



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 over-the-needle catheter 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 12ga airway catheter<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Attaches 10 ml syringe to the catheter○ Ensure a 3.0mm endotracheal tube connector is available to attach to the catheter to the BVM following placement• 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 12ga catheter, inserts needle downward through the midline of the cricoid membrane at a 45^o angle caudally while applying negative pressure to the syringe• If using the QuickTrach Cricothyrotomy Kit, punctures cricoid membrane at a 90^o 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 12ga catheter, advances catheter over the needle caudally• If using the QuickTrach Cricothyrotomy Kit:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Changes angle of insertion to 45^o 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 a 12ga catheter, attaches a 3.0mm endotracheal tube connector to the catheter, attaches BVM with supplemental oxygen and provides ventilation using appropriate rate.• If using the QuickTrach Cricothyrotomy Kit, attaches BVM to connecting tube and provides ventilation at appropriate rate• Due to the limited efficiency of exhalation through a small catheter, does not ventilate faster than 10-12 breaths per minute (1 breath every 5-6 seconds)• Attaches an ETCO₂ monitoring device		
13	Verifies proper placement by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The observance of chest rise and fall• Auscultation of lung sounds and the absence of subcutaneous emphysema		