

Above Cuff Voicing Using the Portex Suctionaid Tracheostomy Tube

Patient's details:
UR: _____
Surname: _____
Given Name(s): _____
Date of birth: _____
Affix Patient Label Here

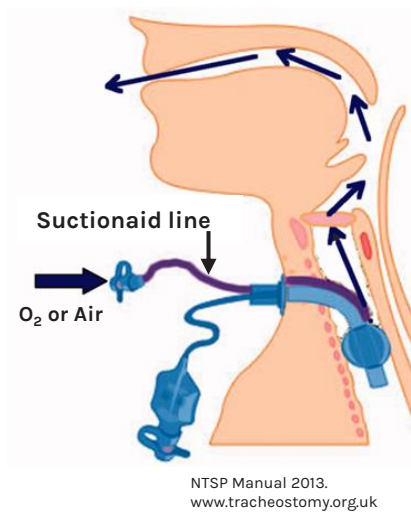
Clinical Instruction Sheet

Austin Health

Note: This is a supporting document only. Clinicians are advised to refer to OPPIC Clinical Procedures: *The Blueline Ultra Suctionaid Tracheostomy Tube & Scheduled Use of speech methods in invasively ventilated patients*

Above Cuff Voicing

- The Suctionaid tracheostomy tube (TT) is a cuffed tube which has a subglottic suction line (Suctionaid line) and thumb control valve (port).
- Medical air or oxygen is entrained through the Suctionaid line. When the thumb port is occluded, air is directed over the vocal folds.
- This provides the opportunity for speech in the presence of an inflated cuff (“talking tracheostomy tube”)
- **Wait 72 hours post initial TT insertion before using the Suctionaid TT for voicing**

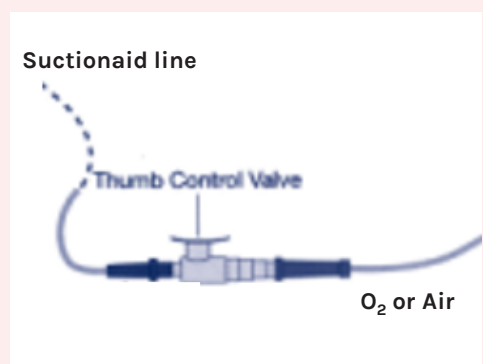


Above Cuff Voicing Schedule

This patient has been assessed as suitable to use the Suctionaid TT for voicing using _____ litres of medical air (or O₂) for duration of : _____

Procedure

1. Remove above cuff secretions by aspirating the Suctionaid line with a 10ml syringe. Suction via the tracheostomy tube
2. Connect medical air or oxygen via tubing to the thumb control valve attached to the Suctionaid line. Set the flow rate as recommended by the Speech Pathologist above
3. Occlude the thumb control valve with a finger to direct air into the larynx. Occlude the thumb control valve only when patient is speaking (not continuously).



Troubleshooting:

If patient is unable to voice, the Suctionaid line may be blocked. To remove secretions:

- Rapidly insert 3-4ml air through the suctionaid line using a 10mL syringe
- OR
- Inject 1ml sterile water into Suctionaid line, then remove using the same syringe.

Contact

Speech Pathologist : _____ TEAMS/pager _____ or TRAMS phone 3095

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