

Insertion of Oropharyngeal Airway

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

| √ | Performance Step(s) | Comment(s) |
|---|--|---|
| | Take BSI precautions. | |
| | Place the patient in supine position. | |
| | Select proper size oral airway. | |
| | Open patient's mouth using cross-finger technique. | |
| | Insert the airway with the tip pointing to the roof of the patient's mouth. | |
| | Insert the airway and slide it along the roof of the mouth, past the uvula, or until resistance is met against the soft palate. | If the patient begins to gag at any stage of this procedure, immediately stop the advancement, and remove the airway. If you are aggressive during the insertion process, you can cause trauma, spasming, and swelling to the upper airways. <i>Remember to gently insert the airway. This is very important in the suspected head trauma patient that could have fractures in the soft palate.</i> |
| | Gently rotate the airway 180 degrees. Continue to advance the oral airway until it lies flat on the top of the tongue. Stop advancing when the flange of the airway rests against the patient's mouth. | |
| | Place the mask you will use for ventilation over the airway adjunct you have inserted. | |
| | Reassess the patient's and begin ventilations. | <i>If the patient begins to gag, immediately remove the airway.</i> |
| | Document insertion of oral airway, and any changes in the patient's condition. | |