

Emergency Laryngectomy Management

Call for airway expert help
Look, listen and feel at the mouth and laryngectomy stoma
 A mapleson C system (e.g. 'Waters circuit') may help assessment if available
 Use **waveform capnography** whenever available: exhaled carbon dioxide indicates a patent or partially patent airway

Is the patient breathing?

No

Yes

Call resuscitation Team
CPR if no pulse/ signs of life

Apply high flow oxygen to Laryngectomy stoma
 If any doubt whether patient has a Laryngectomy, apply oxygen to face also*

Assess Laryngectomy stoma patency

Most Laryngectomy stomas will NOT have a tube in situ

Remove **stoma cover** (if present)
 Remove **inner tube** (if present)
 Some inner tubes need re-inserting to connect to breathing circuits
 Do not remove a tracheoesophageal puncture (TEP) prosthesis

Can you pass a suction catheter?

Yes

The laryngectomy stoma is patent
 ⇒ Perform tracheal suction
 ⇒ Consider partial obstruction
 ⇒ Ventilate (via tracheostomy), if not breathing
 ⇒ Continue ABCDE assessment

No

Deflate the cuff (if present)
Look listen & feel at the laryngectomy stoma or tube
 Use waveform capnography or Mapleson C, if available

Is the patient stable or improving?

Yes

Continue ABCDE assessment

No

REMOVE THE LARYNGECTOMY STOMA, if present
Look, listen and feel at the laryngectomy stoma. Ensure oxygen re-applied to face and stoma
 Use waveform capnography or Mapleson C, if available

Is the patient breathing?

No

Yes

Call resuscitation Team
CPR if no pulse/ signs of life

Continue ABCDE assessment

Primary emergency oxygenation

Laryngectomy stoma ventilation via either:
 ⇒ Pediatric face mask applied to stoma
 ⇒ LMA applied to stoma

Secondary emergency oxygenation

Attempt **intubation of Laryngectomy stoma**
 Small tracheostomy tube/630 cuffed ETT
 Consider Aintree catheter and fiberoptic scope/ Bougie/ Airway exchange catheter

Laryngectomy patients have an end stoma and cannot be oxygenated via the mouth or nose
 *Applying oxygen to the face and stoma is the default emergency action for all patients with a tracheostomy