



## Purpose

The Passy-Muir speaking valve has many benefits, including:

- Increases vocalization
- Improves sense of taste and smell
- Optimizes secretion control/management/organization
- Restores air flow to the natural upper airway
- Supports optimal feeding and language development
- Restores physiologic PEEP
- Improves core stability
- Decreases tracheal suctioning

Your child breathes in through the speaking valve and tracheostomy tube. They then breathe out through the nose and mouth.

## Types of valves

<p>1. This type of valve is used for a child with a <b>tracheostomy</b>.</p> 	<p>2. This type of valve is used by a child with a <b>ventilator</b>.</p> 
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## Guidelines

- **Always deflate** the cuff if your child uses a cuffed tracheostomy tube.
- The trach-only speaking valve fits on the trach tube with a gentle twist. Remove it with a gentle twist the other way.
- The ventilator speaking valve is put in the breathing circuit using an adapter.
- If your child uses oxygen, oxygen **must be used** when wearing the speaking valve.

## Special directions

- If your child has problems breathing while using the valve, remove it. If the problem continues while using the valve, call your doctor.
- Your child may use humidity while wearing the valve.
- Remove secretions by rinsing under warm water.
- **Remove the valve when giving breathing treatments.**
- **Do not use this valve when your child is sleeping or ill.**
- **Someone needs to be with your child while they are using the valve.**

## Daily Cleaning instructions

1. Swish the valve around in warm, not hot, soapy water. **(Not Palmolive)**
2. Rinse with warm water.
3. Put on a clean surface to air dry.

**Note:**

- You **do not need** to disinfect the valve unless your home healthcare provider tells you to.

**Warning.** Do not use hot water, peroxide, bleach, vinegar, alcohol, brushes, or Q-tips on the valve. They may cause damage.

- There are many manufacturers of speaking valves. They each may have valves that come in different colors or shapes. Talk with your child's doctor or speech therapist if you have questions about your child's speaking valve.

**ALERT:** Call your child's doctor, nurse, or clinic if you have any questions or concerns or if your child has special health care needs that were not covered by this information.

**This sheet was created to help you care for your child or family member. It does not take the place of medical care. Talk with your healthcare provider for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up.**