

# P.R.E.P.A.R.E.

## Team-Based Emergency Airway Management

### **ADAPTED FROM:**

Brindley, Peter G., Martin Beed, J. Adam Law, Orlando Hung, Richard Levitan, Michael F. Murphy, and others, '**Airway Management Outside the Operating Room: How to Better Prepare**', *Canadian Journal of Anesthesia/Journal Canadien d'anesthésie*, 2017 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12630-017-0834-z>

### **OTHER REFERENCES:**

[EMCrit Podcast](#)

[EM Cases Podcast](#)

[EM Updates](#)

# P REPARE

Team & Patient, Position, Pre-Oxygenate

## Prepare Team – take a deep breath!

What do we know? What do we expect? What will we do first? Back-up plan? Assign roles +/- call for help.

## Prepare Patient

- Code status? Informed Consent?
- Predict HARD TO VENTILATE? **BOOTS**  
Beard - Old - OSA - no Teeth – Stridor
- Predict HARD TO INTUBATE? **LEMON**  
Look externally - Evaluate 3-3-2 - Mallampati -  
Obstruction - Neck movement
- Dentures = **IN** for BVM, **OUT** for intubation

## Position

- Head & torso elevated, if possible;
- Auditory meatus at sternal notch, face parallel to ceiling
- Obese: ramp up PRN, reverse Trendelenburg + foot rest

## Pre-Oxygenate (goal $\geq 95\%$ )

- NP + NR Mask, both at 15 L/min, deep breaths x 8 or 3 min. of regular breathing; may need BVM + PEEP

# P R EPARE

Resuscitate before you intubate!

## HYPOXIA

- NP @ 15 LPM
- NRM @ 15 LPM
- +/- Step up to BVM + PEEP
- If combative -> **DSI\***

## HYPOTENSION

- Give NS/Blood PRN
- Push-dose EPINEPHRINE on hand
- NOREPINEPHRINE drip ready (+/- IO/Central line)

## METABOLIC ACIDOSIS

NEVER LET THE PATIENT GO APNEIC!

Continue to ventilate during induction/paralysis (RR 12)

Once intubated, increase RR to 30

## ELEVATED ICP

MUST AVOID:

- SBP < 90
- Sat < 90%
- Hypercapnia  
(aim for pCO<sub>2</sub> 35-40)

## CHF/COPD/ASTHMA

IDEALLY, DO NOT INTUBATE!

Try NPPV first

(+/- Ketamine sedation)

\*DSI = Delayed sequence intubation

# PREPARE

Equipment\* = MIDSOLES

**Monitors** (cardiac, pulse Ox, CO2, BP cycle q5min)

IV x 2, ? IO

**Drugs** (Pre-treatment, Induction, Paralysis, Sedation)

**Suction** x 2, under head of bed

**O2** (NP + NRM @ 15 LPM, BVM + PEEP, **KING Airway/LMA** for rescue ventilation/oxygenation)

**Laryngoscope** +/- video-laryngoscope, tested

**ET tubes** (8.0 and 7.5 + 10mL syringe; test + lube cuffs)

**Stylet & Securing** device/tape for ET tube

**Surgical** airway equip. (#10 scalpel, Bougie, 6.0 ET tube)

\*For pediatric patients, use **Broselow Tape** or **Pedi STAT App**

# PREPARE

Verbalize **P**lan A, B and C

## **PLAN A**

Best position, assistant ready for guided BURP  
Best approach (NPPV? Awake? DSI? RSI? Surgical?)



Ventilate  
Regroup

## **PLAN B**

Reposition?  
New approach? (eg.: Bougie, new blade, new drugs)



Ventilate  
Regroup

## **Plan C**

Switch providers +/- new approach  
Prepare for possible surgical airway

# PREPARE

Assess, Adjust, pay Attention

## ASSESS

Periodically **ASSESS** the situation **OUT LOUD**  
Invite the team's **INPUT**

## ADJUST

Remain flexible

Keep resuscitating:

Evolving hypotension?

Worsening hypoxia?

**Adjust medication dosages/strategy accordingly**

## ATTENTION

Designate someone to pay **attention** to:

**O2 Sat, BP, HR, CO2, need for/quality of CPR**

and call out any concerns

# PREPARE

Remain, Review

## REMAIN

Once intubation is complete, DO NOT LEAVE THE ROOM!

Continue to monitor closely and go through POST-INTUBATION Checklist

## REVIEW

Repeat primary/secondary survey

Review case OUT LOUD and consider next steps

Invite Team's INPUT

# PREPARE

Exit, Explore

## EXIT

Organize transfer, if need be

Ensure safe handover

## IPASS mnemonic for Handovers:

**I** – Illness/severity: stable or not? MOST?

**P** – Patient Summary, concise and up to date

**A** – Action items = prioritized “To Do” list

**S** – Situation Awareness = what to watch out for, contingency plan

**S** – Synthesis by receiver = receiver briefly summarizes what they heard, action items and plan, +/- asks for clarification

## EXPLORE

Speak with family

Debrief with Team right away (+/- later)