

Clinical Indications for Continuous Positive Airway

Pressure Use:

CPAP is indicated in all patients whom inadequate ventilations is expected :

- Asthma
 - Pulmonary Edema
 - Pneumonia
 - COPD
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- 1) Connect to a O2 supply source capable of delivering a minimum of 15 LPM. For maximum generator flow, open the flow meter valve completely.
 - 2) Make sure that the device is free of obstructions and verify proper valve function.
 - 3) Explain the procedure to the patient.
 - 4) Consider placement of an NPA.
 - 5) Place ETCO2 monitoring device to the patient.
 - 6) Place mask over the patients complete face.
 - 7.) Monitor the pressure gauge with range of 0-30 cmH20 per established protocol. If the pressure drops during inspiration the pressure is low.
 - 8.) If the PEEP is adjustable on the CPAP device, adjust the PEEP beginning at 0 cmH20 and slowly titrate to achieve 3-5 cmH20 for COPD/Asthma, 5-10 cmH20 for Pulmonary Edema/aspiration/pneumonia.
 - 9.) Evaluate the response of the pt by assessing breath sounds, SpO2, ETCO2, and general appearance.
 - 10.) Encourage the patient to allow forced ventilation to occur, monitor closely.
 - 11.) Document time and response on the PCR.

Contraindications:

- High risk of vomiting
- Failure to hold airway
- Laryngeal Trauma
- Hypovolemia
- Decreased LOC
- Hypotension

Certification Requirement: Maintain knowledge of the indications, contraindications, technique and possible complications of the procedure. Assessment of the of this knowledge accomplished via quality assurance mechanisms, classroom demonstrations, skills stations, or other mechanisms as deemed appropriate by the Survival Flight Medical Director.