



Amherst Fire District Procedure

Nasopharyngeal Airway

Clinical Indications:

- Patient not able to secure their own airway and you are unable to secure an oral airway. Patient may be conscious or unconscious.

Clinical Contraindications:

- Obvious head trauma. (Risk of inserting the airway into the cranium)
- Active nasal bleeds.
- Nasal fractures.
- Suspected basilar skull fractures.

Procedure:

1. Measure nasal airway from the ear lobe to the tip of the nose.
2. Ensure that the airway is just smaller than the patient's larger nostril. (or similar diameter to pinky finger)
3. Lubricate the tip of the airway.
4. Insert the airway with the bevel towards the septum. (If resistance is felt, do not force the airway.)

Certification Requirements:

- Successfully complete an annual skill evaluation inclusive of the indications, contraindications, technique, and possible complications of the procedure.