



Gastric Tube Placement

EMT-Basic

Advanced EMT

Paramedic

PROCEDURE

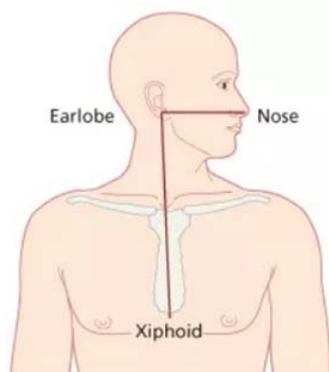
OG/NG

- Estimate amount of tubing needed by measuring from the tip of the patient's nose to the ear lobe and then to the xiphoid process
- Lubricate the tube with water soluble lubricant
- Insert the tube into the patient's nostril, directing the gastric tube straight back along the floor of the nasal passage
- Advance the tube until one of the following occurs:
 - a. the measured length of the tube has been reached, or
 - b. gastric contents appear in the tube, or
 - c. gastric distention has been relieved
- Check the posterior pharynx to be sure the tube is not curled up in the back of the mouth; if so, withdraw and reinsert the tube, using the Magill forceps if necessary
- Inject 30 cc of air into the tube while listening over the stomach with the stethoscope to confirm placement
- Secure the tube with tape and document depth each time patient is moved

Supraglottic Airway with Suction Port

- Measure the appropriate amount of tubing by measuring as described above
- Lubricate the tube with water soluble lubricant
- Insert into the suction port and advance down the device
- Inject 30 cc of air while listening over the stomach for placement
- Secure to airway device with tape

REFERENCE GRAPHICS



KEY POINTS

- The gastric tube may be inserted orally if you suspect major head/facial trauma is suspected, or if difficulty is encountered during attempt at nasal insertion