

Management of Respiratory Emergencies Flowchart



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- Airway positioning
- Suction as needed
- Oxygen
- Pulse oximetry
- ECG monitor (as indicated)
- BLS as indicated

Upper Airway Obstruction Specific Management for Selected Conditions

Croup	Anaphylaxis	Aspiration Foreign Body
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nebulized epinephrine • Corticosteroids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IM epinephrine (or autoinjector) • Albuterol • Antihistamines • Corticosteroids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow position of comfort • Specialty consultation

Lower Airway Obstruction Specific Management for Selected Conditions

Bronchiolitis	Asthma
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nasal suctioning • Bronchodilator trial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albuterol ± ipratropium • Corticosteroids • Subcutaneous epinephrine • Magnesium sulfate • Terbutaline

Lung Tissue Disease Specific Management for Selected Conditions

Pneumonia/Pneumonitis Infectious Chemical Aspiration	Pulmonary Edema Cardiogenic or Noncardiogenic (ARDS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albuterol • Antibiotics (as indicated) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider noninvasive or invasive ventilatory support with PEEP • Consider vasoactive support • Consider diuretic

Disordered Control of Breathing Specific Management for Selected Conditions

Increased ICP	Poisoning/Overdose	Neuromuscular Disease
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid hypoxemia • Avoid hypercarbia • Avoid hyperthermia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antidote (if available) • Contact poison control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider noninvasive or invasive ventilatory support