

# Extubation Checklist

## Prepare team

- Consultant & nurse in charge aware

## Assess extubation readiness

- NBM ≥ 4 hours, NGT aspirated
- Acceptable work of breathing on PS10/5
- Good respiratory effort on Ayres T-piece
- Awake or easily roused
- Adequate IV access secured
- Sedation stopped/weaned
- If using Propofol - line flushed off
- Exclude residual muscle paralysis #1
- Latest CXR reviewed
- Lung POCUS in post-op cardiacs
- Haemodynamically stable
- Consider delaying extubation & giving steroids in UAO, repeated airway instrumentation or oversized ETT
- If previous failed extubation – potential causes considered #2
- Relevant imaging/procedures completed

## Known difficult airway?

- If yes, clarify plan with Consultant

## Extubation plan

- Nasal cannulae/High Flow
- CPAP/BiPAP

## Equipment

- Suction and Yankeur
- Ayres T piece
- Appropriately sized mask and guedel
- Appropriate syringe to deflate cuff
- Capnography
- Laryngoscope & 2 blades inc. McGrath
- Bougie/stylet
- ETT (cuffed & uncuffed) correct sizes
- MAST Trolley if required

## Management of post extubation stridor

- PEEP
- High Flow Nasal Cannula O<sub>2</sub>
- Mask CPAP/BiPAP
- Consider re-intubation

### DRUGS:

Dexamethasone 0.5mg/kg IV (Max 8mg)  
then 0.2mg/kg IV 8 hourly for 24<sup>h</sup>

Nebulised adrenaline 0.4ml/kg 1:1000  
(Max 5mls) diluted to 5ml

## #1 Residual paralysis RISK FACTORS

- Repeated/recent (<4 hours) muscle relaxant
- Recent Pancuronium
- Renal impairment
- Cardiopulmonary bypass
- Myopathy

Use of a peripheral nerve stimulator  
(Train of Four) is strongly encouraged

## IF IN DOUBT ASK

### REVERSAL DRUGS:

Neostigmine 50micrograms/kg &  
Glycopyrronium bromide10micrograms/kg

OR dilute pre-mixed vial (2.5 mg/ml  
Neostigmine/500 micrograms/ml  
Glycopyrronium bromide) into 10 mls and  
give 0.2 mls/kg

Sugammadex 2mg/kg

# Extubation Algorithm

Pre-oxygenate - 100% O<sub>2</sub> for 3 minutes  
Not appropriate for single ventilators

Aspirate NGT

Suction oropharynx and ETT  
Optimise position

Deflate cuff and remove ETT

Support airway, apply PEEP  
with face mask and Ayre's T-piece  
Ensure adequate ventilation and oxygenation

**STAY AT THE BEDSIDE UNTIL  
EXTUBATION JUDGED SUCCESSFUL**

If inadequate respiratory effort, low RR or  
low GCS consider residual opiate effect  
and the need for naloxone

## #2 Failed Extubation attempt? Consider need for:

- Vocal Cord Assessment
- Dynamic Bronchoscopy
- Diaphragm Screening