

PERFORM SUCTIONING OF A CASUALTY'S AIRWAY

For use of this form see TC 8-800; the proponent agency is TRADOC.

TABLES: II

REFERENCES: STP 8-68W13-SM-TG, Task: 081-833-0021, Perform Oral and Nasopharyngeal Suctioning of a Patient; Emergency Care and Transportation of the Sick and Wounded.

1. **Soldier** (Last Name, First Name, MI)

2. **Date** (YYYYMMDD)

CONDITIONS: Given a casualty with an obstructed or difficult airway in a clinical environment or field setting. You have been provided the necessary medical equipment. You are not in a CBRN environment.
Airway management is one of the most critical skills a Soldier Medic must know. A casualty may die needlessly without proper airway management techniques and oxygen administration. The Soldier Medic must be able to choose and effectively use the proper techniques and equipment for maintaining an open clear airway and administering oxygen for both medical and trauma casualties.

STANDARDS: Perform all measures IAW Emergency Care and Transportation of the Sick and Injured. You must score at least 70% (6 of 8 steps) and not miss any critical (*) elements on the skill sheet.

SAFETY:

- Risk Assessment: Low. All bodily fluids should be considered potentially infectious; always observe body substance isolation (BSI)
- Precautions: Wear gloves and eye protection as a minimal standard of protection.
- Environmental: None.

NOTE: Soldier Medics must be observed. (Evaluator to Soldier Medic ratio is 1:6).

TEST SCENARIO:

While responding to an emergency call, you encounter a casualty with an altered level of consciousness and gurgling sounds coming from their airway. You must suction the casualty's oropharynx/nasopharynx to maintain a clear airway; you have been provided the necessary medical equipment.

3. Evaluator's Comments and After-Test Recommendations:

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**PERFORM SUCTIONING OF A CASUALTY'S AIRWAY
Grading Sheet**

TASK	COMPLETED					
	1ST		2ND		3RD	
	P	F	P	F	P	F
4.						
a. * Took/verbalized body substance isolation (BSI) precautions.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
b. Turned on/prepared suction device.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
c. Ensured presence of mechanical suction.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
d. Inserted suction tip without suction.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
e. * Applied suction to the oropharynx/nasopharynx using an acceptable technique.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
f. * Did not apply suction for more than 15 seconds at one time (adult).	<input type="checkbox"/>					
g. Did not interrupt ventilation (for an apneic casualty) for more than 20 seconds at one time.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
h. Documented the procedure on the appropriate medical form.	<input type="checkbox"/>					

* CRITICAL ELEMENTS

**PERFORM SUCTIONING OF A CASUALTY'S AIRWAY
EVALUATOR GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS**

Inform the Soldier Medic of the CONDITIONS and STANDARDS as stated on this form.
Provide an optional scenario, if appropriate. This scenario should reinforce the unique or particular needs of the unit.
Allow sufficient time for the Soldier Medic to extract information from the scenario.
Provide each evaluator with the grading sheet.
Ensure the Soldier Medic has all required materials.
Explain how the exercise is graded.

Resource Requirements:

Evaluator: Grading sheet and applicable scenario.

Soldier Medic: Applicable scenario, suctioning device, suction catheter.

Additional Scoring Guidelines: None.