



# AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION

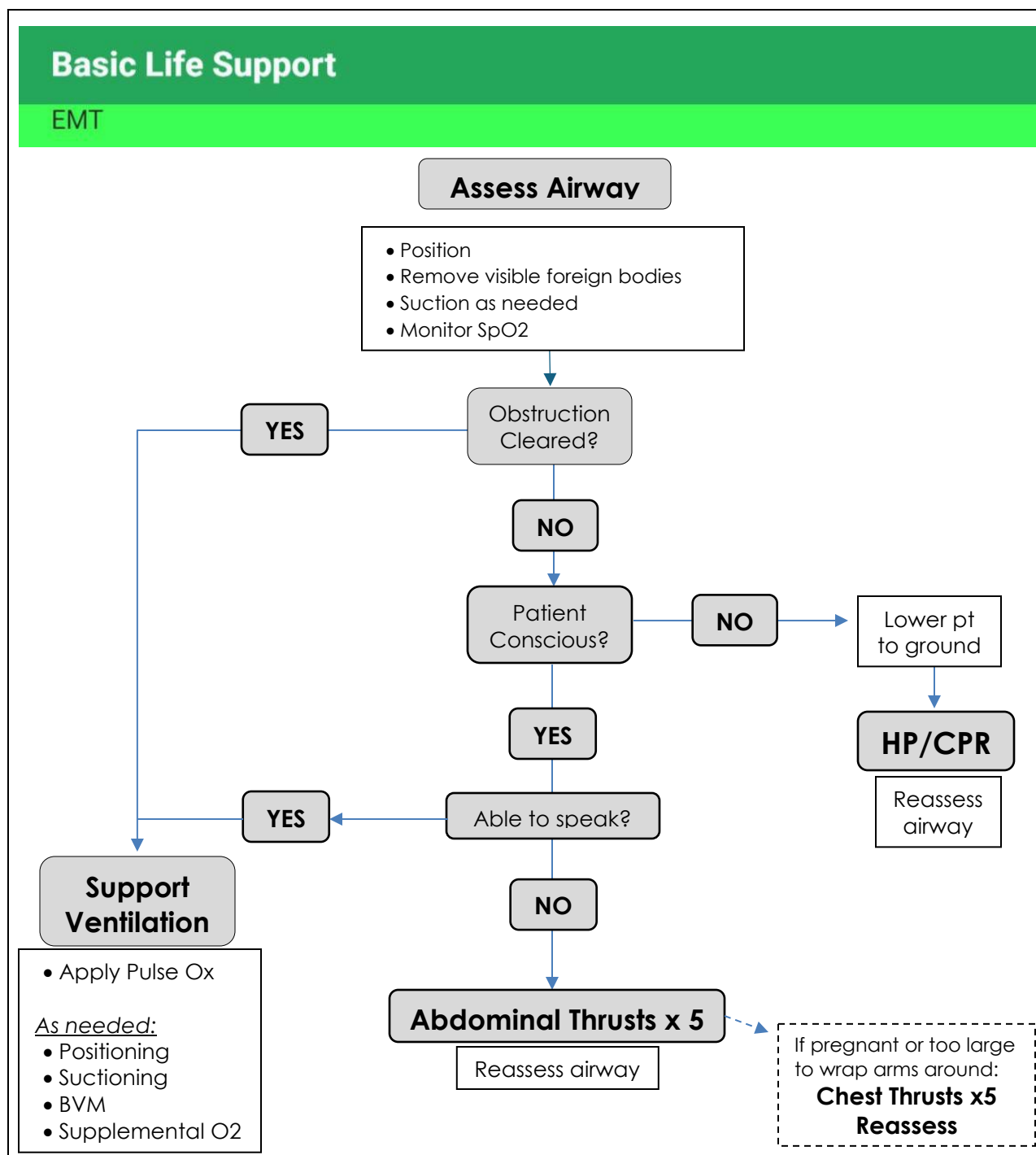
REVISION: 04/25

(Signature On-file)

David Duncan, EMS Agency Medical Director

**PROTOCOL PROCEDURE:** Flow of protocol presumes that condition is continuing. If the patient is in distress, immediate rapid transport is preferred with treatment performed en route.

## ADULT



# Advanced Life Support

## Paramedic

### Direct Laryngoscopy

- Attempt to visualize foreign body
- If visualized, remove with Magill forceps
- Monitor ETCO<sub>2</sub> (Cardiac monitor when able)
- Establish IV/IO (when able)

No visible obstruction? Consider clinical presentation

Suspected  
ANAPHYLAXIS

Follow Protocol:  
**ALLERGIC  
REACTION/  
ANAPHYLAXIS  
(102)**

PERSISTENT  
OBSTRUCTION

**Partial**  
(STRIDOR)?  
or  
**Complete**  
(no sounds)?

**Complete**

**Epinephrine  
1:1000**  
0.5mg IM

Reassess  
airway

**PARTIAL**

**Epinephrine  
1:1000**  
5mg in 5ml  
Nebulized

Repeat x1  
in 10 min

Reassess  
airway

Follow Procedure:  
**NEEDLE  
CRICOTHYROIDOTOMY  
(816)**

OBSTRUCTED  
TRACHEOSTOMY

- Attempt suctioning
- Remove inner cannula
- Clean with saline if present
- If positive-pressure ventilation required, replace inner cannula.

#### **If obstruction not relieved:**

- Remove entire tracheostomy tube and replace with new tracheostomy tube or 6mm ETT.
- May consider use of bougie if trach/ETT not passing easily.  
**NOTE:** 6.5 ETT may be needed when using bougie, as 6.0 may be too tight.

#### **If new tube cannot be placed:**

- Cover stoma and attempt BVM over mouth/nose

#### **If no chest rise:**

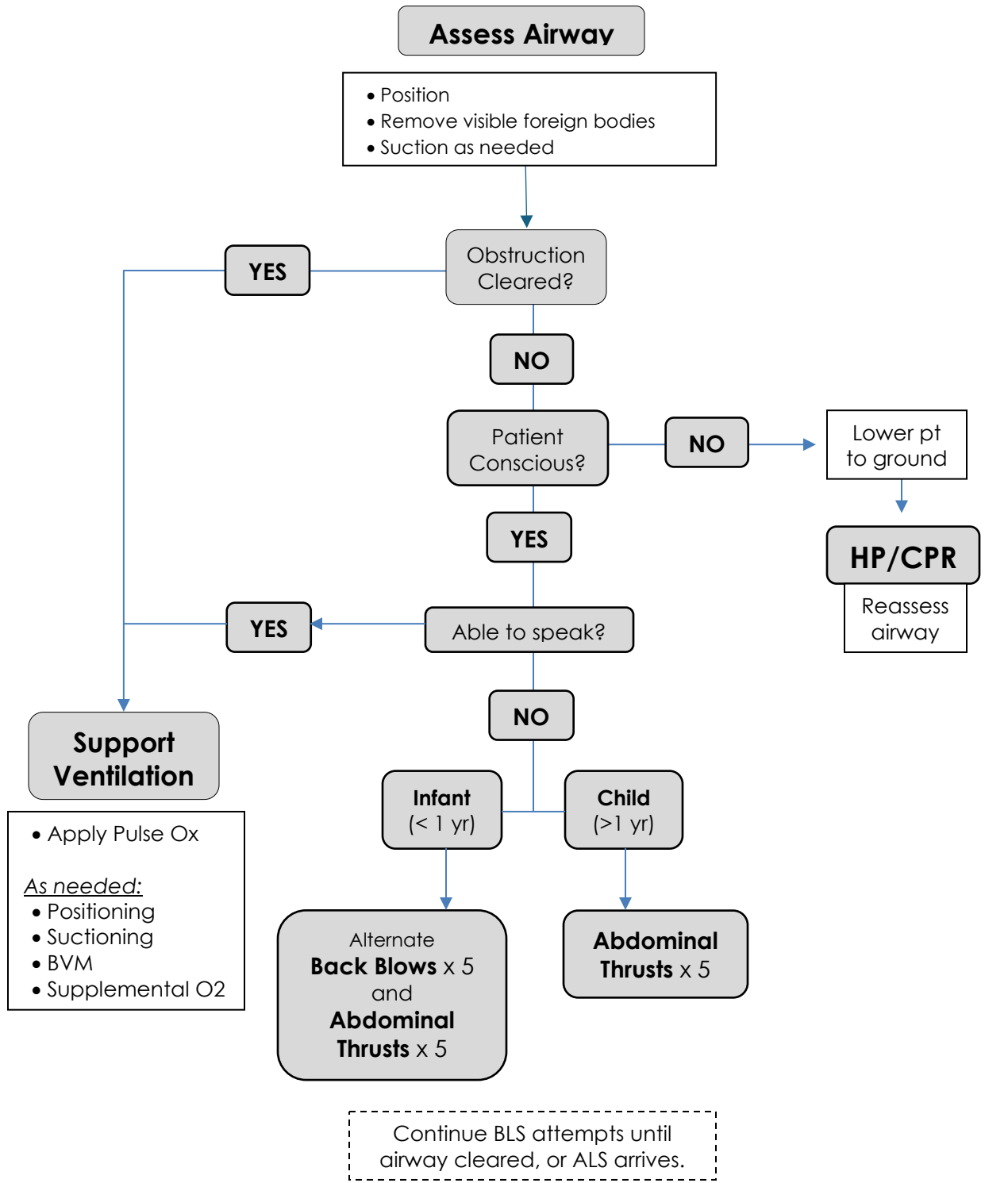
- Attempt BVM over stoma w/ small mask
- Place SGA or intubate

## PEDIATRIC

**PROTOCOL PROCEDURE:** Flow of protocol presumes that condition is continuing. If the patient is in distress, immediate rapid transport is preferred with treatment performed en route.

### Basic Life Support

EMT



# Advanced Life Support

## Paramedic

### Direct Laryngoscopy

- Attempt to visualize foreign body
- If visualized, remove with Magill forceps
- Monitor ETCO<sub>2</sub> (Cardiac monitor when able)
- Establish IV/IO (when able)

If no foreign body obstruction seen, consider clinical presentation . . .

Suspected  
ANAPHYLAXIS

Follow Protocol:  
**ALLERGIC  
REACTION/  
ANAPHYLAXIS  
(102)**

PERSISTENT  
OBSTRUCTION

**Partial**  
(STRIDOR concerning  
for Croup/Tracheitis)?  
or  
**Complete**

**COMPLETE**

**Epinephrine  
1:1000**  
0.01mg/kg  
IM  
Not to  
exceed  
0.5mg

Repeat q 10  
min PRN x3

Follow Procedure:  
**NEEDLE  
CRICOTHYROIDOTOMY  
(816)**

**PARTIAL**

**Epinephrine  
1:1000**  
2.5mg in  
2.5ml  
nebulized

Repeat x1 in  
10 min PRN

If no improvement,  
consider...

**Epinephrine  
1:1000**  
0.01mg/kg  
IM  
Not to  
exceed  
0.5mg

OBSTRUCTED  
TRACHEOSTOMY

- Attempt suctioning
- Remove inner cannula
- Clean with saline if present
- If positive-pressure ventilation required, replace inner cannula.

**If obstruction not relieved:**

**Age < 7yr:**

Cover stoma and attempt BVM via mouth first. If no chest rise, attempt BVM over stoma with small mask.

**Age >= 7 yr:**

Consider replacement of same size trach tube or 5.0 - 6.0mm ETT in stoma.

