# Suctioning Nasal, Oral & Nasopharyngeal (NP)

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#### **Learning Objectives**



Where is this going?

- 1) Verbalize when suctioning is necessary.
- 2) Select the correct size suction catheter given the age/size of the patient.
- 3) Demonstrate how to measure the proper suction depth for nasopharyngeal (NP) suctioning.
- 4) Successfully demonstrate on a mannequin the technique of nasopharyngeal (NP), nasal, and oral suctioning.
- 5) Locate the Children's Hospital and Health System Patient Care Policy and Procedure on suctioning.
- 6) Demonstrate correct documentation of suctioning in Epic.
- 7) Understand different techniques of how to sooth patients during suctioning in order to make the experience as comfortable as possible.

## Why do we suction?



#### **YES to suction**

#### **NO to suction**

 Infants, young children, total care kids who are unable to remove their own secretions

- Secretion removal for patients with bronchiolitis
  - Bronchiolitis is caused by a respiratory virus (most often RSV)
  - Causes congestion and swelling of the small airways of the lungs

- \* Child with a basilar skull fracture
- \* Child with suspected croup or epiglottitis
- \* Patient who demonstrates adequate ability to clear own secretions
  - Able to spontaneously cough
  - Able to blow nose

#### **Bronchiolitis Lungs**



\* A provider's order is NOT needed for any type of suctioning \* If unsure due to medical hx (acute head/facial/neck surgery) discuss with provider for risk/benefit assessment



### Suction catheter



Mushroom tip nasal aspirator

Yankauer

## Suctioning Devices



Bulb syringe





## What size catheter should I use?



Age	Catheter Size
Preemie	5/6 fr.
Term Newborn	5/6 – 8 fr.
Newborn – 6 mo.	8 – 10 fr.
1 yr. – 8 yrs.	10 fr.
8 yrs. or older	10 – 14 fr.

## What suction pressure should I use?



Age	Suction Pressure
Neonates	60 – 80 mmhg
Infants	80 – 100 mmhg
Children	100 – 120 mmhg
Adults	100 – 150 mmhg



## How do I measure for NP suctioning?



#### Measurement

\* Measure from the tip of the nose to the bottom of the earlobe

\* Note on catheter how many mm this is





#### Technique



- \* Matierals needed:
  - Clean gloves
  - Suction catheter
  - Facemask with shield
  - Surgi-lube
  - Saline drops



- \* Place 2-3 saline drops in each nostril
- \* Lubricate tip of catheter with surgi-lube
- \* Insert the catheter down to your measurement
- \* Initiate suction by putting thumb over suction port
- \* Pull back slowly while moving the catheter in a circular motion

#### **NP** Space



\* Tip of the catheter will go into the nasopharyngeal (NP) space = area just above the back of the throat

What can I do to help keep my patient comfortable through this potentially traumatizing experience?



#### Positioning

- \* Allow child position of comfort until you are all set up and ready to suction
- \* Restrain only just before and during suctioning
- Give parents option of being present for support, but don't ask them to restrain child during the procedure

- \* Explain procedure to parents if they are present
  - Let them know that their child may scream and cry
- \* Make sure you have enough help prior to starting

\* Comfort wrapping/swaddling "like a burrito" or "angel wrap"



#### **Comfort Measures**



- All natural, non-pharmacologic intervention made of 24% sucrose and water solution
- <u>Onset</u>—give at least 2 minutes before procedure
- Elevates pain threshold, increases calmness, and decreases crying







## **Case Studies**



#### Case Study #1

\* John is a 28 day-old full term infant, presenting with upper airway congestion and respiratory distress.

- What size catheter would you consider using for NP suctioning?
- What suction pressure will you use?
- What comfort measures would you consider?







- \* Jack is an 8-month old diagnosed with bronchiolitis. He is hospitalized for oxygen needs and frequent suctioning.
  - What size suction catheter would you consider using?
  - What pressure should you set the suction canister to?
  - What comfort measures would you consider using?

## Epic Documentation

#### What you need to document:



- \* Type of suctioning
  - Nasal, oral, NP
- \* Frequency/hour
  - Time

#### \* Amount

 None, scant, small, medium, large, copious

## • Clear, white, yellow, green, red streaks

\* Thickness

\* Color

- Thin, thick, frothy
- \* How the patient tolerated the procedure
  - Cooperative, crying, resisting



#### Resources

in-tra-net 'intra-net

An **internal** web site that helps employees **get things done**.

\* Children's Hospital and Health System Patient Care Policy and Procedure: Suctioning— Oral—Nasal Secretion Clearance

• Found on the Intranet under Quick Links "Policies and Procedures"

• https://ssl1.chw.org/dana/home/index.cgi

\* Nasal Suctioning in the Hospital

 Found on the Intranet under Quick Links "Teaching Materials"



## Mini-Quiz!



Which of the following patients do you NOT want to NP suction? A patient diagnosed with:

A. BronchiolitisB. CroupC. RSV





## A provider's order is needed for suctioning:

#### TRUE or FALSE?







Which of the following equipment is NOT required for NP, oral, or nasal suctioning?

- A. Saline drops
- B. Sterile gloves
- C. Facemask with shield

D. Surgi-lube



## What is the appropriate way to measure for NP suctioning:

- A. From the tip of the nose to the ear to the xiphoid process
- **B**. From the bridge of the nose to the clavicle
- C. From the bridge of the nose to the chin
- D. From the tip of the nose to the bottom of the earlobe

If you see blood in the secretions that you suction, you should call the doctor immediately.

#### TRUE or FALSE

