



Oral Airway Insertion

EMT-Basic

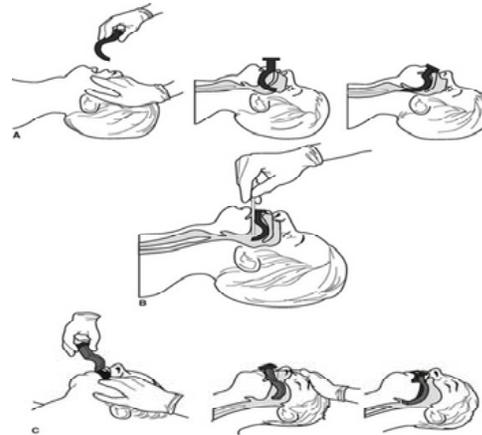
Advanced EMT

Paramedic

PROCEDURE

- Measure the OPA from the corner of the patient's mouth to the tip of the ear lobe
- Use 2-finger scissor technique to open the patient's mouth
- Insert the airway with the curve end along the roof of the mouth.
- Rotate the airway 180 degrees ½ turn and slide the OPA into the back of the throat
....Or....
- Insert the OPA with the curve along the tongue until seated
- Remove airway if patient regains consciousness or begins to gag

REFERENCE GRAPHICS



KEY POINTS

- Maintains a patent airway
- Easy to use with minimal training
- Prevents patient from biting down on objects inside mouth
- Holds the tongue off the posterior pharynx
- Use in conjunction with 2 NPAs

Medical Director: M. Riccardo Colella, DO, MPH, FACEP

Revision Date: September 2018