



Needle Cricothyrotomy

Paramedic

PROCEDURE

- Ensure that ventilation and oxygenation are not possible by other means.
- Prepare equipment.
- Locate landmarks – Thyroid prominence and cricoid ring.
- Clean area with alcohol.
- Insert 14g IV catheter at a 30-45 degree angle towards chest.
- Remove needle from catheter and attach 3 cc syringe with ETT adapter.
- Attach BVM with ETCO2.
- Confirm placement of tube with waveform capnography – colorimetric device may be utilized as a backup.
- Secure catheter with tegaderm and manual stabilization.

REFERENCE GRAPHICS



KEY POINTS

- **The correct ETT adapter size should be established PRIOR to needing to perform this procedure. This will differ based on syringe manufacturer.**
- Waveform capnography is required for all ETT tube confirmation along with continuous monitoring after the procedure.
- Procedure should only be performed if no other means of ventilating the patient is possible.
- Only for patients under 12 years of age.

Equipment

- PPE
- 14g Angiocath
- 3cc syringe, plunger removed
- BVM
- ETCO2
- ETT adapter (typically 7.0-8.0)

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