



From Potter, P.A. & Perry, A.G. (2009). *Fundamentals of Nursing*. 7th Ed. St. Louis: Mosby.

* Care of Patients Requiring Oxygen Therapy or Tracheostomy



Why Do We Need Oxygen?

- * Essential for life and function of cells/tissues.
- * Respiratory, cardiovascular, hematologic systems work together, providing sufficient tissue perfusion to the body.
- * Oxygen therapy improves oxygenation and tissue perfusion.

goal of O₂ therapy; provide enough O₂ in the blood while lowering stress.

* Clinical Manifestations of Respiratory Distress

- * Dyspnea
- * Nasal flaring
- * Use of accessory muscles to breathe
- * Pursed-lip or diaphragmatic breathing
- * Decreased endurance
- * Skin, mucous membrane changes (pallor, cyanosis)



Respiratory Assessment

- * Don't forget the order of assessment!
 - * Nose and sinuses
 - * Pharynx, trachea, larynx
 - * Lungs and thorax
 - * Rate/rhythm/depth of respirations
 - * Movement /symmetry
 - * Shape
 - * Breath sounds
 - * General appearance (muscle development)
 - * Skin and mucous membranes



Assessment of Oxygenation

Arterial Blood Gas (ABG) Lab Analysis

TEST	RANGE	RESULT	UNIT
ABG:	Acidosis Alkalosis		
pH	(7.35 - 7.45)	7.38	pH
PaCO ₂	(35.0 - 45.0)	38.0	mm/Hg
PO ₂	(35.0 - 46.0)	39.0	mm/Hg
HCO ₃	(22.0 - 26.0)	25.0	mmol/L

in tissues/cells.

* ABG analysis is best way to determine need for oxygen therapy



Oxygen Therapy

X
hypoxemia can lead to hypoxia

- * Purpose—relieves hypoxemia
 - * **Hypoxemia**—low levels of oxygen in the blood.
 - * **Hypoxia**—decreased tissue oxygenation.
- * **Goal**—use lowest fraction of inspired oxygen for acceptable blood oxygen level without causing harmful side effects.

providing enough O₂ to the blood because too much oxygen can lead to toxicity effects.



Oxygen Delivery Systems

* Type used depends on:

- * Oxygen concentration required/achieved

- * Importance of accuracy and control of oxygen concentration

- * Patient comfort

- * Importance of humidity

- * Patient mobility

* Low-Flow Oxygen Delivery Systems

- * Nasal cannula (1-6 L)
- * Simple Facemask (5-8 L)
- * Partial Rebreather Mask (6-11 L)
- * Non-Rebreather Mask



Nasal Cannula

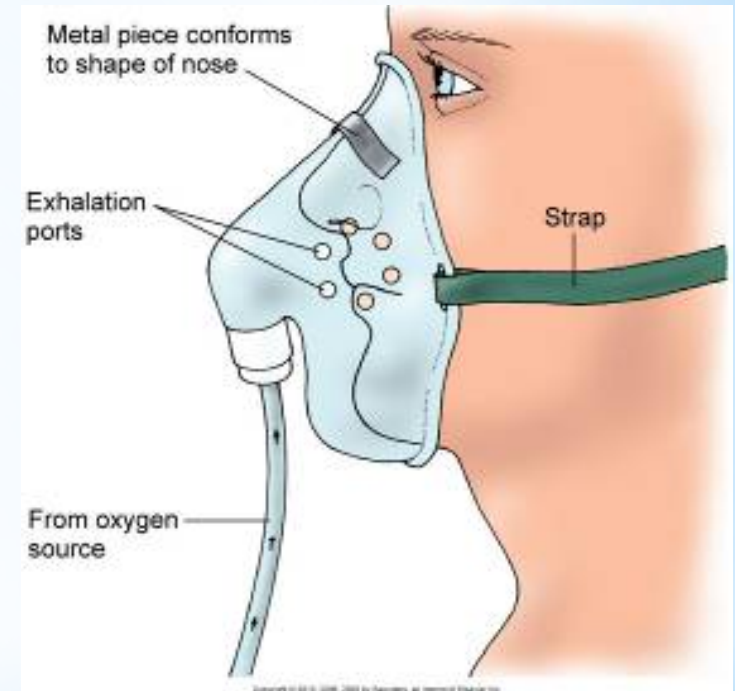
- * Flow rates of 1-6 L/min
 - * O₂ concentration of 24%-44% (1-6 L/min)
 - * Flow rate >6 L/min does not increase O₂ because anatomical dead space is full
 - * Assess patency of nostrils
 - * Assess for changes in respiratory rate and depth
- wall outlet, low flow O₂ system.
 - extended use will lead skin breakdown (prevent by apply water soluble gel)





Simple Facemask

- * **Delivers O₂ up to 40%-60%**
 - * **Minimum of 5 L/min**
 - * Mask fits securely over nose and mouth
 - * Monitor closely for risk of aspiration
-
- low flow O₂ system.
 - minimum rate of 5L for CO₂ flushing
 - cautions with anxiety and claustrophobic patients



* Partial and Non Rebreather Mask

- low flow O₂ system
- if CO₂ builds up, nurse should increase liters of O₂.

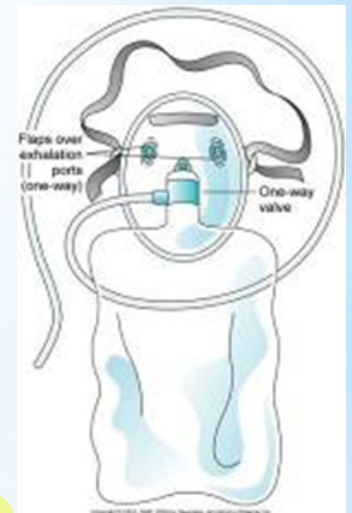
Partial

- * 60-75% FiO₂
- * Has a reservoir bag without flaps.
- * Each breath the patient Rebreaths 1/3 the tidal volume that is high in oxygen.
- * Be sure the bag remains slightly inflated.

- low flow O₂ system.
- deliver the highest concentration of O₂ (>90%)

Non

- * Up to 90% FiO₂
- * Use in unstable patients that may need intubation.
- * Has a reservoir bag with flaps so patient gets all the oxygen and any room air that can dilute oxygen concentration.
- * Ensure valves are patent and functional.





High-Flow Oxygen Delivery Systems

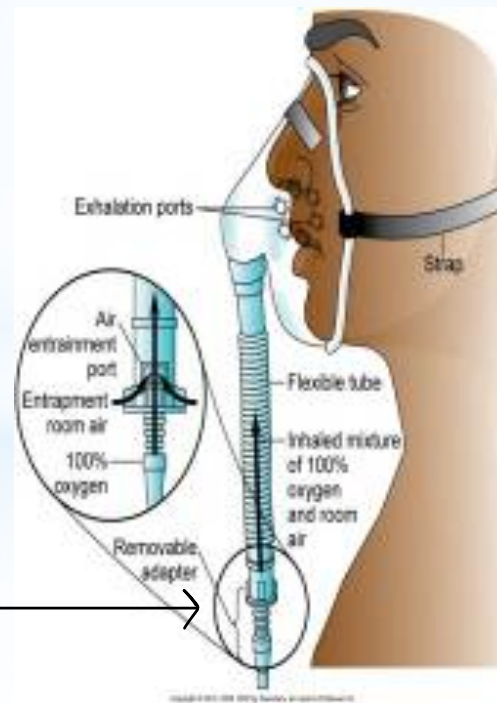
- * Venturi mask → allow precise # of air.
(color coded valves for corresponding O₂ concentration)
- * Face tent
- * Aerosol mask
- * Tracheostomy collar
- * T-piece



Venturi Mask

- * Adaptor located between bottom of mask and O₂ sources
- * Delivers precise O₂ concentration—best source for chronic lung disease
- * Switch to nasal cannula during mealtimes

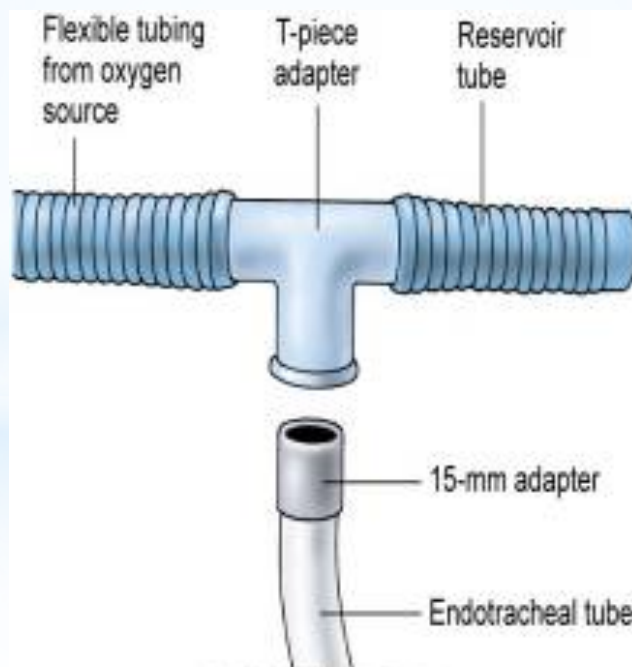
goal is to patient get the constant O₂ supply.





T-Piece

- * Delivers desired FIO_2 for tracheostomy, laryngectomy, ET tubes
- * Ensures humidifier creates enough mist
- * Mist should be seen during inspiration and expiration



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Noninvasive Positive-Pressure Ventilation (NPPV)

* Uses positive pressure to keep alveoli open, improve gas exchange without airway intubation.

* BiPAP

* CPAP

* Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)





CPAP (cont'd)

- * Delivers set positive airway pressure throughout each cycle of inhalation and exhalation.
- * Opens collapsed alveoli and keeps open.
- * Used for atelectasis after surgery or cardiac-induced pulmonary edema; sleep apnea.
 - └───> obstructive sleep apnea (OSA)
- * Goal: prevent the airways from collapsing.



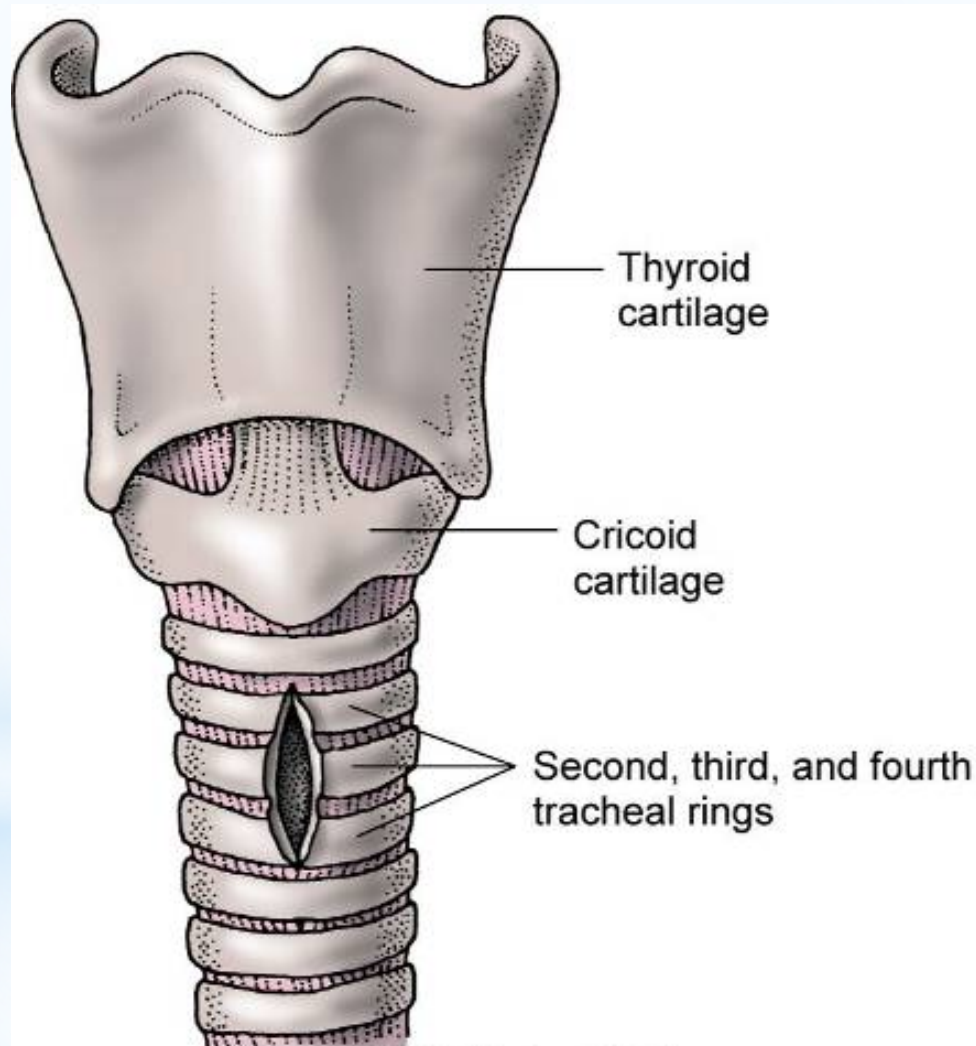
Tracheostomy

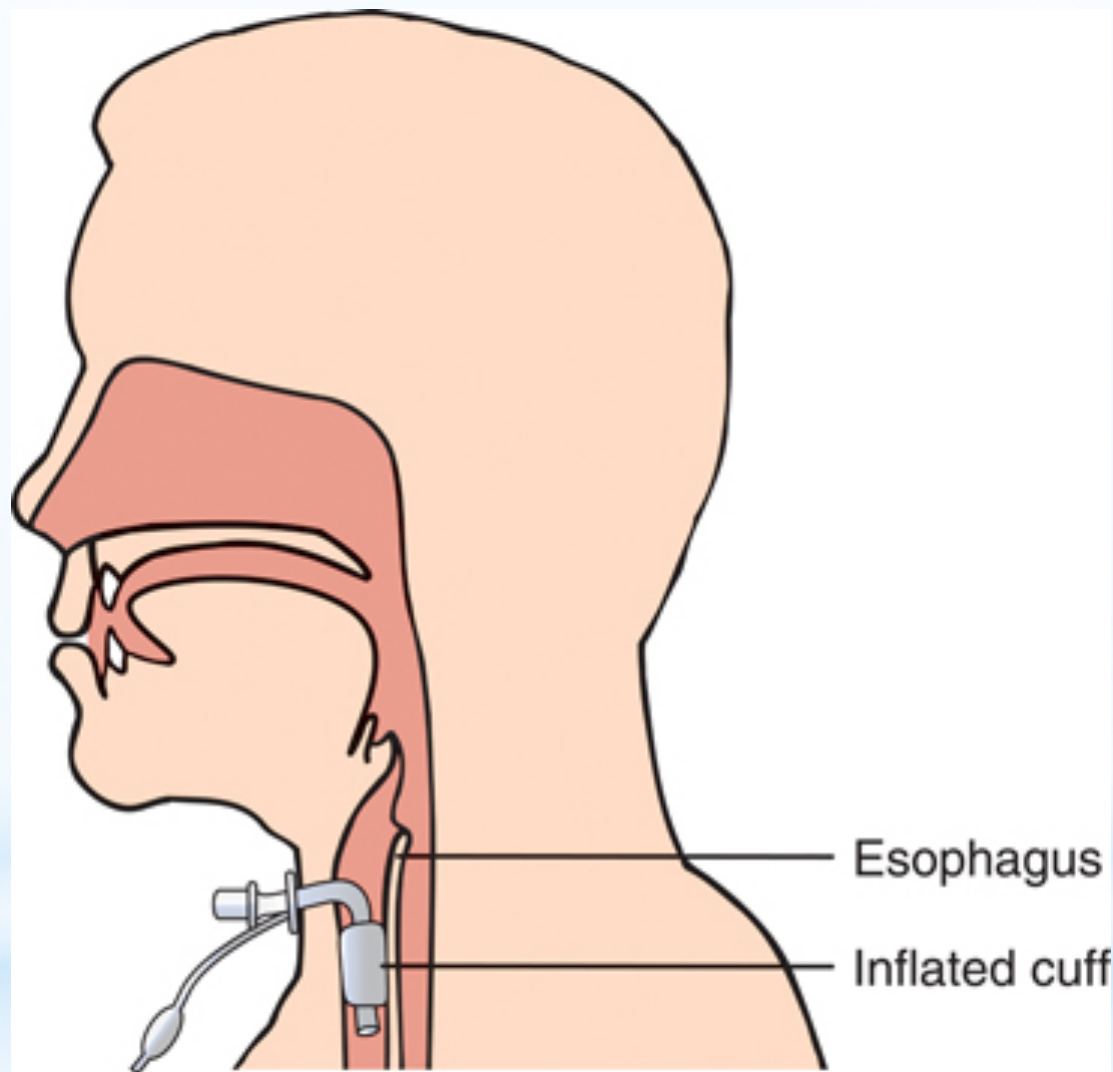
- * **Tracheotomy**—surgical incision into trachea for purpose of establishing an airway.
- * **Tracheostomy**—stoma (opening) that results from tracheotomy
 - * May be temporary or permanent.
 - * Permanent tracheostomy is required for certain diseases such as laryngeal cancer.

Primary nursing responsibility is to maintain a patent airway



Tracheostomy (cont'd)







Trach/Shiley

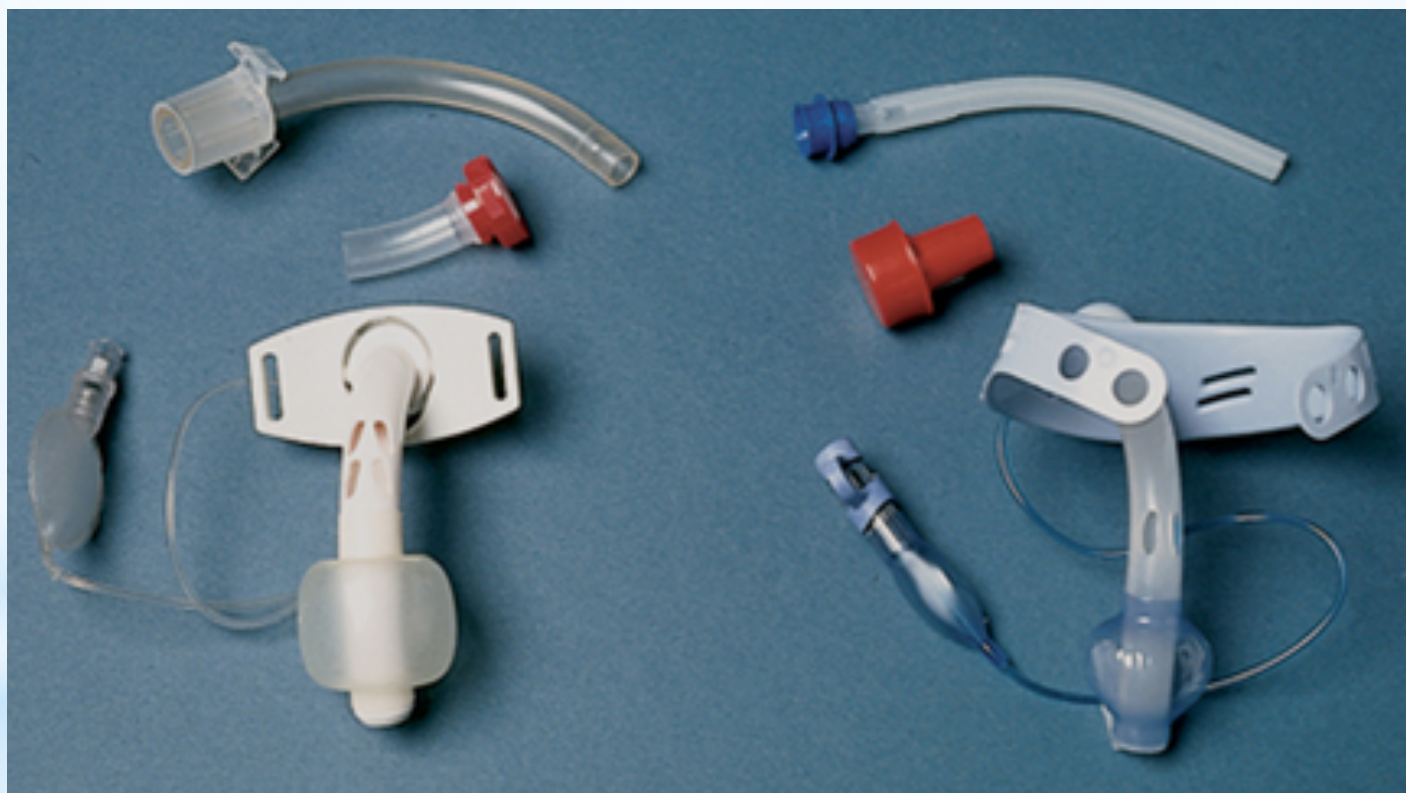
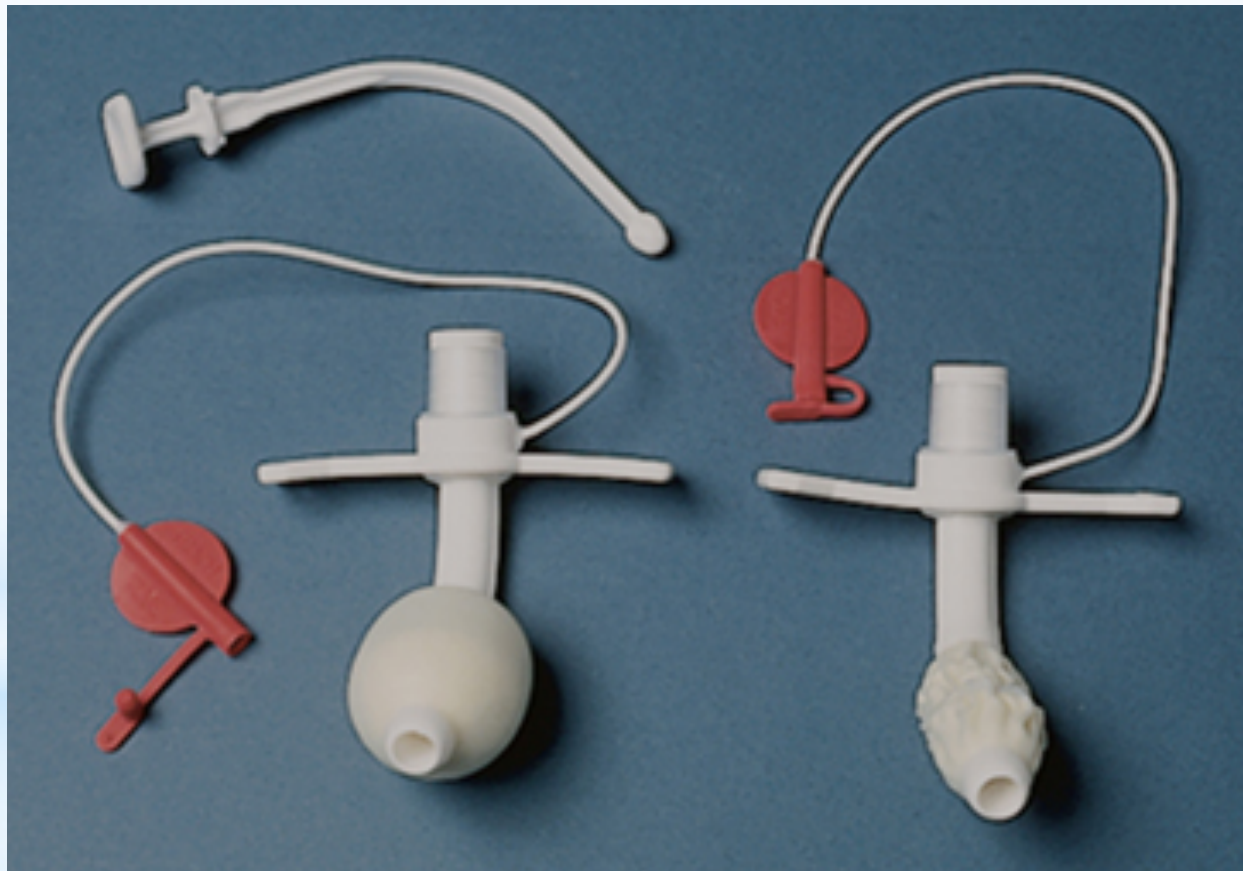




Figure 13-8, C





Cuff Pressures





David A. Muir

Passy-Muir® Valve Inventor
1962 – 1990





Priority Patient Problems

- * Reduced oxygenation
- * Inadequate communication
- * Inadequate nutrition
- * Potential for infection
- * Damaged oral mucosa



Tracheostomy Tubes

- * Disposable or reusable.
- * Cuffed tube or tube without cuff for airway maintenance.
- * Inner cannula disposable or reusable.
- * Fenestrated tube.



Care Issues for the Patient with a Tracheostomy

- * Prevention of tissue damage:
 - * Cuff pressure can cause mucosal ischemia.
 - * Use minimal leak and occlusive techniques.
 - * Check cuff pressure often.
 - * Prevent tube friction and movement.
 - * Prevent/treat malnutrition, hemodynamic instability, hypoxia.

* Air Warming and Humidification

- * Tracheostomy tube bypasses nose and mouth, which normally humidify, warm, and filter air.
- * Air must be humidified
- * Maintain proper temperature.
- * Ensure adequate hydration.



Suctioning

- * Maintains patent airway, promotes gas exchange.
- * Assess the need in patients who cannot cough adequately.
- * Done through nose or mouth.

* Complications of Suctioning

- * Hypoxia
- * Tissue (mucosal) trauma
- * Infection
- * Vagal stimulation, bronchospasm
- * Cardiac dysrhythmias from induced hypoxia



Causes of Hypoxia in the Tracheostomy

- * Ineffective oxygenation before, during, after suctioning.
- * Use of catheter that is too large for the artificial airway.
- * Prolonged suctioning time
- * Excessive suction pressure
- * Too frequent suctioning



Tracheostomy Care

- * Assess the patient
- * Secure tracheostomy tubes in place
- * Prevent accidental decannulation



Bronchial and Oral Hygiene

- * Turn/reposition every 1 to 2 hours, support out-of-bed activities, encourage early ambulation.
- * Coughing and deep breathing, chest percussion, vibration, and postural drainage promote pulmonary cure.
- * Avoid glycerin swabs or mouthwash containing alcohol for oral care; assess for ulcers, bacterial/fungal growth, infection.

Passy Muir Valve

- * Weaning—gradual decrease in tube size; ultimate removal of tube.
- * Change from cuffed to uncuffed tube.
- * Size of tube decreased by capping; use smaller fenestrated tube.



Weaning from a Tracheostomy Tube

* In a case of extreme medical emergency (i.e., severe oxygen desaturation, respiratory failure, or respiratory or cardiac arrest), oxygen can be delivered at full flow (> 10 L/min.) with an Ambu Bag using a face mask or fitted directly onto a tracheostomy cannula.



Ambu Bag

arterial blood gas interpretation:

	acidosis	normal	alkalosis
pH	< 7.35	7.35 - 7.45	> 7.45
CO ₂	> 45 mmHg	35 - 45	< 35 mmHg
HCO ₃	< 22	22 - 26	> 26

ROME method

respiratory: ↑ CO₂: ↓ pH = respiratory acidosis
 opposite: ↓ CO₂: ↑ pH = respiratory alkalosis
 metabolic: ↓ HCO₃: ↓ pH = metabolic acidosis
 equal: ↑ HCO₃: ↑ pH = metabolic alkalosis

1. pH: 7.28 CO₂: 50 HCO₃: 24
 ↓ acid ↑ acid

R: ↑ acid
 O: good
 M: normal
 E: good

pH: ↓ acidic
 respiratory acidosis,
 however it's uncompensated.

2. pH: 7.30 CO₂: 40 HCO₃: 18

R: normal
 O: good
 M: acid
 E: good

pH: ↓ acidic
 metabolic acidosis. however, it's uncompensated!

3. pH: 7.42 CO₂: 26 HCO₃: 18

R: ↓ alkalosis
 O:
 M: ↓ acidosis
 E:

pH: normal ↑ alkalotic
 respiratory alkalosis, it's been compensated
 because of the normal pH level.

4. pH: 7.37 CO₂: 32 HCO₃: 17

R: ↓ alkalosis
 O:
 M: ↓ acidosis
 E:

pH: normal ↓ acidosis
 metabolic acidosis, full compensated because of the normal pH level

5. pH: 7.51 CO₂: 47 HCO₃: 32

R: ↑ acidosis
 O:
 M: ↑ alkalosis
 E:

pH: ↑ alkalosis
 metabolic alkalosis, it's partial compensated!

fic tree method:

1. pH: 7.22 CO₂: 49 HCO₃: 24

acid	normal	alkal
pH	HCO ₃	
CO ₂		

it's not compensated because the pH level is acidic and most values are in acidic sides.

→ respiratory acidosis

2. pH: 7.22 CO₂: 49 HCO₃: 28

acid	normal	alkal
pH		HCO ₃
CO ₂		

it's partial compensation because the pH level isn't normal but it's working to balance it out.

→ respiratory acidosis

3. pH: 7.42 CO₂: 32 HCO₃: 18

acid	normal	alkal
HCO ₃	pH	CO ₂

respiratory alkalosis compensated because blood pH level is back to normal!

4. pH: 7.37 CO₂: 33 HCO₃: 17

acid	normal	alkal
HCO ₃	pH	CO ₂

metabolic acidosis, compensated because blood pH level.

B: alkalel
 O:
 M: acidosis
 E:

pH: 7.56
 CO₂: 20
 HCO₃: 20

↑ alkalosis

✓ respiratory alkalosis, partial comp.

acid	normal	alkal
pH	↑	
HCO ₃		

✓ metabolic acidosis, uncompensated

acid	norm	alkal
pH		
HCO ₃		↓

✓ metabolic acidosis, partial compensated

B: alkalel ↓
 O:
 M: normal
 E:

pH: ↑ alkalosis

✓ respiratory alkalosis, uncompensate

B: normal
 O:
 M: alkalel ↑
 E: ✓

pH: alkalosis ↑

✓ metabolic alkalosis, uncompensate

B: acid ↑
 O:
 M: alkalel ↑
 E:

pH: alkalosis ↑

✓ metabolic alkalosis, partial compensate

acid	n	alkal
pH		
CO ₂		↑

✓ respiratory acidosis, partial compensated!

R: acid ↑
 O:
 n: acid ↑
 E:

pH: ↑ alkali
 ✓ metabolic acidosis,
 partial compensated.

R: acid ↑
 O:
 n:
 E:
 pH: ↓ acid
 ✓ respiratory acidosis,
 uncompensated

acid	n	alkali
HCO ₃	pH	CO ₂

↓
 ✓ respiratory acidosis,
 compensated

R: acid ↑
 O:
 n:
 E: alkalosis ↑
 pH: normal
 metabolic acidosis,
 compensated!

R: ↑ acid
 O:
 n: normal
 E:

pH: ↓ acidosis

✓ respiratory acidosis, uncompensated

R: ↓ alkalosis
 O:
 n: ↓ alkalosis
 E:

metabolic acidosis,
 compens.

○ pH: normal

R: ↑ acid
 O:
 n: ↑ alkalosis
 E:

pH: ↓ acidosis

✓ respiratory acidosis,
 partial compensated!

acid	n	alkali
HCO ₃	pH	CO ₂

✓ respiratory acidosis, compensated