New Hampshire Prehospital
Rapid Sequence Intubation
Administrative Packet

2019
RSI Prerequisite

LICENSURE:
Paramedic

EXPERIENCE
≥ 2 Year
≥ 5 un-proctored endotracheal intubations on human, non-cadaver tissue

EDUCATION:
NH Bureau of EMS online RSI training module
Medical Director or designee to oversee program

MEDICAL DIRECTION
Direct oversight of the program
Recommendation for program QM
Reviews all airway calls

RECOMMENDATION
The Medical Director and the Head of EMS Agency must mutually agree to participate in the program.

QM/PI PROGRAM
Standardized forms with elements to be reviewed (to be determined by the MCB)
Medical Director to review all calls where RSI was performed or attempted.
Remediation: 2 people to look at problem calls (Medical Director and NH EMS) and come up with a consensus as to remediation.

REPORTING
Report to NH EMS via TEMSIS NH
Data reported as requested by the NH Bureau of EMS
EMS will report to MCB

COMPETENCE/EXPIRATION
Every two years
Complete online RSI training module through NH Bureau of EMS
Complete at least five simulated RSI scenarios with critical evaluation by RSI coordinator and/or medical director
Be approved by RSI coordinator and medical director to continue performing RSI

RESOURCES
MRH agreement with participating hospital which includes access to necessary inter-departments. (example: E.R, IV team, O.R, Respiratory, etc.)
Medications, as needed
Equipment (same as needed for ALS truck)

Video laryngoscopy
Personnel: 1 paramedic and 1 EMT crew member educated with the RSI Assistant Program as approved by the Medical Control Board
Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI)
Prerequisites

Checklist

1. **PROTOCOL TITLE AND NUMBER:**
   Complete Application

2. **PROVIDER LICENSE LEVEL NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROTOCOL:**
   Provide list of eligible providers

3. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**
   Attach letters of recommendation from Medical Director and Head of Unit

4. **THE PROVIDER EXPERIENCE CRITERIA**
   Provide written proof for each paramedic the following:
   ≥2 years as a paramedic
   ≥ 5 un-proctored endotracheal intubations on human, non-cadaver tissue.

5. **ALL QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ELEMENTS**
   Complete the RSI Qualifiers

6. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR MONITORING and SKILL RETENTION**
   Ability to report through TEMESIS or equivalent

7. **EQUIPMENT AND STAFF SUPPORT RESOURCES NECESSARY:**
   Provided documentation of MRH agreement with participating hospital which includes access to necessary inter-departments. (ER, OR, Respiratory, etc.) and medications.
   Equipment: Provided documentation through appropriate statement and/or purchase receipts including video laryngoscopy

8. **TRAINING REQUIREMENT**
   Provide online RSI module completion certificates and proof of practical training through course completion roster signed by Medical

RENEWAL
Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI)

Prerequisites

Checklist

1. PROTOCOL TITLE AND NUMBER:
   Complete Application

2. PROVIDER LICENSE LEVEL NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROTOCOL:
   Provide list of eligible providers

3. RECOMMENDATIONS:
   Attach letters of recommendation from Medical Director and Head of Unit
   - Recommendation letter should include a list of any new providers to the RSI roster

4. THE PROVIDER EXPERIENCE CRITERIA
   - Every two years
   - Complete RSI online module through NH Bureau of EMS
   - Complete at least five simulated RSI scenarios with critical evaluation by RSI coordinator and/or medical director
   - Be approved by RSI coordinator and medical director to continue performing RSI

5. ALL QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ELEMENTS
   Verify previous years reporting completed

6. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR MONITORING and SKILL RETENTION
   Ability to report through TEMSIS or equivalent

7. EQUIPMENT AND STAFF SUPPORT RESOURCES NECESSARY:
   Provided documentation of MRH agreement with participating hospital which includes access to necessary inter-departments. (ER, OR, Respiratory, etc.) and medications.
   Equipment: Provided documentation through appropriate statement and/or purchase receipts, including video laryngoscopy

8. TRAINING REQUIREMENT
   Provide proof of refresher training through course completion roster signed by Medical Director
**NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY**  
**DIVISION OF FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
**NH EMS PREREQUISITE APPLICATION**  
**PLEASE PRINT (BLACK INK) OR TYPE**

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<th>PROTOCOL NAME</th>
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**TYPE OF APPLICATION (CIRCLE)  
INITIAL  
RENEWAL**

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PART Saf-C PATIENT CARE PROTOCOLS
Saf-C 5922.01 Procedures...

(d) Prerequisites required by protocol shall be established by the EMS Medical Control Board in accordance with RSA 153:A-2 XVI (a).

(e) Protocol prerequisites, when required, shall address each of the following elements:

1. The protocol title and number to which the prerequisites relate;
2. The provider licensure level necessary to carry out the protocol;
3. The name of the medical director, or designee, who will oversee the training module;
4. The MRH and EMS head of unit recommendations to the division;
5. The provider experience criteria;
6. All quality management program elements;
7. Reporting requirements for monitoring and skill retention;
8. Equipment and staff support resources necessary;
9. Provider renewal criteria, and
10. Training requirements.
Instructions for RSI educational program

To prepare for a successful RSI training the following should be reviewed in their entirety:

- The RSI Manual
- The RSI Checklists
- The RSI Dosing Charts
- RSI Prerequisite Protocol
- Orotracheal Intubation Protocol
- Surgical Cricothyrotomy – Bougie Assisted Prerequisite Protocol

Log into NHFA-EMS.com:
- Click “Login to Your Online Classroom” link in upper right corner
- Create an account or log in if you already have an account
- Click “Site Home” in upper left corner
- Click “Emergency Medical Services Program” link
- Select “Rapid Sequence Intubation ELearning Course”
- Complete the online module

Competencies
- Attend in person an approved RSI training high fidelity simulation training program provided by the NH Bureau of EMS or your Medical Director to include:
  - Classroom training focusing on airway management
  - Simulation of at least 5 RSI cases with critical evaluation by your medical director
  - If possible, complete airway training in the operating room with the anesthesia service
## Rapid Sequence Intubation
### Skills Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case and scene information provided by evaluator</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Points Awarded</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses immediate Airway/Breathing/Circulation problems</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides other indicated treatment for patient condition as needed*</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilizes RSI checklist throughout procedure</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Applies nasal cannula at &gt;15 lpm and uses jaw thrust during apnea</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preoxygenates using appropriate method</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Properly positions patient for intubation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Initiates IV fluids at appropriate rate for patient condition</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Considers/administers vasopressors based on shock index/patient condition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepares and tests all equipment as directed by checklist</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepares backup airway and surgical airway equipment</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sets oxygen saturation threshold to stop attempt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chooses correct induction agent and appropriate dose</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chooses correct paralytic agent and appropriate dose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does not utilize BVM during apneic period unless specifically indicated**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waits at least 45 seconds after paralytic before intubation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilizes proper laryngoscopy and tube delivery technique</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stops attempt and reoxygenates patient when appropriate</td>
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<td>Takes maximum of two attempts before using backup airway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirms tube placement using ETCO2 and lung/gastric sounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secures endotracheal tube</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Appropriate post-intubation care (sedation, analgesia, positioning, ventilation)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
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### Critical Criteria
- □ Does not utilize RSI checklist
- □ Fails to address airway/breathing/circulation concerns in a timely manner
- □ Does not properly preoxygenate the patient
- □ Does not address critical hemodynamic compromise prior to intubation
- □ Does not properly prepare equipment prior to intubation
- □ Fails to secure the airway
- □ Does not properly verify tube placement or fails to recognize improper placement
- □ Administers incorrect medications or wrong doses
- □ Evaluator determines candidate did not provide treatment in a safe or adequate manner

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*Examples: nitroglycerin for CHF/pulmonary edema patient, epinephrine for anaphylaxis

**Most cases do not require BVM ventilation after RSI medications. Situations that may require it include metabolic acidosis/DKA when patient has very fast respiratory rate prior to intubation or patients who are critically hypoxic AFTER thorough preoxygenation.
Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI)  7.4

PARAMEDIC - PREREQUISITES REQUIRED - ADULT ONLY

This procedure is only to be used by paramedics who are trained and credentialed to perform RSI. This protocol provides a brief outline of the scope of the RSI paramedic but is not comprehensive of the entire RSI procedure. For full RSI guidelines refer to the 2017 New Hampshire Prehospital RSI Manual. The guidelines in this manual are part of the RSI protocol and are incorporated in this protocol by reference.

Each RSI procedure must be performed in a controlled fashion and must involve careful planning and preparation. RSI requires at least one RSI credentialed paramedic and one credentialed RSI assistant or non-RSI paramedic. Intubation must be performed by the most appropriate provider as determined by the RSI paramedic leading the call. After intubation, the RSI paramedic must remain with the patient at all times unless there are extenuating circumstances (mass casualty, etc.) and ensure that adequate staff remain.

RSI may only be performed on adults (i.e., patients who are taller than a length based resuscitation tape).

Medications
The correct medication regimen should be chosen on a case-by-case basis by the RSI paramedic and care team. Medication options are listed here:

IBW = Ideal Body Weight (refer to chart)
ABW = Actual Body Weight

Premedication (if indicated)
- Fentanyl 1 - 3 mcg/kg IBW IV at least three minutes prior to induction

Induction
- Ketamine 2 mg/kg IBW IV or 4 mg/kg IBW IM (only if performing Delayed Sequence Intubation)
  - For elderly, shock, or risk of hypotension: 1 mg/kg IBW IV or 2 mg/kg IBW IM
  - OR
- Etomidate 0.3 mg/kg IBW IV, maximum single dose 30 mg
  - For elderly, shock, or risk of hypotension: 0.15 mg/kg IBW IV

Paralysis
- Rocuronium 1 mg/kg IBW IV
  - OR
- Succinylcholine 1.5 mg/kg ABW IV, maximum 150 mg

**SUCCINYLCHOLINE CONTRAINDICATIONS:**
- Extensive recent burns or crush injuries > 24 hours old.
- Known or suspected hyperkalemia.
- History of malignant hyperthermia.
Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI)

Post-Intubation Analgesia and Sedation

- Target RASS of -3 to -5
  - Option 1:
    - Ketamine 1 mg/kg IBW IV bolus followed by infusion via pump 2 – 5 mg/kg/hr.
      - Initial bolus after intubation not needed if ketamine was used for induction.
    - If infusion not used: 1 mg/kg IBW IV every 5 - 15 minutes as needed
  - Option 2:
    - Fentanyl 50 - 100 mcg IV every 5-10 minutes as needed
    - Midazolam 2 - 5 mg IV bolus followed by infusion via pump 5 - 30 mg/hour
      - If infusion not used or if additional sedation is required: 2-5 mg IV every 5-10 minutes as needed
    - Lorazepam 1 - 2 mg every 15 minutes as needed (maximum total 10 mg)

Post-Intubation Paralysis (if indicated)

- Rocuronium 1 mg/kg IBW IV
- Vecuronium 0.1 mg/kg IBW IV

Push Dose Epinephrine

May be administered to patients who develop hemodynamic compromise during the peri-intubation period. This should be prepared PRIOR to performing RSI as peri-intubation hypotension is common.

1. Take a 10 mL normal saline flush and waste 1 mL (left with 9 mL)
2. Draw up 1 mL of epinephrine 0.1 mg/mL concentration from the cardiac arrest preloaded syringe into the flush and mix vigorously (now have 10 mcg/mL)
3. Administer 5 - 20 mcg (0.5 mL – 2.0 mL) IV/IO every 2 - 5 minutes as needed and reassess hemodynamics frequently
4. Evaluate blood pressure 1 - 2 minutes after dosing and frequently thereafter
5. Initiate vasopressor infusion as soon as practical

Skills

Delayed Sequence Intubation (DSI): May be used to facilitate preoxygenation and preparation for intubation in patients who cannot tolerate it otherwise.

Bougie Assisted Surgical Cricothyrotomy: This is the preferred surgical airway option to be used by the RSI paramedic. See Surgical Cricothyrotomy Bougie Assisted 7.5.

DOCUMENTATION

- Each attempt at passing an ETT should be documented as a separate procedure of “Rapid Sequence Intubation”. The procedure should include the provider and time for each separate attempt. DO NOT also document a second procedure of “orotracheal intubation” as this will constitute double documentation of the intubation process. In this case, the procedure of RSI counts as the passing of the ETT itself.
- All medications administered should be documented, including the time and provider who administered them.
- Follow all other required documentation outlined in Procedure: Orotracheal Intubation 5.7.
Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI)

Rapid Sequence Intubation Checklist
New Hampshire Bureau of EMS

Patient Preparation
- Preoxygenate
  - NC 15 lpm + NRB/CPAP/BVM
- Positioning
  - Ear to sternal notch
  - Ramp
- Apneic Oxygenation
- Monitoring
  - SpO2 = opposite of BP
  - EKG

Considerations
- Hemodynamics
  - Risk for hypotension?
  - Shock index
- Oxygenation
  - Risk for desaturation?
  - Set SpO2 limit
- pH
  - Metabolic considerations?
- Verbalize Airway Plan

Setup
- Laryngoscope(s)
- ETT(s) + syringe
- Bougie
- Stylette
- Suction(s)
- BVM w/PEEP
- ETCO2
- Supraglottic
- Surgical
- Medications:
  - Premedication
  - Induction
  - Paralytic
  - Post-Intubation
  - Fluids/pressors

Post-Intubation
- Confirm Placement
  - Waveform ETCO2
  - Lung sounds
  - Epigastric sounds
- Secure ETT
- Fentanyl
- Sedation
- Consider Paralysis
- O2/NG Tube
- Sit Patient Up
  - If not contraindicated
- Reassess

Airway Procedure Algorithm
1st Laryngoscopy
- Optimize attempt
2nd Laryngoscopy
- With new strategy
Supraglottic airway
Surgical airway

Optimal Laryngoscopy
- Preoxygenation/ApO2
- Ear to sternal notch/ramp
- Adequate sedation/paralysis
- Direct video laryngoscope (DVl)
- Insertion -> Epilaryngoscopy -> Vallecular laryngoscopy -> Laryngoscopy
  Bougie
  - External laryngeal manipulation
  - Head elevation
  - Jaw thrust
  - Mac as a Miller

Premedication (when indicated)
- Fentanyl
  1-3 mcg/kg IBW

Induction
- Ketamine
  2 mg/kg IBW IV
  4 mg/kg IBW IM (DSI)
- Fentanyl
  0.3 mg/kg IBW, max 30 mg
  *reduce by ½ in shock

Paralysis
- Rocuronium
  1.0 mg/kg IBW
- Succinylcholine
  1.5 mg/kg ABW, max 150 mg
- Vecuronium
  0.1 mg/kg IBW
  (ongoing only)

Post-Intubation

Ketamine Option 1
- Infusion: 2-5 mg/kg/hr OR 1 mg/kg q 5-15 mins

Fentanyl Option 2
- Infusion: 50-100 mcg q 5-10 mins
- AND
  - Midazolam
  - Infusion: 5-30 mcg/kg/hr OR 2-5 mcg as needed OR
  - Lorazepam
  - 1-2 mcg/kg 15 mins

Vasopressors
- Noradrenaline
  - Infusion: 1-30 mcg/min
- Epinephrine
  - Infusion: 2-10 mcg/min
  *Push dose:
    - 1 mL of 0.1 mg/mL in 9 mL saline and mix vigorously
    - Administer 5-20 mcg (0.5 - 2.0 mL) as needed

Ideal Body Weight (g)

Height
Male
Female
5'
50
49
5’1”
52
51
5’2”
55
52
5’3”
57
54
5’4”
59
56
5’5”
62
58
5’6”
64
59
5’7”
66
61
5’8”
68
63
5’9”
71
64
5’10”
73
66
5’11”
75
68
6'
78
69
6’1”
80
71
6’2”
82
73
6’3”
85
75
6’4”
87
76

Shock Index = HR/SBP (>0.8 high risk for hypotension)

The New Hampshire Bureau of EMS has taken extreme caution to ensure all information is accurate and in accordance with professional standards in effect at the time of publication. These protocols, policies, or procedures MAY NOT BE altered or modified.
Orotracheal Intubation

PARAMEDIC STANDING ORDERS – ADULT & PEDIATRIC

INDICATIONS
- Apnea/respiratory failure, impending respiratory failure, impaired or absent gag reflex.
- Inadequate ventilation/oxygenation with basic airway procedures.
  - The appropriate method of airway management should be determined based on patient condition. If basic procedures are deemed inappropriate or have proven to be inadequate then more advanced methods should be used.

CONTRAINDICATION
- Epiglottitis.
- Facial or neck injuries that prohibit visualization of airway anatomy (relative).

PROCEDURE
Direct Laryngoscopy or Direct Video Laryngoscopy:
1. Place patient in ear to sternal notch position and elevate head to 30° if possible. Ensure all preparation and planning steps are complete.
2. Insertion: Open the mouth fully and insert the tip of the blade into the mouth to the right and sweeping the tongue to midline. The laryngoscope should be gripped lightly as no significant force is needed until later steps. It is helpful, especially if there are substantial secretions, to lead with the suction catheter and suction as the laryngoscope is advanced.
3. Epiglottoscopy: SLOWLY advance the blade down the tongue at the midline until the epiglottis is seen. Be sure to control the tongue leaving space to the right for tube delivery. Keep the tip of the blade along the tongue and avoid allowing the laryngoscope to fall posterior.
4. Valleculouscopy: Gradually advance the blade until it is seated in the vallecula. The blade must engage the hypoepiglottic ligament in order to adequately lift the epiglottis. The ligament lies directly within the vallecula. If using a Miller blade pass tip of blade under the epiglottis to control it directly.
5. Laryngoscopy: Once the tip of Mac blade is seated in the vallecula or tip of Miller blade has passed the epiglottis lifting force should be applied forward and upward without rotating the handle backward. The epiglottis will lift or be displaced and the larynx will be exposed
6. If using bougie: Once an optimal view is obtained pass the bougie through the cords. Tracheal rings may be felt if the coude tip remains pointing upright. Advance the bougie slowly until it lodges in the proximal bronchi. Be careful not to advance with too much force as tracheobronchial trauma may occur. If the bougie does not stop advancing this is suggestive of esophageal placement. Advance the lubricated endotracheal tube over the bougie without removing the laryngoscope. If the tube cannot be advanced through the cords rotate it 60° counterclockwise. Visualize the tube passing through the cords if possible and stop advancing once the cuff is past the cords. Remove the laryngoscope, hold tube firmly, and remove the bougie.
7. If using stylette: Ensure stylette is bent in “straight-to-cuff” fashion with 30° bend angle and tube cuff is lubricated. Once an optimal view is obtained pass the tube to the right and below the line-of-sight to the cords. The tube must be visualized passing through the cords. Advance tube until the cuff is seen passing through the cords. If resistance is felt rotate the tube clockwise. Once the tube is in place hold it firmly and remove the stylette.
8. Inflate ETT cuff with 5 - 10 mL of air and adjust inflation pressure if necessary. The pilot balloon should feel inflated but be easily compressible and not too hard.
9. Confirm tube placement via continued waveform capnography, presence of bilateral lung sounds, and absence of epigastric sounds.
Orotracheal Intubation

The New Hampshire Bureau of EMS has taken extreme caution to ensure all information is accurate and in accordance with professional standards in effect at the time of publication. These protocols, policies, or procedures MAY NOT BE altered or modified.

1. Place patient in ear to sternal notch position and elevate head to 30° if possible. Ensure all preparation and planning steps are complete.

2. Insertion: Open mouth fully and insert blade at the midline. It is helpful, especially if there are substantial secretions, to lead with the suction catheter and suction as the laryngoscope is advanced.

3. Epiglottoscopy: Gradually advance the blade by rotating handle backward and allowing the tip of the blade to follow the tongue until the epiglottis is seen.

4. Valleculoscopy: Advance the tip of the blade until it is seated in the vallecula. DO NOT go to too deep. The tip of the blade may need to be slightly above the vallecula in order to facilitate tube passage. If you can see the cricoid ring through the cords you are too deep.

5. Laryngoscopy: Lift the jaw straight up with the blade exposing the larynx fully.

6. Tube passage for non-channeled devices: A lubricated ET tube loaded on a rigid or standard stylette should be used. The stylette should have a gradual curve at the end to almost a 90° angle. Pass the tube into the mouth from the right side. The tip should enter view from the bottom of the screen and toward the larynx. When the tube has just begun entering the cords the stylette should be popped up out of the tube slightly using your right thumb or with the help of an assistant. This will allow the tip of the tube to fall between the cords at the correct angle. Pass the tube until the cuff is past the cords.

   Note: It is not recommended to use a bougie with a non-channeled IVL laryngoscope as they are not easily maneuvered around the steep angle that is present.

7. Tube passage for channeled devices: Line up view on camera with the cords. Advance lubricated ETT down channel and visualize it passing through the cords. It may be helpful to preload a bougie in the tube and advance it through the cords first.

8. Inflate ETT cuff with 5 - 10 mL of air and adjust inflation pressure if necessary. The pilot balloon should feel inflated but easily compressible and not too hard.

9. Confirm tube placement via continued waveform capnography, presence of bilateral lung sounds, and absence of epigastric sounds.

10. Secure ET tube and continue to monitor waveform capnography. Frequently reassess tube placement.

If intubation attempt is unsuccessful, ETT placement cannot be verified or ETT becomes dislodged:

- Monitor oxygen saturation and end-tidal CO₂ AND
- Ventilate the patient with 100% oxygen via a BVM until ready to attempt intubation again.
- Consider insertion of supraglottic airway if additional intubation attempts are unlikely to be successful.

Techniques to improve laryngeal view:
- Head Elevation: Elevate the head by lifting with the laryngoscope or having an assistant lift the head from underneath.
- External Laryngeal Manipulation (ELM): The person intubating uses their right hand to manipulate the larynx to a position that is suitable. An assistant then holds the larynx in that position. Note: BURP and cricoid pressure are no longer recommended.
- Jaw Thrust: An assistant performs a jaw thrust to assist with tissue displacement.
Orotracheal Intubation

5.7

PARAMEDIC STANDING ORDERS – ADULT & PEDIATRIC
If continued intubation attempts are unsuccessful (maximum of 3 attempts per patient) consider Cricothyrotomy. See Cricothyrotomy Procedure 5.2 OR 7.5.

POST TUBE PLACEMENT CARE – ADULT
Option 1:
- Ketamine 1 mg/kg ideal body weight (IBW) IV every 5 – 15 minutes, as needed.

Option 2:
- Fentanyl 50 - 100 mcg IV every 5-10 minutes, as needed.

AND
- Midazolam 2 - 5 mg IV every 5 – 10 minutes as needed OR
- Lorazepam 1 - 2 mg every 15 minutes as needed (maximum total 10 mg)

POST TUBE PLACEMENT CARE – PEDIATRIC
Option 1:
- Ketamine 1 mg/kg IV every 5 - 15 minutes, as needed.

Option 2:
- Fentanyl 2 - 3 mcg/kg IV every 5 - 10 minutes as needed.

AND
- Midazolam 0.1 mg/kg IV (maximum single dose 2.5 mg) every 5 - 10 minutes as needed OR
- Lorazepam 0.1 mg/kg IV (maximum single dose 2 mg) every 15 minutes as needed (maximum total 10 mg)

Documentation
Document each attempt as a separate procedure so it can be time stamped in the ePCR. An attempt is defined as placement of the blade into the patient’s mouth. For each attempt, document the time, provider, placement success, preoxygenation, airway grade, ETT size, placement depth, placement landmark (e.g. cm at the patient’s teeth), and confirmation of tube placement including chest rise, bilateral equal breath sounds, absence of epigastric sounds and capnography readings.

PEARL:
- An intubation attempt is defined as a blade being introduced into the mouth.
7.5 Surgical Cricothyrotomy
Bougie Assisted — ADULT

PARAMEDIC - PREREQUISITE REQUIRED— ADULT

INDICATIONS:
Inability to adequately oxygenate and ventilate using less invasive methods

CONTRAINDICATIONS:
• Ability to oxygenate and ventilate using less invasive measures
• Age less than 12 years old

EQUIPMENT:
• Chlorhexidine
• #10 blade scalpel
• Bougie
• 6.0 mm endotracheal tube
• 10 ml Syringe
• BVM
• Quantitative ETCO₂

PROCEDURE:
1. Position the patient supine and extend the neck as needed to improve anatomic view.
2. Prep neck with Chlorhexidine
3. The provider performing the procedure should be on the side of the patient corresponding to their dominant hand (i.e., right handed provider to the right of the patient).
4. While resting dominant hand on patient’s sternum, make an approximately 3 cm vertical incision, 0.5 cm deep, through the skin and fascia. Incision should start just above the thyroid cartilage and extend below the cricoid ring. With finger, dissect tissue and locate the cricothyroid membrane.
5. Make approximately a 1.5 cm horizontal incision through the cricothyroid membrane.
6. With your finger, bluntly dilate the opening through the cricothyroid membrane.
7. Insert the bougie curved-tip first through the incision and angled towards the patient’s feet.
8. Advance the bougie into the trachea feeling for “clicks” of tracheal rings and until “hold up” when it cannot be advanced any further. This confirms tracheal position.
9. Advance a 6.0 mm endotracheal tube (ensure all air aspirated out of cuff) over the bougie and into the trachea.
10. Remove bougie while stabilizing ETT ensuring it does not become dislodged.
11. Inflate the cuff with 5 – 10 ml of air.
12. Confirm appropriate proper placement by symmetrical chest-wall rise, auscultation of equal breath sounds over the chest and a lack of epigastric sounds with ventilations using bag-valve-mask, condensation in the ETT, and quantitative waveform capnography.
13. Secure the ETT.
14. Reassess tube placement frequently, especially after movement of the patient.
15. Ongoing monitoring of ETT placement and ventilation status using waveform capnography is required for all patients.