COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY

Program Document: **Intubation: Stomal**
Policy Number: 8805.15

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Signature on File
EMS Medical Director

Signature on File
EMS Administrator

Purpose:

A. To establish an advanced life support skill guideline when performing stomal intubation.

Authority:

A. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5
B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

Indications:

Indications in patients with pre-existing tracheostomy:

A. Respiratory Arrest.
B. Hypoventilation.
C. Loss of gag reflex.
D. Cardiac Arrest

Equipment:

A. Manufacturer's Kit or appropriate-sized Endotracheal tube.

Procedure:

A. When using a manufactured stomal intubation kit, follow the manufacturer's recommended insertion procedure.
B. For Endotracheal Tube use:
   1. Select the largest endotracheal tube (ETT) that will fit through the stoma without force; check the cuff and remove the stylet.
   2. Pre-oxygenate the patient with 100% oxygen (O2) using a BVM.
   3. Lubricate the ETT.

4. Suction if necessary.
5. Pass the ETT and inflate the cuff. The pharynx has been bypassed, so the ETT will protrude from the neck by several inches.
6. Hold the tube in place and attach the BVM.
7. While ventilating the patient, watch for equal rise and fall of the chest.
8. Secure the tube and ventilate with 100% O2.
9. Auscultate for bilaterally equal breath sounds. Examine the neck for subcutaneous emphysema.
10. Do not take longer than 30 seconds to perform this procedure.

C. Secure tube, and note proper tube placement by documenting ETCO2, ETT size, time, result (success), and placement location by the centimeter mark at the stoma.
   1. End-Tidal CO2 monitoring shall be used.
   2. Re-evaluate the position of the tube after each move of the patient and document findings on ePCR.

Special Notes:

A. The ET tube does not need to be cut or modified in any way. Doing so may damage the tube and result in a cuff leak.
B. If feasible, pull over to perform stomal intubation.
C. This policy applies to adult and pediatric patients with an existing tracheostomy stoma in need of a secure airway.

Cross Reference:

PD# 8020 – Respiratory Distress: Airway Management
PD# 8031 – Non-Traumatic Cardiac Arrest
PD# 8837 – Pediatric Airway Management