

SFHEC15

Perform endotracheal intubation in an emergency situation



Overview

This standard covers preparing for and performing endotracheal intubation on an individual in order to maintain life.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 form an accurate assessment of the individual's respiratory function and overall condition
- P2 consider and discount alternatives and contra-indications to intubation prior to proceeding
- P3 establish whether or not the risks of intubation outweigh those of not intubating before proceeding
- P4 select the appropriate size and type of intubation equipment according to the individual's needs
- P5 check and confirm that intubation equipment is in a fit state for use
- P6 assemble and position intubation equipment ready for use
- P7 oxygenate the individual adequately before attempting intubation
- P8 position the individual's head to facilitate intubation
- P9 locate the individual's airway accurately and make sure it is free of obstructions
- P10 insert, site and secure the endotracheal tube:
 - P10.1 with minimum trauma to the individual
 - P10.2 within the maximum safe time period
- P11 undertake intubation, and extubation where necessary, in a manner that is consistent with:
 - P11.1 evidence based practice
 - P11.2 own scope of practice
 - P11.3 legislation
- P12 check and confirm that the ventilation to the lungs is effective and that there are no contraindications
- P13 re-oxygenate the individual promptly where the intubation process takes longer than the safe maximum time period
- P14 monitor the individual throughout and following the procedure and respond promptly and effectively to any contra-indications and complications that may arise
- P15 ensure your safety and that of the individual as appropriate to the situation
- P16 maintain accurate, clear and current records of the individual's health status

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the anatomy and physiology of the respiratory systems of a child or young person, adult of working age and/or older person
- K2 alternative means of artificial ventilation where intubation is not possible
- K3 the indications and contra-indications for endotracheal intubation
- K4 the time frame within which endotracheal intubation must be conducted for individual safety to be maintained
- K5 the hazards and complications of performing endotracheal intubation and the risk analysis that should be undertaken
- K6 the importance of selecting equipment that is of a suitable size and type for the individual and the implications of an inappropriate selection
- K7 the calculation for selecting the correct tube size for children and young people
- K8 the procedure for cutting tubes
- K9 the relationship between the internal diameter and length of tubes
- K10 standard checks that should be carried out on intubation equipment to establish its fitness for use
- K11 the landmarks by which an airway can be accurately located
- K12 why obstructions must be cleared prior to intubation and the procedures for doing this, including the use of suctioning equipment
- K13 the intubation procedure for different types of individual
- K14 the importance of siting and securing the endotracheal tube with minimum trauma to the individual
- K15 the actions to be taken in the event of complications arising during the intubation procedure
- K16 the methods used to monitor the individual's health status during and following intubation
- K17 the clinical norms associated with effective respiratory functioning in different types of individual
- K18 the upper and lower readings on monitoring equipment for different types of individual
- K19 the extubation procedures and the situations under which it may be necessary
- K20 the policy and procedures for recording information on the application of endotracheal intubation
- K21 the legislation regarding confidentiality and information sharing, the provision of services, the rights of the individual, protection issues, anti-discriminatory practice, informed consent, relevant mental health legislation and care programme approach
- K22 how to interpret and apply legislation to the work being undertaken
- K23 the ethics concerning consent and confidentiality, and the tensions which may exist between an individual's rights and the organisation's

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- responsibility to individuals
- K24 the importance of gaining assent from individuals who lack capacity to consent

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

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