



**ORANGE COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
FIRST RESPONDER STANDING ORDERS**

NASOPHARYNGEAL (NPA) AIRWAY

#:SO-FR-05
Page:1 of 1
Orig. Date:11/2017
Revised:4/2018

Application:

Use of the nasopharyngeal airway is appropriate for first responders who have had education and skill training in use of the device.

Indication:

- Semiconscious or unconscious person with a gag reflex to assist in maintaining an open airway.

Contraindications:

- Head injury victim with blood or fluid draining from either nostril.
- History or apparent nasal surgery or nasal bone fracture (past or present)

Standing Order:

1. Select appropriate size nasopharyngeal airway by measuring from the right nostril to the earlobe.

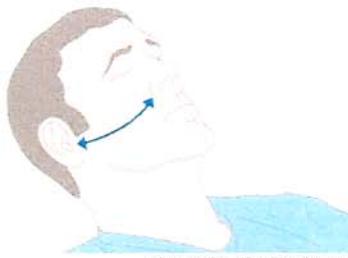


Figure Credit: Flexicare Medical Limited_Nasosafe

2. Confirm EMS response has been dispatched.
3. Use personal protective equipment (gloves and facial protection as a minimum).
4. Lubricate NPA with surgical lubricant (water soluble).
5. Insert NPA with the tip pointing inward (toward the midline) into the right nostril, assuring the curve follows the curve of the nose.
6. Gently advance the NPA until the flange rests without pressure on the outer nostril.

Note:

1. If vomiting occurs, remove NPA and position person on side to avoid inhalation of emesis.

Approved:

Review Dates:4/2018
Final Date of Implementation: 4/20/2018
OCEMS copyright © 2018