

Skill Station

Orotracheal Intubation

Objective

- Demonstrate the procedure for orotracheal intubation.

Reference

- *PHTLS: Prehospital Trauma Life Support*, 10th ed.

Evaluation

- Verify the accuracy of the student's ability to properly manage a simulated airway on a manikin and perform an orotracheal intubation by observing the student's procedures and technique.

Equipment

- Bag-mask device with mask and reservoir—1 per student
- Airway adjuncts—enough for all students
- Manikin(s)
- Oxygen—1 per student
- Suction unit—1 per student
- Laryngoscope and blades—1 per student
- Endotracheal (ET) tube with stylet—1 per student
- Capnography

Instructor Guidelines

1. Ensure that each student has all required materials.
2. Read the objective and the evaluation statement to students.

Performance Steps

1. The student verbalizes that body substance isolation (BSI) precautions are considered.
2. The student opens the airway manually.
3. The student elevates the tongue and inserts a simple adjunct.
4. The student ventilates the patient with a bag-mask device unattached to oxygen.
5. The student attaches the oxygen reservoir to the bag-mask device and connects to a high-flow oxygen regulator (12–15 L/min).

6. The student ventilates the patient at a rate of 10–12 breaths per minute with appropriate volumes.

INSTRUCTOR: After 30 seconds, report to the student that breath sounds are present and equal bilaterally, and medical control has ordered the insertion of an endotracheal tube.

7. The student directs the assistant to preoxygenate the patient.
8. The student checks/prepares orotracheal intubation equipment.
9. The student lubricates the distal tip of the ET tube (may be verbalized).

INSTRUCTOR: Remove the simple adjunct and move out of the way when the student is prepared to intubate the patient.

10. The student positions and stabilizes the head properly.
11. The student assesses for hypoxia during the intubation attempt.
12. The student inserts a laryngoscope and displaces the tongue.
13. The student elevates the mandible with a laryngoscope.
14. The student inserts the ET tube, advancing to the proper depth.
15. The student inflates the cuff to proper pressure and immediately removes the syringe.
16. The student ventilates the patient and confirms proper tube placement by auscultation and capnography.
17. The student secures the ET tube.
18. The student suctions the patient as needed throughout the intubation attempt and monitoring.
19. The student monitors the patient's respirations, ventilations, capnography, pulse oximetry, and tube placement throughout care.
20. The student removes gloves and disposes of them appropriately.

Critical Criteria

- The student preoxygenated the patient before intubation.
- The student inserted the ET tube at a proper depth or location within three attempts.
- The student confirmed that the patient was ventilated properly.
- The student performed the procedure in a manner that was safe to the patient.