

B-280 Manual Ventilation with Ambu Bag

Manual resuscitation can be used during an emergency, when disconnected from ventilator, before suctioning or if there is a mechanical failure. Used with room air unless oxygen percentage ordered.

When using a hand held resuscitator, gastric distension may occur from forcing too much air into stomach. If vomiting occurs, remove mask, and clear airway - restarting ventilation as soon as possible.

Keep resuscitator available at the bedside when client requires mechanical ventilation.

Teach family/caregiver how to use the Ambu bag.

Purpose

Manually ventilate client when off ventilator and unable to breath independently.

Promote oxygenation until able to breathe independently.

Applies To

Registered Nurses

Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses

Other (*Identify*): _____

Equipment/Supplies

- Hand held Ambu bag.
- Cuffed face mask or trach adapter.
- Oxygen source, if needed.
- Oxygen tubing.
- Gloves.

Procedure

1. Wash hands. Refer to the Hand Washing procedure.
2. Explain procedure to client.
3. Connect to oxygen by attaching one end of tubing to flow meter adapter and one end to the Ambu bag.
4. If trach tube in place, suction prior to connecting bag.
5. If no trach tube, check airway for obstruction before connecting to Ambu bag.
6. If situation is an emergency, call 911 and begin manual breathing; if client has no pulse begin CPR.
7. If client does not have a trach tube, place mask over nose and mouth - use dominant hand to ventilate by compressing the bag.

8. Slowly compress bag every 5 seconds and allow passive exhalation and re-expansion.
9. Observe chest rise and fall to determine effectiveness of compressions.
10. Observe client color, comfort level.

Documentation Guidelines

Document in the clinical record:

1. Procedure and circumstances around use.
2. Client condition and tolerance of procedure.
3. Color, lung sounds, and any problems noted such as distention.

Related Procedures

None

Policy History

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