

Suctioning Through an Endotracheal Tube

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

√	Performance Step(s)	Comment(s)
	Take BSI precautions.	
	Explain the procedure to the conscious patient.	
	Position the patient in a supine position.	
	Check and assemble equipment.	
	Pre-oxygenate the patient.	
	Approximate the length of the catheter to be inserted.	
	Using the sterile gloved dominant hand, place the soft catheter into the ET tube without applying suction.	
	Advance the catheter slowly down the ET tube until it reaches the desired location.	<i>If the patient gags during this procedure stop the advancement.</i>
	Place your non-dominant thumb over the hard plastic hole at the proximal end of the catheter and apply suction. Slowly withdraw the catheter using a twisting motion.	<i>Never suction, or interrupt ventilation for more than 15 seconds.</i>
	Clean the catheter in sterile water to remove debris and/or fluids.	<i>Keep the suction catheter sterile during this procedure.</i>
	Hyperventilate the patient, and repeat the procedure if necessary.	
	Document the procedure.	