



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

OROPHARYNGEAL (OPA) AIRWAY

#: SO-FR-04
Page: 1 of 1
Orig. Date: 11/2017
Revised:

Application:

Use of the oropharyngeal airway are appropriate for first responders who have had education and skill demonstration in use of the device.

Indication:

- Unconscious person with no breathing effort and no gag reflex who is receiving ventilation assistance with a bag-valve-mask.

Contraindications:

- Conscious person
- Gag reflex present

Standing Order:

1. Select appropriate size oropharyngeal airway by measuring from the angle of the jaw (mandible) to the midpoint of the top teeth.

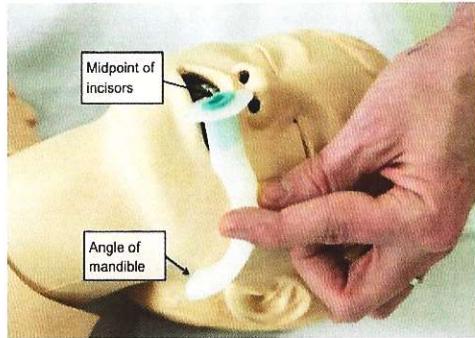


Figure Credit: Airway04-Guedel Sizing.jpg

2. Confirm EMS response has been dispatched.
3. Use personal protective equipment (gloves as a minimum).
4. Open person's mouth using a cross-finger technique, taking care not to cut yourself on person's teeth.
5. Insert OPA with the tip pointing to the roof (top) of the mouth.
6. Rotate OPA 180 degrees (if obstruction detected, re-position and try again or discontinue procedure).
7. Position flange on the lips without pressure being applied.

Note:

1. If vomiting occurs, remove OPA and position person on side to avoid inhaling emesis.

Approved:

Review Dates:
Final Date of Implementation: 11/15/2017
OCEMS copyright © 2017