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# AIRWAY MANAGEMENT

### **Rev. 1.2**

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ INTEGRATED COMPETENCIES FOR EVERY PHASE/STEP
- ► AIRBORNE PROTECTION FOR EVERY EVERY PHASE/STEP IN CRITICAL CARE SETTINGS (IF POSSIBLE)
- ► ANTICIPATE NEEDS, MAXIMIZE FIRST-PASS SUCCESS

#### **DOUBLE-CHECK INDICATIONS** FOR ENDOTRACHEAL INTUBATION

- Adopt Early Warning Scores for intubation/quod vitam prognosis (consider DNR cases)
- Identify Isolated room/(negative pressure environment if possible)
- ► Balance benefits of CPAP/BiPAP/NIV/HFNO versus risks of airborne diffusion
- ► IF INTUBATION is required, prefer ELECTIVE procedure (in emergency >> patient risk)

# **TEAM PREPARATION**

#### Minimize the number of team members:

- 1 The most expert team member should perform the intubation and advanced airway control/ventilation (with donned PPE) [INSIDE the chamber]
- **2**EXPERT assistant on protocols and devices (doctor/nurse with donned PPE) [INSIDE the chamber]
- **3** Second doctor with donned PPE if complex maneuver/difficult airway is expected/planned [INSIDE the chamber]

4 Doctor available with donned PPE [OUTSIDE the chamber]

**5** PPE donning/doffing Observer [OUTSIDE]

CARRY OUT PRELIMINARY BRIEFING FOR ROLE DEFINITION. STRATEGY DEFINITION, IDENTIFICATION OF DONNING/DOFFING OBSERVER

#### **PPE DONNING**

Airway Management (including NIV) is considered aerosol generating procedure requiring airborne level protection, or the maximum available level of protection taking account of WHO/ ECDC/ISS interim guidance for availability and rational PPE use.

[Legend: • = if not available]

- HELMET (Powered Air Purifying Respirator PAPR) ♦ PROTECTIVE SUIT ♦ HAIR COVERS/HOODS
- 2 GOGGLES/FACE SHIELD (nothing if PAPR)
- FFP3 respirator FFP2 or N95 respirator (nothing if PAPR)
- PROTECTIVE SUIT 
  LONG-SLEEVED FLUID-RESISTANT GOWN
- **5** PROTECTIVE SUITE **•** OVERSHOES
- 6 DOUBLE GLOVES (possibly in different colors)
- Decontamination Dedicated Donning & Doffing Area
- 8 Clear separation of Clean/Contaminated pathways, adequate disposal

DONNING/DOFFING OBSERVER EXTERNALLY CHECKING, INDIVIDUAL DONNING

One of the most critical issues regarding 2019 nCoV patients is the transitory phase between initial symptoms and potentially severe evolution requiring critical care, while taking into account the comorbidities. The choice of supplementary oxygen delivery interface and the decision to provide invasive ventilatory support is crucial

These decisions have the potential of impacting outcome and may lead to consequences on saturation of critical care beds

Non-invasive support methods (CPAP, BiPAP, NIV, HFNO) might correct hypoxemia and counterbalance respiratory failure (though univocal data are missing) and may either delay or avoid endotracheal intubation (with potentia complications and effects on outcome). Nevertheless, data from the SARS epidemic provide evidence showing that these ventilatory techniques might favor the risk of airborne viral spreading. Given the nature of nCoV 19 in terms of contagiousness, should the patient require, or be expected to necessitate

# CLINICAL CHECKLIST (wearing PPE)

- ► COMPLETE EVALUATION OF AIRWAYS AND OXYGENATION (accept difficult airway management risk overestimation)
- ► HEMODYNAMIC EVALUATION ► PRE-EMPTIVE HEMODYNAMIC OPTIMIZATION

# **AIRWAY INSTRUMENTATION**

- ▶ HEPA FILTER ON EVERY OXYGENATION INTERFACE (face mask, circuit, endotracheal tube, supraglottic airway devices, introducer, airway exchange catheters, respiratory circuit)
- ► AIRWAY CART READY (DISPOSABLE devices preferable)
- ▶ SUCTION: CLOSED SYSTEM ► ANTIFOGGING
- ▶ MEDICATIONS: PREPARED AND DOUBLE-CHECKED
- ► EMERGENCY CART READY (DISPOSABLE devices preferable)
- **AWAKE INTUBATION NOT INDICATED:**

#### ► PREOXYGENATION

- (according to respiratory and hemodynamic status) • 3min' at TV FiO<sub>2</sub>=100% or 1min' at FVC 8 breaths FiO<sub>2</sub>=100%
- or CPAP/PSV 10 cmH<sub>2</sub>O + PEEP 5 cmH<sub>2</sub>O FiO<sub>2</sub>=100%
- ▶ RSI in all patients (limit BMV unless unavoidable and apply Cricoid Pressure only in case of ongoing regurgitation)
- ▶ NASAL PRONGS 1-3 It/min FIO₂=100% FOR APNOIC PHASE (NODESAT)
- ► FULL DOSE NEUROMUSCULAR BLOCK **RESPECT** onset time for laryngoscopy
  - > 1<sup>st</sup> LARYNGOSCOPY: prefer VIDEOLARYNGOSCOPE with separate screen + endotracheal tube pre-loaded on introducer
  - Re-oxygenate with low TV/pressure between attempts -Early switch (after failed second attempt) to supraglottic airway devices (prefer second generation - intubable SADs)
- > INTUBATION THROUGH SUPRAGLOTTIC AIRWAY DEVICES: flexible endoscope with separate screen (prefer DISPOSABLE)

EARLY CRICOTHYROTOMY IF CI-CO

#### **AWAKE INTUBATION INDICATED** (only if really mandatory):

- ► AIRWAY TOPICALIZATION: no aerosol/vaporization
- ► TITRATED SEDATION (INFUSION PUMP) sedation depth monitoring
- ► FLEXIBLE ENDOSCOPE WITH SEPARATE SCREEN (PREFER DISPOSABLE)
- ▶ RESCUE: INTUBATION THROUGH SUPRAGLOTTIC AIRWAY DEVICES (see above)
- **EARLY CRICOTHYROTOMY** if CI-CO

## **ENDOTRACHEAL TUBE POSITION CONTROL -PROTECTIVE VENTILATION**

- ► CAPNOGRAFIC CURVES repeated and with standard morphology (if in doubt take it out)
- ► AVOID unuseful circuit disconnections (if needed: ventilator on stand-by/clamp endotracheal tube)
- ► CONSIDER indications for advanced techniques: ECMO experts advise

► Waste disposal

# TRANSPORT

► Follow bio-containment regulations

**(T**)  $\bigcirc$ (P)  $\mathbf{O}$  $\mathbf{V}$ **(D)** 

invasive ventilator support, an elective endotracheal intubation should be preferred, or even anticipated, rather than waiting for an emergency procedure (in the precipitating patient) as to minimize complications of intubation itself and also to reduce both the risks of procedural errors and the contamination of healthcare providers

Adoption of early warning scores (EWS), shared and predefined strategies, multidisciplinary team training and simulation of possible scenarios are highly recommended, taking also into account the available levels of care and feasibility of critical care levels of assistance in a non-ICU environment.

The decisional elements for airway management, oxygenation and invasive ventilator support thus include competencies and organization and available human and environmental resources.

Vigilance in prevention, strict adhesion of donning/doffing of PPE, preparedness for the care of infected patients remain priority and of utmost importance.

#### **PPE DOFFING**

During and after PPE doffing, hands hygiene mandatory

Donning/doffing observer externally checking, individual doffing



- Secure airway: anticipated intubation
- Team briefing
- Organize (competencies team pathways)
- Prepare (devices)
- Checklist controls- crisis management
- Optimize (hemodynamics oxygenation)
- Vigilated donning/doffing
- Invasive airways evaluation and integrated airway management
- Debriefing



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