

FAST RESPONSE SCHOOL OF HEALTHCARE EDUCATION EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN EMT Medical Skill Sheet



Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)

OBJECTIVE: Student will demonstrate the ability to correctly assemble and

apply a CPAP device to a patient

1. Patient.

EQUIPMENT: 2. Oxygen Tank with Regulator.

3. CPAP Device.

4. Stethoscope.

CPAP Technique:

- 1. Takes body substance isolation precautions.
- 2. Gathers necessary equipment.
- 3. Assesses vital signs, oxygen saturation, ETCO2 and lung sounds.
- 4. Identifies indications for CPAP use
 - Age >8 years old
 - Signs of pulmonary edema
 - Pulmonary edema secondary to near-drowning
 - Severe respiratory distress
 - Respiratory drive present and adequate (rate >10)
 - GCS >13
- 5. Verbalizes contra-indications of CPAP Use
 - Physical findings indicating a pneumothorax present
 - Hypotension (Systolic <90)
 - Vomiting
- 6. Have patient in a seated Full-Fowlers or Tripod position prior to application of CPAP.
- 7. Prepares equipment.
 - Connects the funnel on the CPAP extension to mask and connects to oxygen
 - Adjusts oxygen flow rate to 15 LPM or higher
- 8. Explains procedure to patient.
- 9. Applies mask to patients face.
- 10. Ensures a proper seal with no leaks.
- 11. Instructs patient to breathe normally and adjust to air pressure.
- 12. Applies and secures straps to mask and around patients head
- 13. Reassesses vital signs, oxygen saturation, ETCO2 and lung sounds.
- 14. Verbalizes high priority transport.

CRITICAL CRITERIA

- Did not take or verbalize BSI.
- Improper assembly or placement
- Did not correctly identify or verbalize the constitution of CPAP.
- Did not turn on oxygen at proper rate before applying mask.
- Did not rule out contra-indications.
- Did not confirm proper seal of mask.
- Failure to manage the patient as a competent EMT