

OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL PROTOCOL
SURGICAL CRICOTHYROIDOTOMY
PARAMEDIC ONLY



U. SURGICAL CRICOTHYROIDOTOMY – ADULT

1. Inclusion Criteria

Patients must have reached their 15th birthday and may present with any of the following conditions:

- a) Inability to oxygenate despite having tried BVM with oropharyngeal/nasopharyngeal airway, ET placement, and supraglottic airway (if not contraindicated)
- b) Inability to place ET in the setting of life-threatening upper airway hemorrhage
- c) Completely obstructing upper airway foreign body that cannot be removed via BLS maneuvers or Magill forceps with direct visualization

2. Equipment:



CLINICIANS MAY USE PRE-ASSEMBLED EQUIPMENT OR AN FDA-APPROVED KIT, AS PRESCRIBED BY THE PROGRAM MEDICAL DIRECTOR.



3. Procedure:

- a) Clinicians must use a designated technique and procedure for establishing the airway through the cricothyroid membrane that has been approved by the program medical director as part of this pilot.
- b) Upon completion of the skill (or at an appropriate time during the sequence of patient care) the clinician will obtain medical direction and also notify the receiving physician/emergency department with the following information:
 - (1) Patient condition
 - (2) Reason for surgical cricothyroidotomy
 - (3) Complications arising from procedure (if any)
 - (4) Patient response to treatment