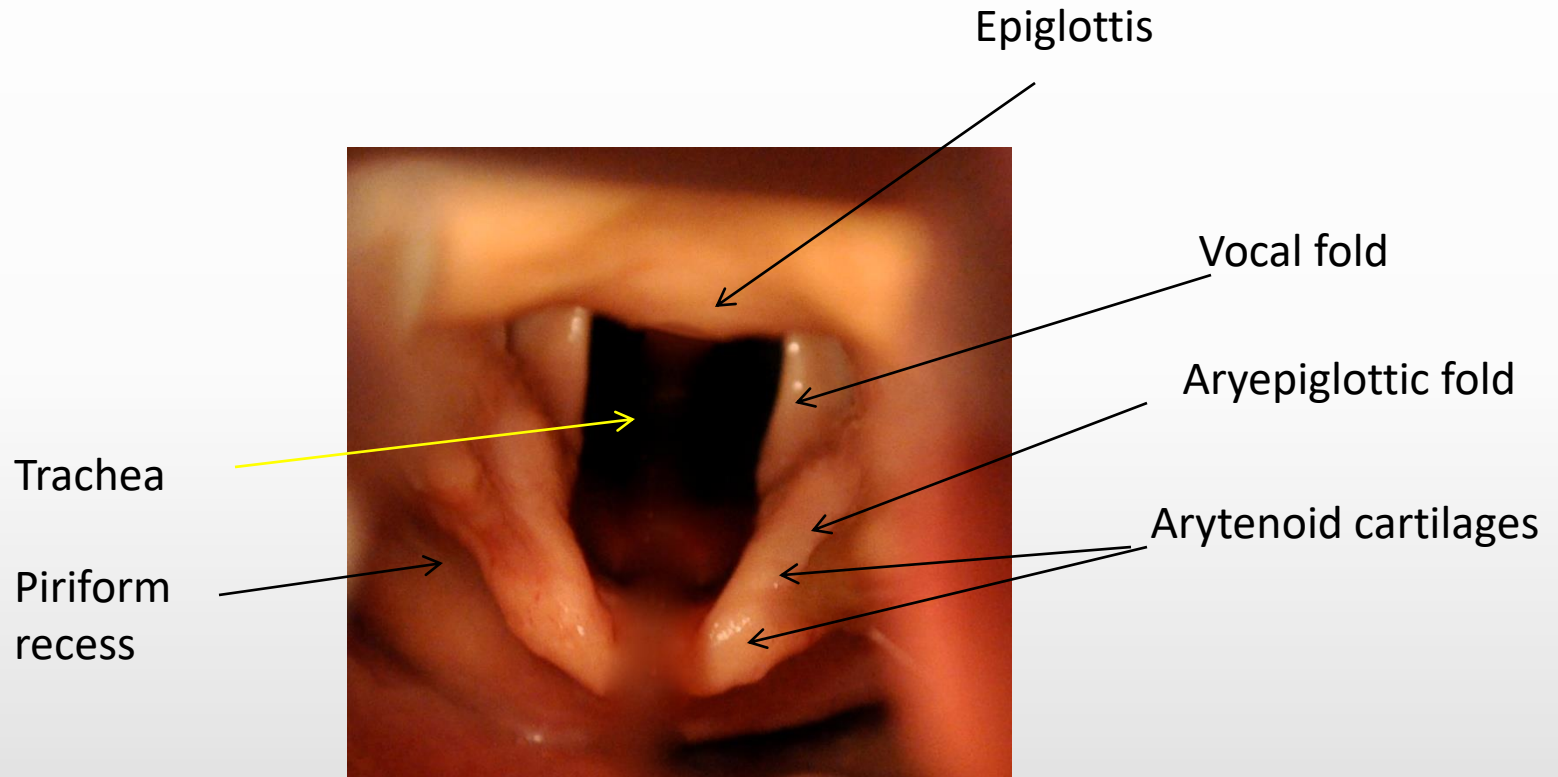
Pre-oxygenation

- Administer 100% O₂ for 5 minutes
- Nitrogen Washout
- 3-5 minutes of apnea before <90% sat
- “No-Bagging”

Intubation

- **Anatomy**
- Endotracheal Tube
- Laryngoscopes
 - Miller
 - Macintosh
 - Glidescope
- Procedure
- Adjunctive Procedures

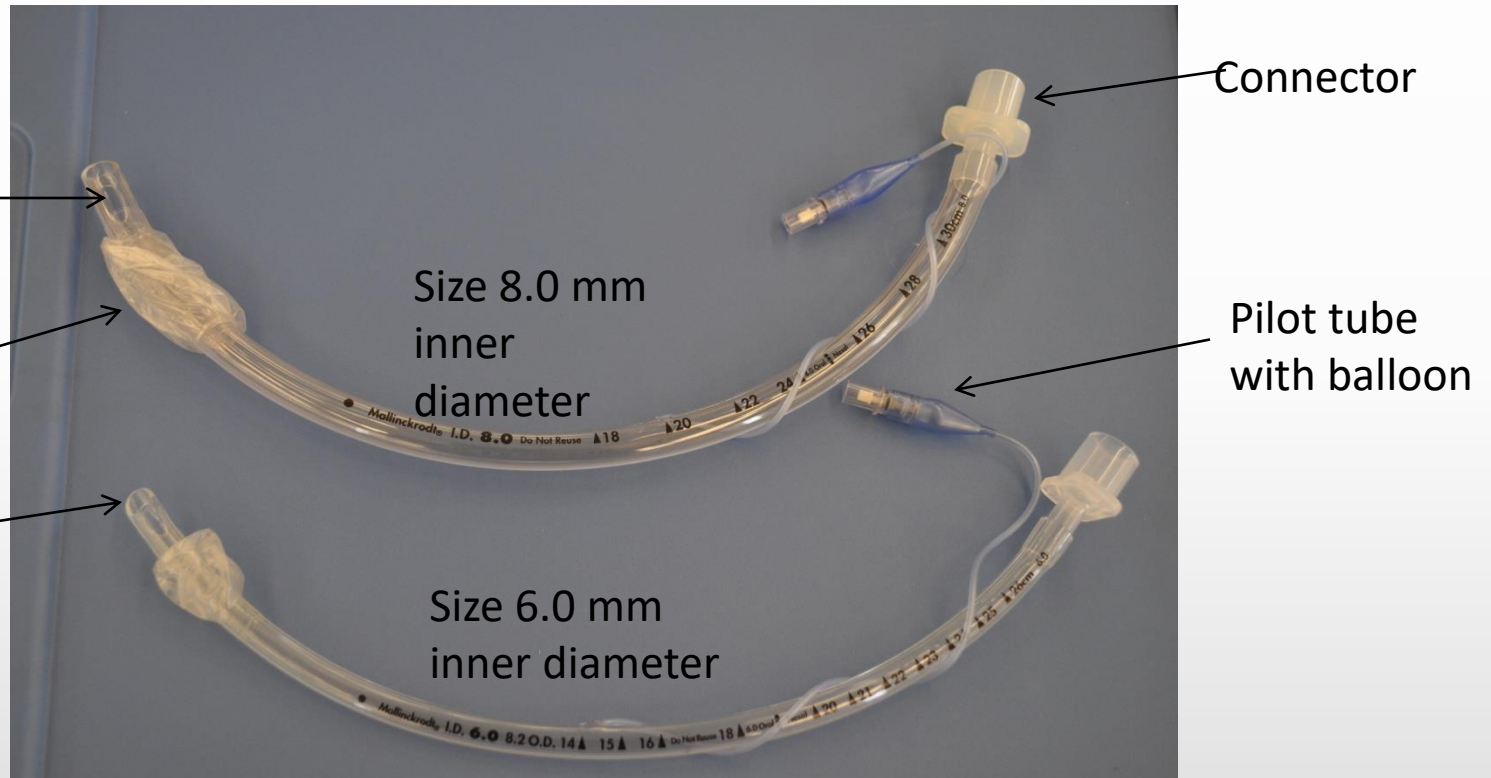
Anatomy



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Endotracheal Tube Anatomy



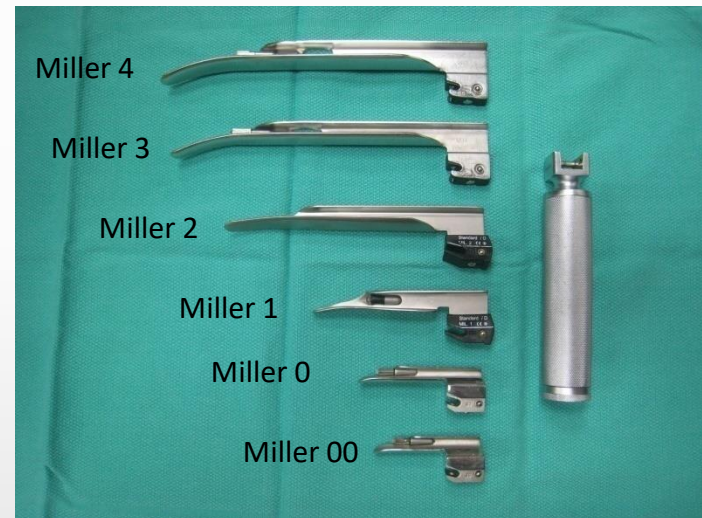
Adult Size: 7.5-8.5 mm inner diameter (generally)

Intubation

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Laryngoscope Blades

- Macintosh (curved)
 - Sizes 0-4
 - Placed in vallecula
 - 3-4 for most adults
- Miller (straight)
 - Sizes 00-4
 - Lifts epiglottis
 - 2-3 for most adults
- Glidescope hyperangulated blade
 - Size 3 for most adult patients

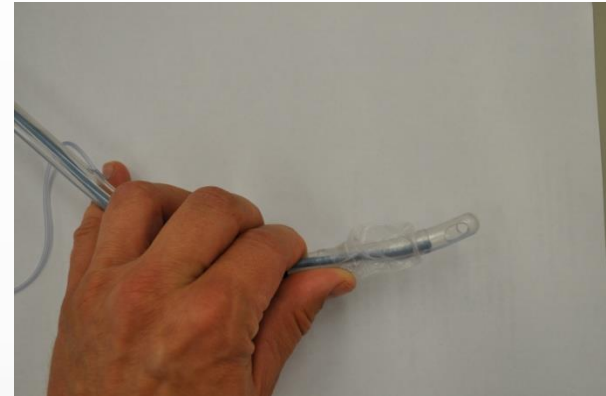


Intubation

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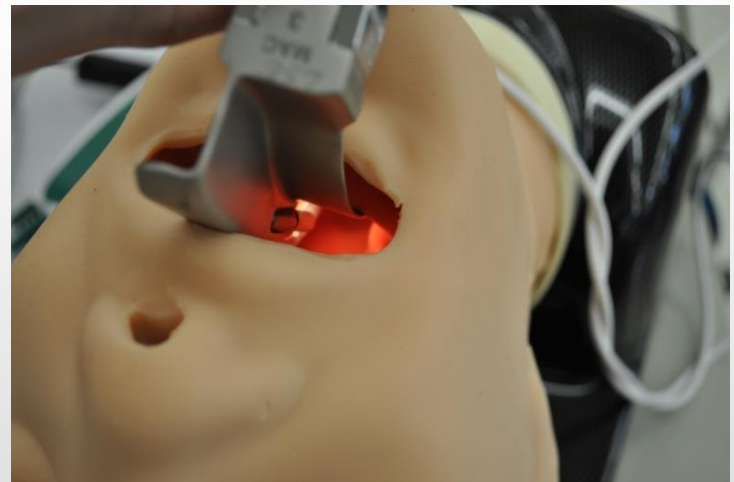
Preparation

- Select appropriate size
- Have next size up/down available
- Place stylet inside tube – provides rigidity
- Be sure stylet does not protrude through end of ETT – this can cause tracheal damage during insertion
- Curve tube manually – or create a bend in stylet before inserting into ETT
 - Rigid and curved stylet for Glidescope already in standard position typically.
- Inflate/deflate balloon to test balloon integrity
- Have available equipment: BVM hooked up to O2, medications, suction, bougie/backup plan



The Procedure (direct visualization)

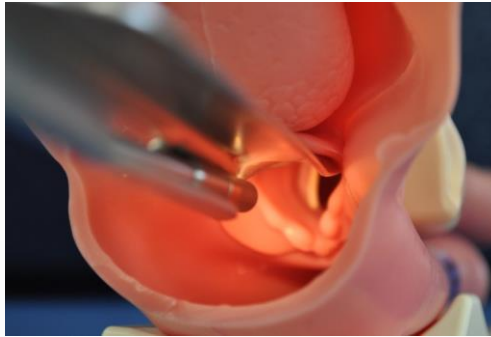
- Place patient in the proper position
- Align the axes
- Hold laryngoscope with left hand
- Introduce blade into right side of the mouth
- Sweep tongue left



The Procedure

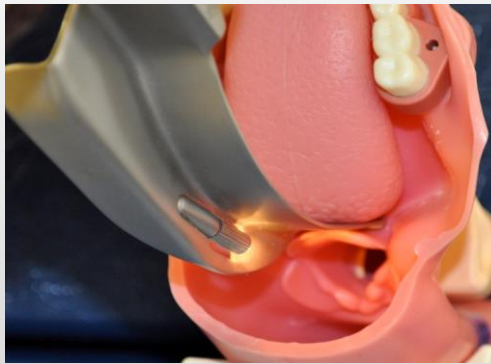
- **Straight blade: lift epiglottis**

- Advance straight blade blindly and gently until it is in the esophagus
- Slowly withdraw blade under visualization until the epiglottis/cords are exposed



- **Curved blade: place in vallecula and lift**

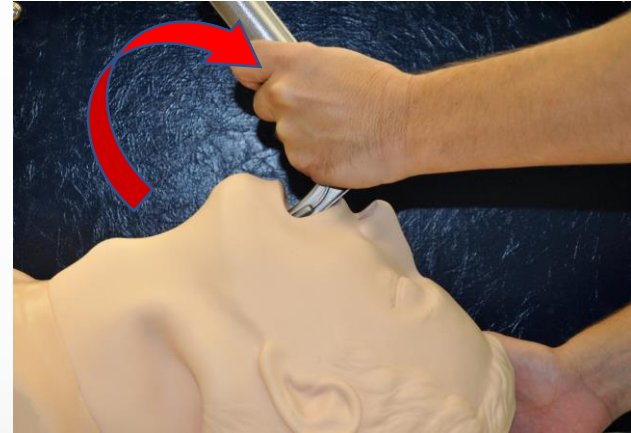
- Advance curved blade along the tongue until it is in the vallecula



Correct



Incorrect



- Once blade is positioned correctly, lift entire laryngoscope **upwards and outwards**.
- This flips the epiglottis upwards and exposes the glottis below.

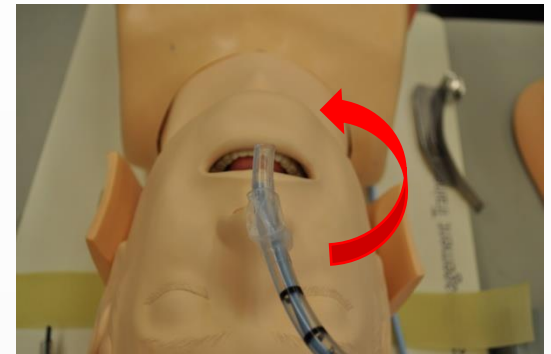
Placing the endotracheal tube

- Once cords are visualized, maintain your view
- Ask for ET tube - an assistant should place tube into your right hand
- Place ET tube into patient's mouth from the side
- Assistant may pull patient's lip gently to the right to facilitate passage of ET tube
- Do not obstruct your view – do not avert your view of cords



Passing the ET tube

- Rotate tube 90° to align bevel with cords
- Advance ET tube through the cords
- Visualize tube passing through cords
- Avoid right mainstem intubation
- Inflate and check balloon
- Secure tube - generally 23 cm at teeth in male, 21 cm in female



Video laryngoscopy

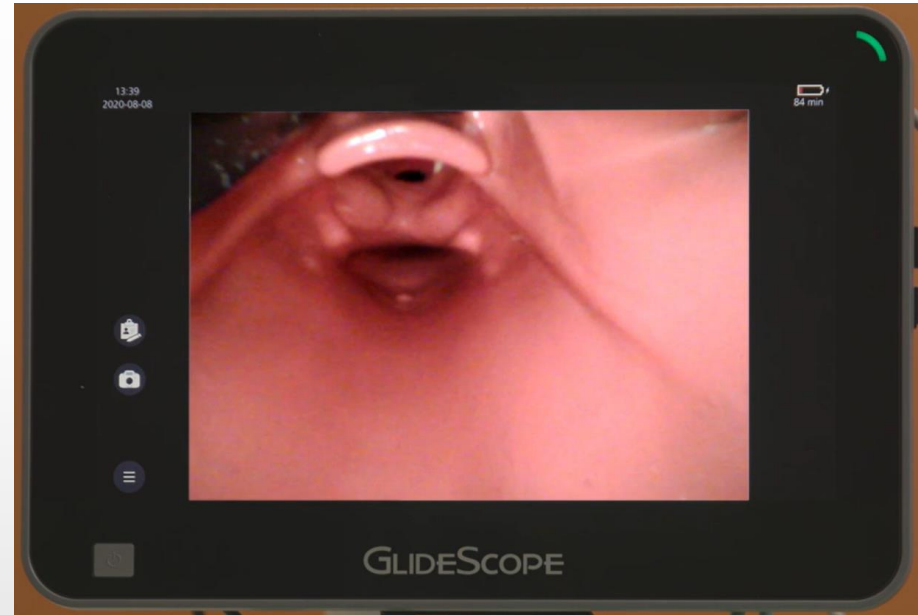
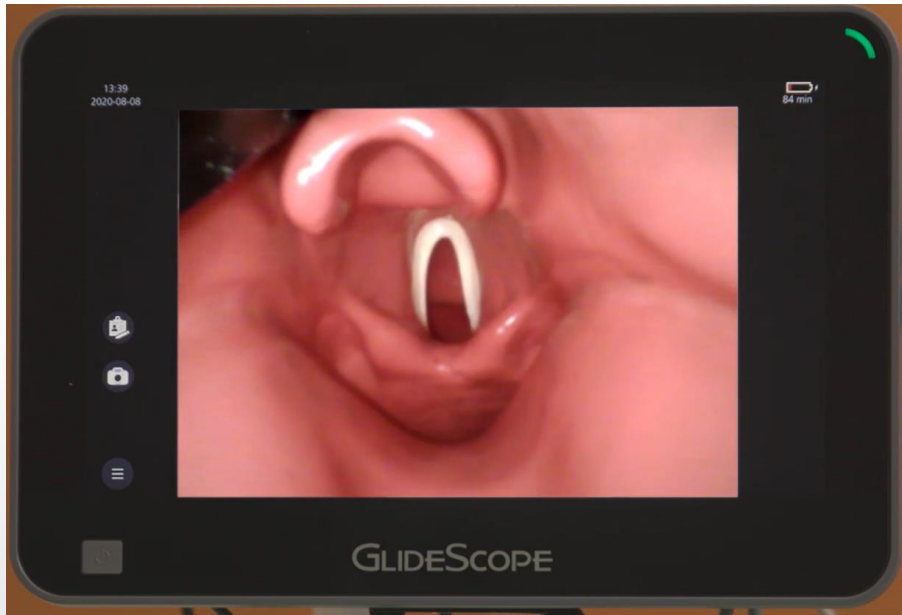
1. Look in the mouth to introduce laryngoscope
2. Look at the screen for best glottic view
3. Look in the mouth to introduce the tracheal tube
4. Look at the screen to intubate

Look in the mouth to introduce laryngoscope



- Note scissor technique
- With Video laryngoscopy, you insert midline

Look at the screen for best glottic view



Which is better?

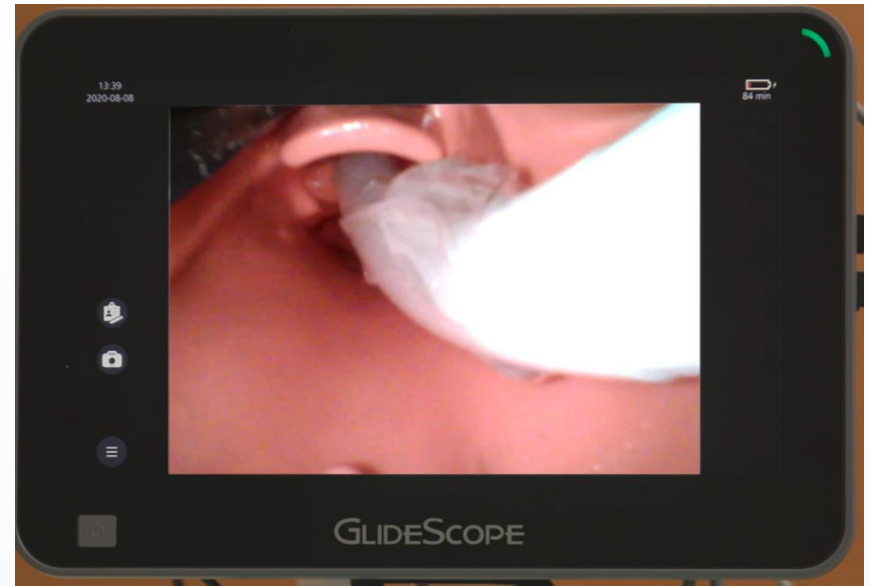
Look in the mouth to introduce the tracheal tube

Follow until you reach and pass the posterior oropharynx to prevent soft palate and mucosal injury



Look at the screen to intubate

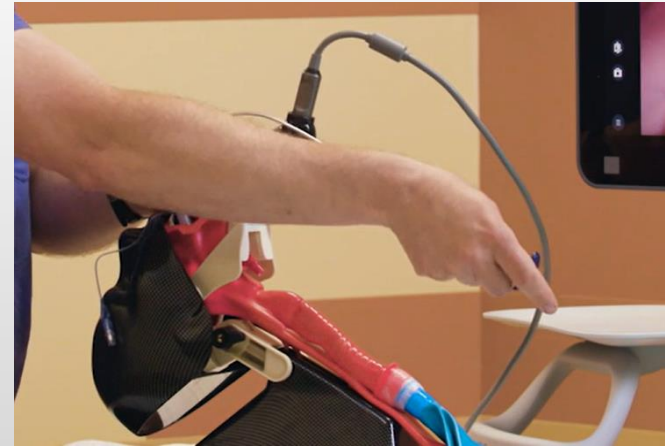
- Not tube passing just over the arytenoid cartilage.



"Pop" the stylet and complete insertion



Remove the stylet out and away from you to avoid grabbing the ETT



Intubation

- Anatomy
- Endotracheal Tube
- Laryngoscopes
 - Miller
 - Macintosh
- Procedure
- Adjunctive Procedures

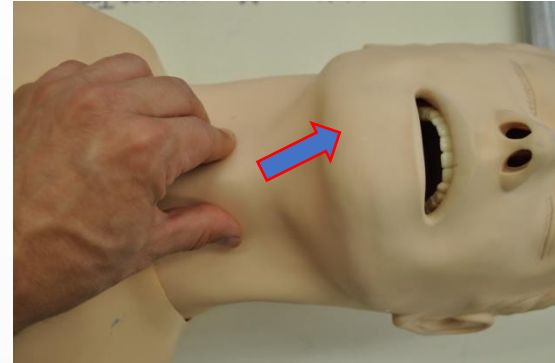
Sellick's Maneuver

- Pressure on anterior cricoid cartilage
- Occludes esophagus & prevents passive regurgitation
- Commence with RSI
- Release when balloon is up

****May reduce airway patency and worsen laryngeal view****

BURP Maneuver

- Backwards
 - Posterior Pressure
- Upwards
 - Tilt Larynx upwards
- Rightward (patient's right)
 - Move larynx to right
- Pressure



BURP maneuver

- Consider performing it yourself with your right hand during laryngoscopy with left hand



- When optimal view is achieved, ask assistant to perform maneuver in that position
- Your right hand is now free for ET tube placement

Goals and Objectives

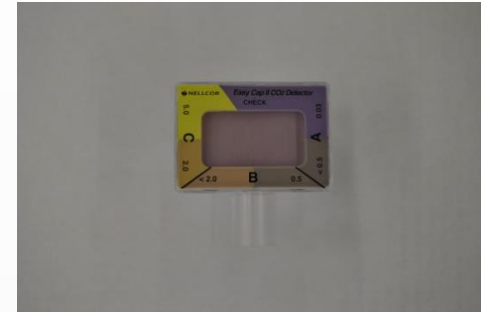
- Discuss the indications for intubation
- Review airway assessment
- Explore methods for aligning the axes
- Investigate the concept of bag valve mask
- Review the basic steps for intubation
- Discuss post intubation steps

Confirmation of ETT placement

- Pulse Oximetry
- Capnography
- Fogging of the tube
- Auscultation
- Chest wall motion
- CXR

End Tidal CO₂ detection

- Colorimetric capnometry
 - Color change signifies correct placement
 - Turns from purple to yellow
- Continuous capnography
 - Waveform and CO₂ level can be monitored continuously
- Emesis may alter response
- Low flow state may cause slow change
- May take a few breaths
 - To exchange dead space



Problems after Intubation

- DOPE

- Displaced tube

- *Lung sounds and CXR*
 - *Direct visualization*

- Obstructed tube

- *Biting tube, secretions, mucous plug, etc.*

- Pneumothorax

- *Lung sounds, sub-cutaneous air? and CXR*

- Equipment failure

- *Remove from ventilator and manually bag ventilate*

References

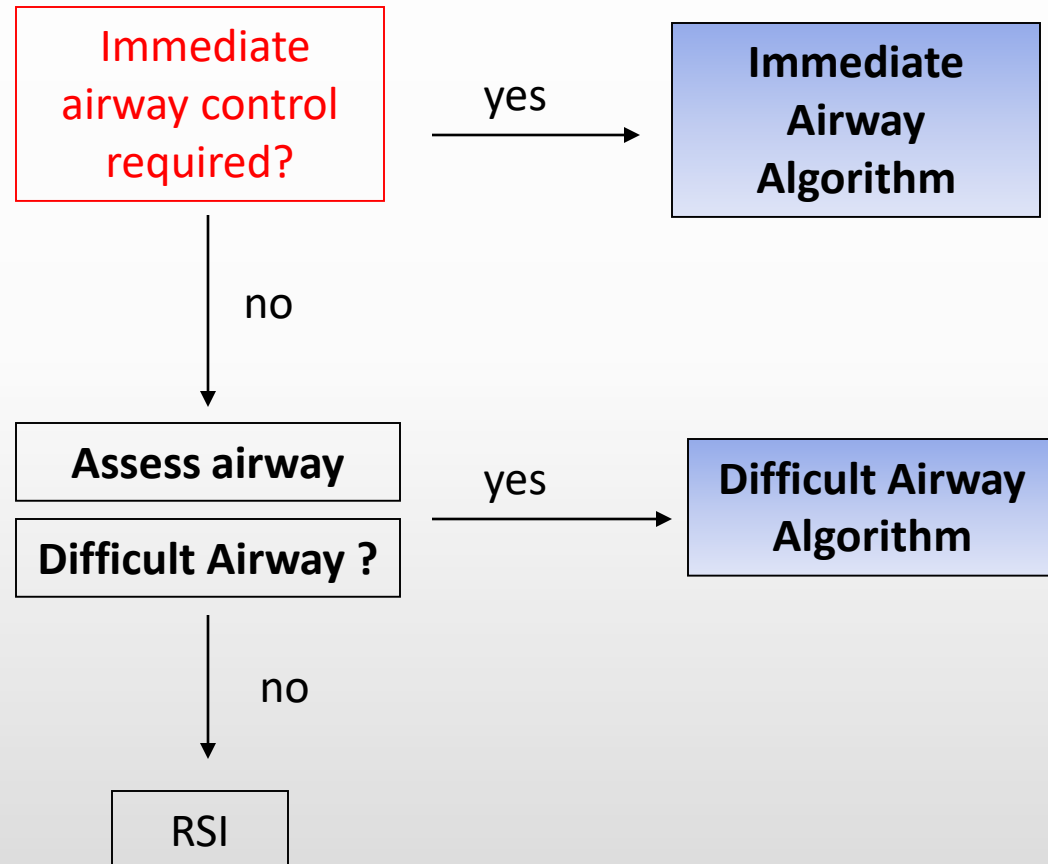
- *The Difficult Airway Course™*
- Walls RM, Murphy MF (2008). *Manual of Emergency Airway Management; 3rd edition*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.
- Naguib M, Scamman FL, O'Sullivan C, Aker J, Ross AF, Kosmach S, Ensor JE. Predictive performance of three multivariate difficult tracheal intubation models: a double-blind, case-controlled study. *Anesth Analg*. 2006 Mar;102(3):818-24.
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- Orebaugh SL. Difficult airway management in the emergency department. *J Emerg Med* 2002; 22:31.

Airway Management Algorithms and RSI

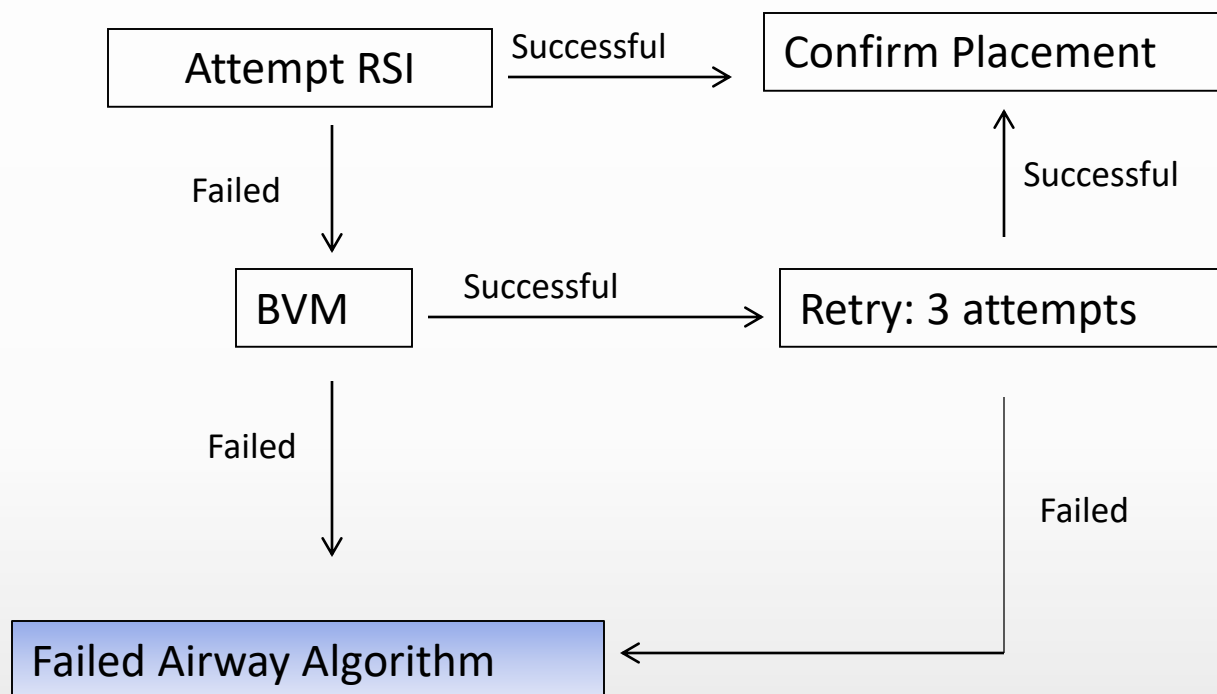
Trey Wages, MD

Airway Algorithm

Basic Approach



Airway Algorithm



Airway Algorithms

Immediate Airway Algorithm

Patient is unresponsive and/or respiratory failure is present

Difficult Airway Algorithm

Difficult airway is predicted or confirmed by previous attempt

Failed Airway Algorithm

The patient cannot be intubated or oxygenated...or...3 failed attempts

Airway Algorithms

Immediate Airway Algorithm

Patient is unresponsive and/or respiratory failure is present

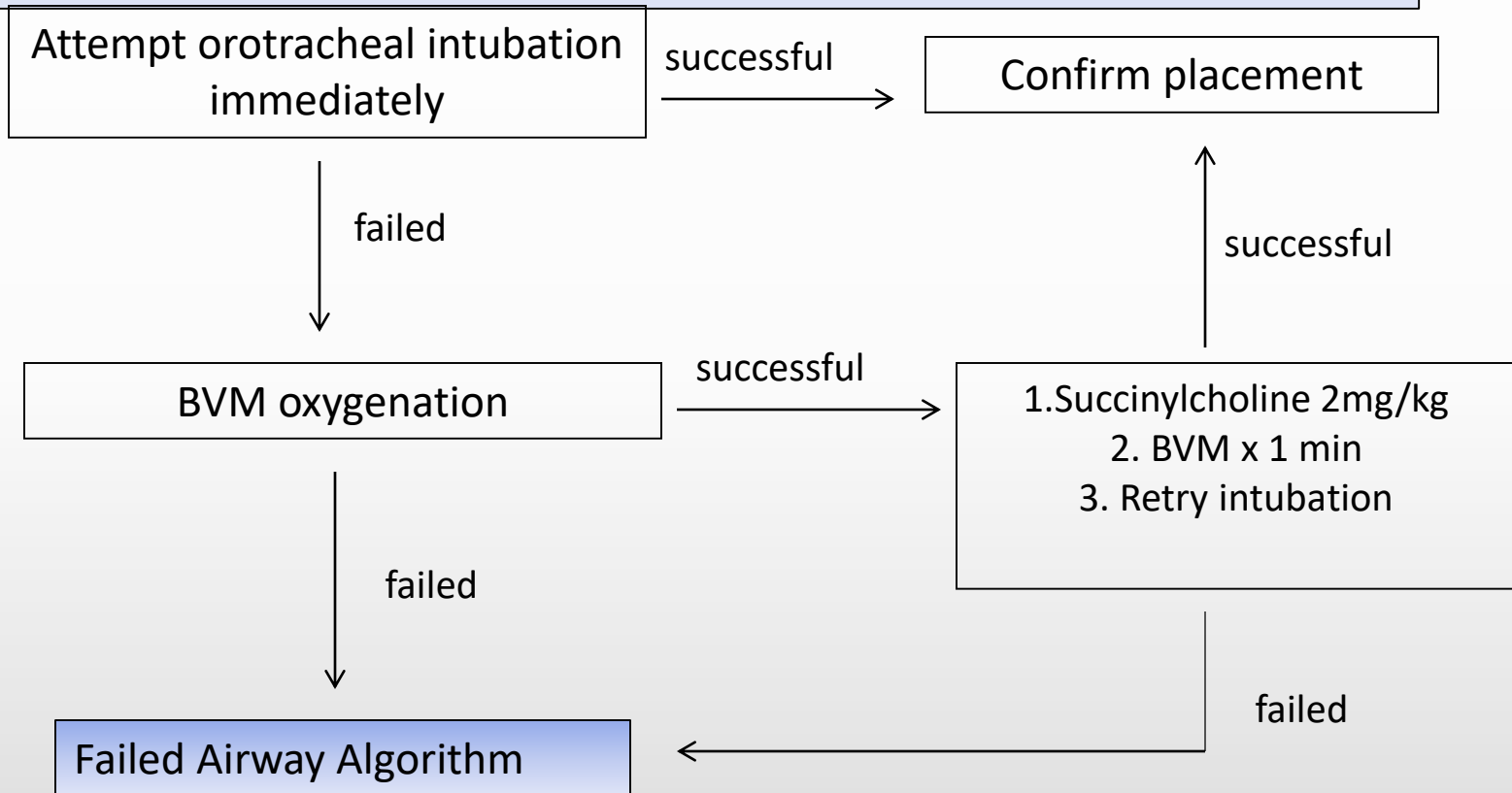
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Difficult airway is predicted or confirmed by previous attempt

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Immediate Airway Algorithm



Airway Algorithms

Immediate Airway Algorithm

Patient is unresponsive and/or respiratory failure is present

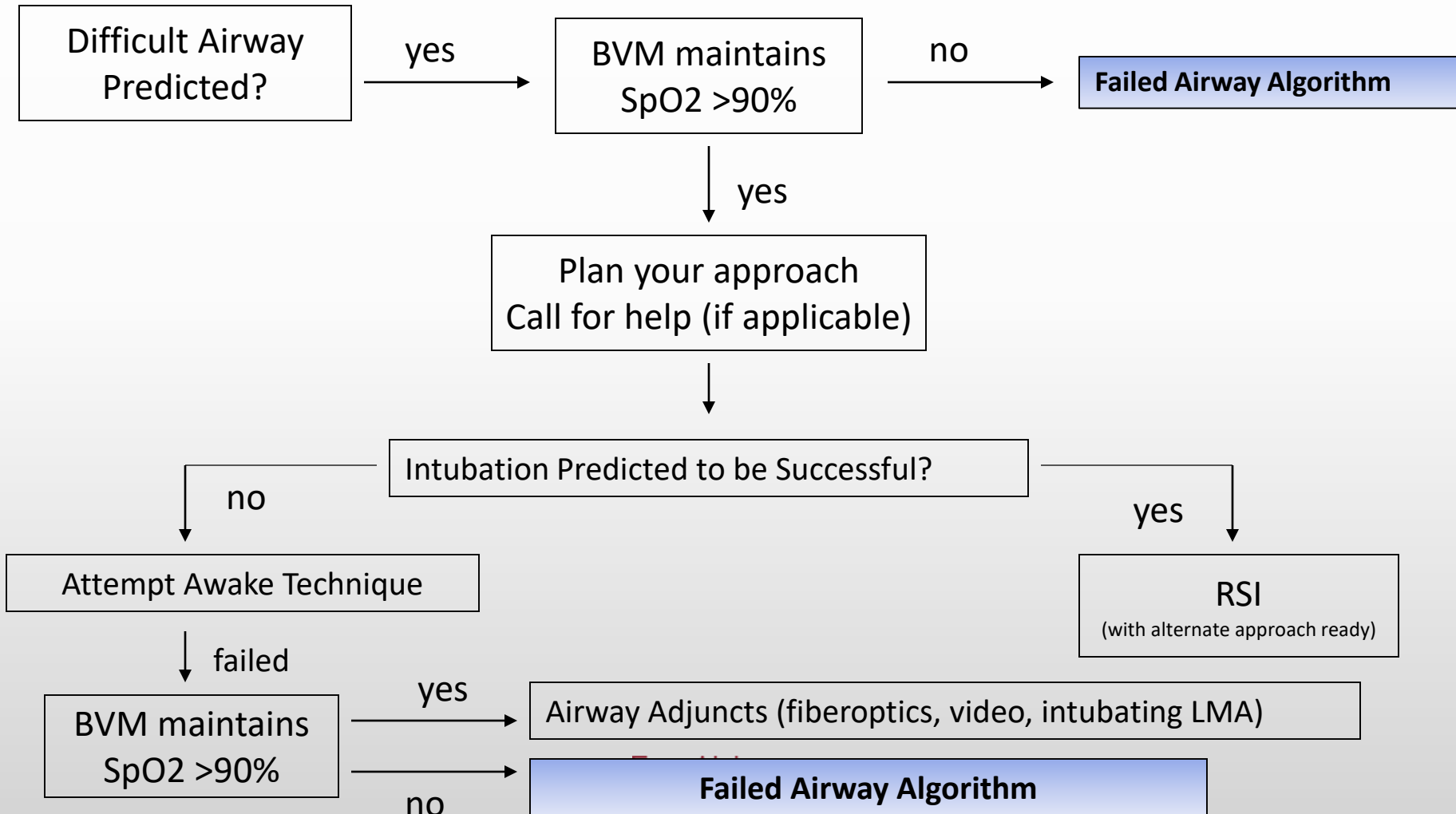
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Difficult Airway Algorithm



Airway Algorithms

Immediate Airway Algorithm

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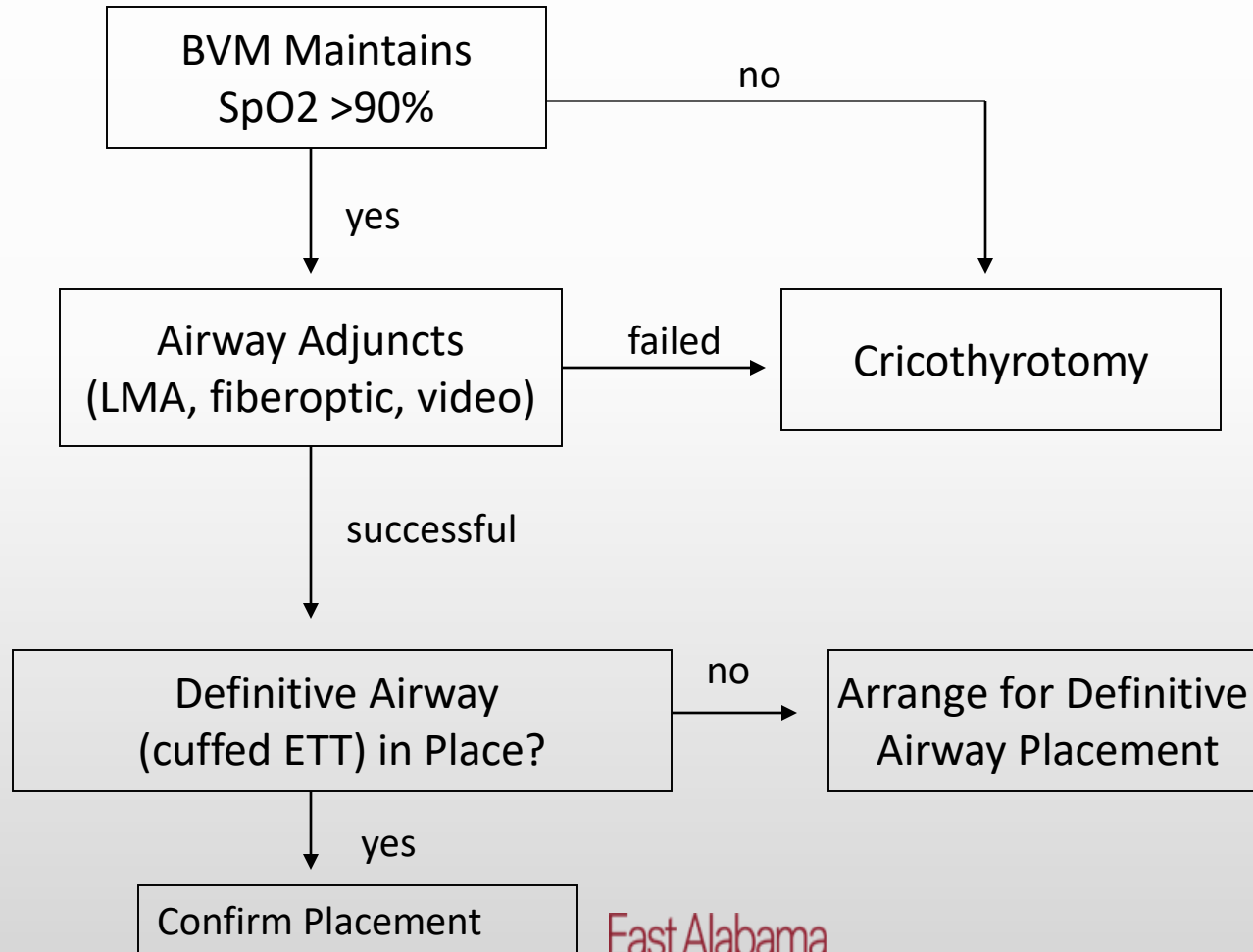
Difficult Airway Algorithm

Difficult airway is predicted or confirmed by previous attempt

Failed Airway Algorithm

The patient cannot be intubated or oxygenated...or...3 failed attempts

Failed Airway Algorithm



Predicting a Difficult Airway

- Anticipation of the difficult airway can be critical to avoiding disaster
- Several assessment tools and scoring systems have been developed
- No single method has been proven or validated

Question: Do you regularly evaluate patients prior to intubation?

These tools may help you anticipate difficulty with different aspects of airway management...

Airway Assessment Tools

- Several assessment tools for predicting intubation difficulty%
 - Examples: Wilson risk score, Arné model, Naguib model
 - Most found in anesthesiology literature
 - Vary in sensitivity and specificity
- Some require measurement of patient height, weight, neck circumference, neck length, neck movement
 - Not always feasible in ED patients

Airway Assessment Tools

- Simple tools for airway assessment in the emergency setting
- LEMON, MOANS, SHORT, RODS*

****The Difficult Airway Course™***

****Walls RM, Murphy MF (2008). Manual of Emergency Airway Management; 3rd edition. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.***

MOANS*

- BVM difficulty is anticipated if these factors are present:
 - **M: Mask seal difficulty**
 - (Beards and facial injuries)
 - **O: Obesity, obstruction**
 - **A: Age (>55)**
 - **N: No teeth**
 - **S: Stiff (also sleep apnea and snorning)**
 - Decreased lung compliance

**The Difficult Airway CourseTM*

**Walls RM, Murphy MF (2008). Manual of Emergency Airway Management; 3rd edition. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.*

LEMON*

- Helps predict challenging laryngoscopy:
 - **L: Look** externally
 - **E: Evaluate 3:3:2**
 - 3 finger breadth mouth opening
 - 3 finger breadth submental distance
 - 2 finger breadth thyromental distance
 - **M: Mallampatti Score**
 - **O: Obstruction**
 - **N: Neck Mobility**



**The Difficult Airway Course™*

*Walls RM, Murphy MF (2008). *Manual of Emergency Airway Management; 3rd edition*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

SHORT*

- Cricothyrotomy difficulty is anticipated if these factors are present:
 - **S: Surgery**
 - Any anatomical distortion or disruption of neck/glottic region
 - **H: Hematoma (or mass)**
 - **O: Obesity**
 - **R: Radiation**
 - Radiation therapy can disrupt anatomy and cause scarring
 - **T: Tumor**

**The Difficult Airway Course™*

*Walls RM, Murphy MF (2008). *Manual of Emergency Airway Management*; 3rd edition. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

RODS*

- Difficulty with an extraglottic device is anticipated with:
 - **R: Restricted** mouth opening
 - **O: Obstruction**
 - **D: Disrupted** or distorted airway
 - **S: Stiff** lungs or cervical spine

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Rapid Sequence Intubation

Goals and Objectives

1. Review the principles of Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI) and explore the fundamental steps of RSI
2. Investigate induction agent options for RSI
3. Discuss paralytic medications for RSI

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Rapid Sequence Intubation

- Cornerstones of RSI:
 - Presumes patient has not fasted / has full stomach
 - Pre-oxygenation followed by potent induction agent and neuromuscular blocking agent
 - No interposed positive pressure ventilation
 - to minimize risk of gastric distention and aspiration

Rapid Sequence Induction

- Steps for RSI:

- Preparation
- Pre-oxygenation
- Pre-treatment
- Paralysis
- Proof of Placement

* Be sure you can BVM patient *

* Always have a back-up plan in place *

Preparation

- Assess patient for difficulty
- Establish plan and back-up plan
- Suction, BVM, Oropharyngeal Airway
- Monitor, IV, Pulse Ox
- Drugs drawn up
 - Intubation
 - Post-intubation care

Pre-oxygenation

- Administer 100% O₂ for 3-5 minutes (2 minutes in children)
- Or 8 deep breaths in 60 seconds
- Allows oxygen to replace nitrogen
- Permits a few minutes apnea before <90% sat
- No positive-pressure ventilation with BVM

Pre-Treatment

- Administered to prevent the potential adverse effects of intubation including:
 - Reflex ICP increase in patients with elevated ICP
 - Sympathetic adrenergic surge in vascular emergencies
 - Bronchospastic response in patient with reactive airway disease
- Given 3 minutes before induction/paralytic agents
 - Lidocaine
 - Opioid

Pre-Treatment

- Lidocaine
 - Mitigates ICP rise and bronchospasm
 - 1.5 mg / kg IV
- Opioid (i.e., Fentanyl)
 - Helps blunt ICP response to intubation
 - Moderates sympatho-adrenal response to intubation
 - 1-3 mcg/kg IV

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Induction (Sedation)

- Midazolam
- Etomidate
- Ketamine
- Propofol
- Fentanyl

Midazolam

- Sedative hypnotic
- No effect on ICP
- May drop BP
- 60-90 second delay to onset
- Amnestic effect
- 0.1-0.3 mg/kg

Etomidate

- Decreases ICP (minimal)
- Little effect on BP
- Myoclonic jerking
- Adrenal suppression in sepsis?
 - debated
- 0.3 mg/kg
- 30-45 seconds to onset

Ketamine

- Dissociative state
- Sympathomimetic
 - Increased BP
 - Bronchodilation
- Hypersalivation
 - Atropine
- Increased ICP?
 - Recent data does not support theory of increased ICP in patients with neurologic injury

Ketamine

- Emergence Phenomenon
 - Ativan
- 1-2 mcg/kg
- 30-45 seconds

Propofol

- Quick onset
- Brief duration of action
- Hypotension
 - Decreased peripheral resistance
 - Pretreatment with fluid bolus
- In patient with poor LV function, loss of preload and PPV can prove fatal

Propofol

- 1-2 mg/kg
- 10-15 seconds
- Maintenance infusion

Fentanyl

- Opioid
- Rapid onset
- Generally neutral BP effect – can cause decrease
- Chest wall rigidity
 - Not reversed with Narcan
 - Paralysis
- 1-2 mcg/kg

Remifentanil

- More rapid onset
- Extremely brief duration
- 1-2 mcg/kg
- Few cardiovascular effects
- ? ICP effects
- Chest wall rigidity

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Paralytic Agents

- Depolarizing
 - Succinylcholine
- Non-depolarizing
 - Rocuronium
 - Vecuronium

Succinylcholine

- Gold Standard
- 45-60 second onset
- 6-12 minute duration
- Persistent depolarization
 - Therefore fasciculations
- Hydrolyzed by pseudocholinesterase

Succinylcholine

- Possible side effects or adverse reactions:
 - Fasciculations
 - Increased ICP
 - Increased intraocular pressure
 - Increased intragastric pressure
 - Hyperkalemia
 - Bradycardia or asystole
 - Malignant hyperthermia

Hyperkalemia

- Burn
- Crush
 - 3-7 days before administration
- Renal Failure
- Skeletal Muscle Disorders

Nondepolarizing Agents

- Competitively block ACH receptor
- Flaccid paralysis

Rocuronium

- 45-90 seconds to onset
- 20-75 minute duration
- Higher dosing
 - Quicker onset
 - Prolonged duration
- Few Cardiovascular effects
- Safe in Renal Failure

Rocuronium

- Safe in Children
- Safe in patients with neuromuscular disorders
- 0.6 to 1 mg/kg