

SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY PROGRAM POLICY

REFERENCE NO. R-3-A

SUBJECT: CONTINUOUS POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE (CPAP)

PURPOSE:

To define the indications, contraindications, complications of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP).

GOALS:

1. Elimination of dyspnea
2. Decreased respiratory rate
3. Decreased heart rate
4. Increased SpO₂
5. Stabilized blood pressure

INDICATIONS:

1. Severe respiratory distress
2. Age 8 and above
3. CHF with acute pulmonary edema
4. Near drowning

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

1. < 8 yrs of age
2. Respiratory or cardiac arrest
3. Agonal respirations
4. Severe decreased LOC
5. SBP < 90
6. S/S of pneumothorax
7. Inability to maintain airway patency
8. Major trauma, especially Head Injury with increased ICP or significant chest trauma
9. Facial anomalies

COMPLICATIONS:

1. Hypotension
2. Pneumothorax
3. Corneal drying

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