

***VALLEYCARE***  
**OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER/HEALTH CENTERS**  
**RESPIRATORY CARE SERVICES - ADULT**  
**POLICY & PROCEDURE**

**NUMBER: 878**  
**VERSION: 2**

**SUBJECT/TITLE: AEROLIZED THERAPY-COOL & HEATED NEBULIZER**

**POLICY:** Cool and heated Nebulizer therapy is the responsibility of respiratory therapy department. A written physician's order is to precede the allocation of Cool and heated Nebulizers.

**PURPOSE:** To explain the procedure of delivering cool and heated aerosolized Nebulizer.

**DEPARTMENTS: RESPIRATORY CARE SERVICES**

**DEFINITIONS:**

**PROCEDURE:** Treatment Criteria (Objectives)

- Delivery of aerosolized sterile water.
- Humidification of the respiratory tract.
- Mobilization of bronchial secretions.
- Promote cough.

Treatment Procedure of Cool and Heated Nebulizers

**Confirm and Clarify Physician Orders.**

Read the patients chart checking for:

- Appropriate orders.
- Mode of therapy.
- Frequency of therapy.
- Therapeutic objectives
- Diagnosis.
- Vital signs.
- Present medical status.

Gathering Equipment

- Oxygen flow meter.
- Nebulizer heater if indicated.
- Nebulizer adapter for use with heater
- Sterile water
- 10 to 15 lengths of corrugated 22mm tubing.

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- Two disposable aerosol “T” adaptors
- Thermometer if needed
- Calibrated oxygen analyzer with sensor.
- Drainage bag with “wye” connector.
- Aerosol mask.

#### Treatment Administration for Cool and Heated Nebulizers

- Wash hands.
- Secure an oxygen flowmeter to the patient wall o2 connector.
- Connect the nebulizer adapter to the sterile water.
- Connect the nebulizer adapter to the flow meter.
- Attach the 22mm corrugated tubing the Nebulizer opening.
- Connect the distal end of the corrugated tubing to the aerosol mask.
- Cut the tubing one length behind the aerosol mask and attach an aerosol “T” adaptor and secure a thermometer to the “T” adaptor if heated.
- Cut the 22mm tubing midway the length of tubing and attach a drainage bag with “wye” connector adaptor for drainage.
- Plug the electrical cord for the heater into a wall outlet.
- Turn the front dial on the heater between 5-7.
- Turn on the flow meter to 15+ LPM.
- Turn the blue fI02 dial on the nebulizer adapter to the FIO2 ordered
- Calibrate oxygen analyzer.
- O2 analyze the FIO2.
- Monitor and stabilize proper FIO2 and temperature before leaving the patient bedside.

#### Cool and Heated Nebulizers Via ETT or Ventilator

To deliver cool and heated nebulizers through an ETT or ventilator attach a “T” connector to the distal end of the 22mm tubing and 2 to 4 50cc tubing lengths to the other side of the “T” piece. Secure the middle opening of the “T” piece to the end of the ETT or trach. Assure there is enough flow to flush out the open end.

#### Documentation

All documentation will be done in the hospital EHR, ORCHID. The Aerosol documentation is in the RT Therapy and Treatment section, under Aerosol Therapy. Documentation can also be done by clicking on the Aerosol Therapy task in the Multi-patient Task List (MPTL).

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References:	
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