**SKILL: Surgical Crichothyroidotomy**

**LEARNER NAME: DATE: / /**

*\*\*Learner expected to introduce him/herself and ask for consent at all times*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **No** | **PERFORMANCE** | **Possible Points** | **Points Obtained** | **Competent** | **Omitted** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | Determine need for surgical cricothyroidotomy |  |  |  |  |
| 1.1 | All other attempts at ventilation and airway control have been unsuccessful |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | *Preparation* |  |  |  |  |
| 2.1 | Correctly check and assemble equipment |  |  |  |  |
| 2.2 | Place patient in supine position |  |  |  |  |
| 3. | *Cricothyroidotomy* |  |  |  |  |
| 3.1 | Clean anterior neck with an alcohol swab |  |  |  |  |
| 3.2 | Correctly locate cricothyroid membrane |  |  |  |  |
| 3.3 | Make a vertical incision in the skin over the cricothyroid membrane with scalpel  OR  Grasp the skin overlying the cricothyroid  membrane and cut with sharp pointed scissors |  |  |  |  |
| 3.4 | Stabilise the thyroid cartilage |  |  |  |  |
| 3.5 | Dilate / spread the incision and re-identify the cricothyroid membrane by palpation with index finger |  |  |  |  |
| 3.6 | *Using your thumb as a depth gauge:*  Carefully insert closed scissor tips horizontally  through cricothyroid membrane  OR  Make an horizontal incision through the  cricothyroid membrane using a scalpel blade |  |  |  |  |
| 3.7 | Rotate scissors 90° to open the membrane incision, and dilate it further by opening the scissor blades (open vertically)  OR  Insert the end of a *different* scalpel handle  horizontally, and rotate the handle 90° (i.e. to  vertical) to dilate the membrane incision.  Remove scalpel *blade* & dispose safely |  |  |  |  |
| 3.8 | Insert an ET tube into the incision and direct it inferiorly into the trachea |  |  |  |  |
| 3.9 | Inflate the cuff |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | *Verify tube placement prior to ventilation*:  a. Auscultate epigastrium and axillae  b. Observe for symmetrical chest movement  c. Attach ETCO2 probe to tube |  |  |  |  |
| 5. | Secure tube to patient’s neck |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | Ventilate patient |  |  |  |  |
| 7. | Recheck carotid pulse |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

References:

* PHECC
* AHA

**Overall assessment of learner’s performance:**

**NOT YET COMPETENT**

**COMPETENT**

Assessor Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Qualification: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Comments\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

