



Infrequently Used Skills Verification Checklist Needle Cricothyrotomy

1110-F

Name:	Date:		
Provider Agency:	Evaluator:		
Objective: Describe the indications/contraindications for needle cricothyrotomy and demonstrate the ability to proficiently perform the procedure.			
Equipment: Appropriate PPE, cricothyrotomy manikin, antiseptic agent, tape, 10 ml syringe, 12ga or 14ga over-the-needle catheter and jet insufflation device or ENK Oxygen Flow Modulator, or Rusch QuickTrach® Emergency Needle Cricothyrotomy Kit and BVM.			
Performance Criteria: The individual will be required to describe the indications/contraindications for needle cricothyrotomy and proficiently perform the procedure on a cricothyrotomy manikin.			
Step	Description	Does	Does Not
1	Verbalizes/demonstrates use of appropriate PPE		
2	Verbalizes indications for needle cricothyrotomy: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inability to maintain the airway with standard airway procedures. Typically involves patients with one or more of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Airway obstruction by uncontrolled bleeding into the oral cavity and/or vomiting○ Severe maxillofacial trauma – blunt, penetrating, or associated with mandibular fracture○ Laryngeal foreign body that cannot be removed expeditiously○ Swelling of upper airway structures○ Infection (e.g., epiglottitis, Ludwig’s angina)○ Allergic reaction or hereditary angioedema○ Chemical or thermal burns to the epiglottis and upper airway		
3	Verbalizes contraindications for needle cricothyrotomy: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age < 3 years or estimated weight < 15 kg• Ability to maintain airway utilizing less invasive procedures• Conscious patient• Moving ambulance• Midline neck hematoma or massive subcutaneous emphysema		
4	Selects appropriate size catheter/device for patient size		
5	Assembles and checks the equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If using jet inflation device/ENK Oxygen Flow Modulator:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Attaches 10 ml syringe to 12/14ga catheter○ Connects jet insufflation device/ENK Oxygen Flow Modulator to high flow oxygen source• If using the QuickTrach Cricothyrotomy Kit, device comes pre-assembled with syringe attached		
6	Stabilizes larynx with thumb and forefinger and locates cricoid membrane		



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Step	Description	Does	Does Not
7	Inserts catheter/device: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If using a 12/14 gauge catheter with jet insufflation device/ENK Oxygen Flow Modulator, inserts needle downward through the midline of the cricoid membrane at a 45° – 60° angle toward the carina while applying negative pressure to the syringe• If using the QuickTrach Cricothyrotomy Kit, punctures cricoid membrane at a 90° angle		
8	Verifies needle has entered the trachea by aspirating air into syringe		
9	Advances catheter/cannula: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If using a 12/14 gauge catheter with jet insufflation device/ENK Oxygen Flow Modulator, advances catheter over the needle towards the carina• If using the QuickTrach Cricothyrotomy Kit:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Changes angle of insertion to 45° and advances to the level of the stopper○ Removes stopper (does not advance device with needle still attached)○ Slides plastic cannula into the trachea until flange rests on the neck		
10	Removes and properly disposes needle and syringe		
11	Secures catheter/cannula		
12	Provides Ventilation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If using Jet insufflation device/ENK Oxygen Flow Modulator, attaches oxygen supply tubing to catheter and provides ventilation using appropriate inspiratory to expiratory ratio (seconds):<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Jet insufflation device ratio – 1:4○ ENK Oxygen Flow Modulator ratio – 4:6• If using the QuickTrach Cricothyrotomy Kit, attaches BVM to connecting tube and provides ventilation at appropriate rate		
13	Verifies proper placement by the observance of chest rise and fall (jet insufflation device and QuickTrach Cricothyrotomy Kit only), auscultation of lung sounds and the absence of subcutaneous emphysema		