

# Endotracheal and Tracheostomy Suctioning & Reinsertion Medical Directive

An Advanced Care Paramedic may provide the treatment prescribed in this Medical Directive if authorized.

## Indications

Patient with endotracheal or tracheostomy tube

**AND**

Airway obstruction or increased secretions.

## Conditions

Suctioning		Emergency tracheostomy reinsertion	
Age	N/A	Age	N/A
LOA	N/A	LOA	N/A
HR	N/A	HR	N/A
RR	N/A	RR	N/A
SBP	N/A	SBP	N/A
Other	N/A	Other	Patient with an existing tracheostomy where the inner and/or outer cannula(s) have been removed from the airway <b>AND</b> Respiratory distress <b>AND</b> Inability to adequately ventilate <b>AND</b> Paramedics are presented with a tracheostomy cannula for the identified patient.

## Contraindications

Suctioning	Emergency tracheostomy reinsertion
N/A	Inability to landmark or visualize

## Treatment

Consider suctioning			
	Age	Age	Age
	< 1 year	≥ 1 year to < 12 years	≥ 12 years
<b>Dose</b>	suction at 60-100 mmHg	suction at 100-120 mmHg	suction at 100-150 mmHg
<b>Max. single dose</b>	10 seconds	10 seconds	10 seconds
<b>Dosing interval</b>	1 minute	1 minute	1 minute
<b>Max. # of doses</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A

Consider emergency tracheostomy reinsertion
The maximum number of attempts is 2

## Clinical Considerations

### Suctioning:

Pre-oxygenate with 100% oxygen.

In an alert patient, whenever possible, have patient cough to clear airway prior to suctioning.

### Emergency Tracheostomy Reinsertion:

A reinsertion attempt is defined as the insertion of the cannula into the tracheostomy.

A new replacement inner or outer cannula is preferred over cleaning and reusing an existing one.

Utilize a family member or caregiver who is available and knowledgeable to replace the tracheostomy cannula.