



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: RESPIRATORY CARE MANAGEMENT: Policy No.: C156
EMERGENCY RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT Effective Date: 08/1993
BAG

Page: 1 of 2

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the necessary equipment is ready to ventilate a patient with a tracheostomy or on a ventilator.

Performed by: RNs, LVNs, NAs, RAs, SNWs, Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP), Affiliating Nursing Students under the supervision of an RN

Policy Statements:

1. Each patient with an artificial airway (e.g. ETT, tracheostomy) will have an emergency respiratory equipment bag with them at all times.
2. The emergency respiratory equipment bag will be placed by the patient at all times and will include the following:
 - a. List of contents of emergency respiratory bag
 - b. Bag-valve mask device of appropriate size. Replace mask whenever visibly soiled or malfunctioning.
 - c. Two new tracheostomy tubes (cuffed or cuffless to match the current tube)
 1. One the same size as the current tracheostomy tube
 2. One that is one size smaller
KEY POINT: Patients with size 4 tracheostomy tube will only have a size 4 as backup as there is no adult size smaller
 - d. Suture removal kit
 - e. Obturator for current tracheostomy tube size
 - f. Two Suction catheters of appropriate size
 - g. Yankauer for oral suction
 - h. Clean gloves
 - i. Water soluble lubricant
 - j. Two - 4 x 4 gauze
 - k. Velcro tracheostomy tube holder
 - l. Twill tape for patients at risk of removing their tracheostomy tube (e.g. cognitively impaired patients)
 - m. 12 ml syringe
3. The RN/LVN responsible for the patient is to ensure that all emergency equipment is available and in working condition at all times.
4. Bag-valve-mask device and tracheostomy tubes should be ordered as needed through the Respiratory Department.
5. The emergency equipment bag will be checked at the beginning of every shift by a licensed nurse.

Documentation:

1. Document in the medical record in the patient's safety measures under iView and I&O.

Revised By:

Elizabeth Thompson, RN

References:

AACN. (2017). *Procedure manual for high acuity, progressive, and critical care*. St. Louis, MI: Elsevier.

08/93 – Revised
03/97 – Reviewed
04/99 – Revised
03/00 – Revised
07/04 – Revised (renamed)
10/07 – Revised
01/11 – Revised
12/13 – Revised
07/16 – Revised
05/19 – Revised
05/20 - Revised
07/22 - Revised