

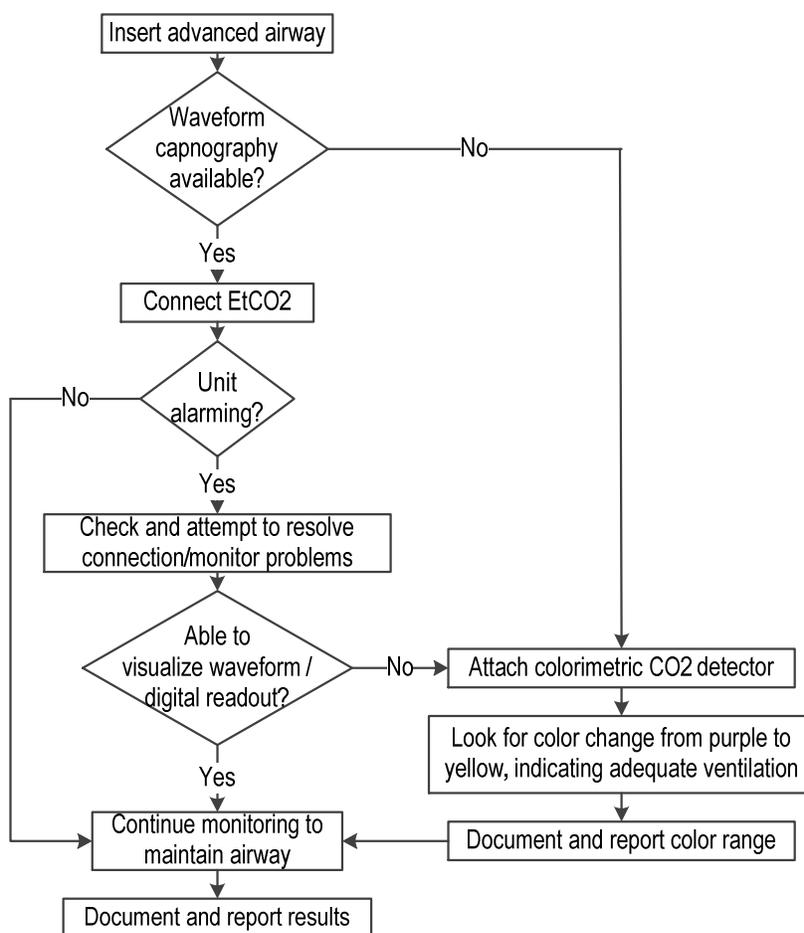
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**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS  
 PRACTICAL SKILL  
 END TIDAL CARBON DIOXIDE  
 (EtCO<sub>2</sub>) MONITORING**

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<b>Purpose:</b> To confirm correct placement of an endotracheal tube; to confirm adequate ventilation through a non-visualized advanced airway.		<b>Indications:</b> Critically ill patient who is intubated with an endotracheal tube or non-visualized advanced airway.	
<b>Advantages:</b> Confirms delivery of supplemental oxygen to the patient's lungs	<b>Disadvantages:</b> None	<b>Complications:</b> Inaccurate reading due to displacement of ETT or inadequate ventilation through a non-visualized advanced airway	<b>Contraindications:</b> None



**NOTES:**

- EtCO<sub>2</sub> must be used to confirm placement and adequate ventilation with all advanced airways.
- A normal EtCO<sub>2</sub> reading is between 33 and 43 mmHg.
- The EtCO<sub>2</sub> waveform can be used as a guide to CPR compressions and return of spontaneous circulation.
- Treat ETCO<sub>2</sub> as a vital sign. Minimally, the value should be recorded immediately after airway placement (system standard is within 1 minute), after patient movement and upon arrival at the hospital (or when resuscitative efforts are stopped).