



## Advisory 22-01: Pediatric Tracheostomy Resources

To: All EMS Agencies and Providers

From: Jeremy T. Cushman, MD MS EMT-P, Regional Medical Director *JT Cushman*

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Caring for pediatric patients with a tracheostomy emergency is an infrequent event, but often unsettling for caregivers and EMS providers alike.

The Pediatric Tracheostomy Program at the Golisano Children’s Hospital has assembled resources to aid care in the event of a tracheostomy emergency. These outstanding resources can assist the EMS practitioner in caring for the patient and include a “Go Bag” (right) that should be available and near the patient. The bags’ contents are listed on the next page.

Also included are “Luggage Tags” which identify critical information on how best to effectively ventilate the patient. Examples are provided below and they offer guidance on whether the child can have their airway managed using traditional techniques:



|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| <b>This child has a <span style="color: blue;">Tracheostomy</span></b> |                          |
| Size: <b>3.5 Neo Shiley Cuffless</b>                                   |                          |
| One Size smaller: <b>3.0 Neo Shiley Cuffless</b>                       |                          |
| Suction Size: <b>6 French</b> Suction Depth: <b>5.5 cm</b>             |                          |
| Orally Intubate: <b>YES</b>  |                          |
| Supraglottic Airway Devices: <b>YES</b>                                | Bag-Maskable: <b>YES</b> |

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| <b>This child has a <span style="color: blue;">Tracheostomy</span></b> |                         |
| Size: <b>4.0 Pediatric Bivona Flextend Cuffed</b>                      |                         |
| One Size smaller: <b>3.5 Pediatric Bivona Flextend Cuffed</b>          |                         |
| Suction Size: <b>8 French</b> Suction Depth: <b>10 cm</b>              |                         |
| Orally Intubate: <b>NO</b>   |                         |
| Supraglottic Airway Devices: <b>NO</b>                                 | Bag-Maskable: <b>NO</b> |

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During EMS Week 2021, Adrienne Frankel, BSN and Laine DiNoto, PNP, of the Golisano Children’s Hospital Pediatric Tracheostomy Program presented “*Pediatric Tracheostomy: A First Responder Refresher*” via zoom. That recording is available for viewing at <https://youtu.be/0k18wC8hIGc>. The Division of Prehospital Medicine at the University of Rochester is in the process of working with other partners including the team at Golisano to create durable educational content with CME which we hope to make available in early 2022.

Contents of the Tracheostomy Care “Go Bag” are customized to the individual patient’s needs:

| Jeremy’s Go-bag checklist   | Other equipment   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trach tube with obturator (same size)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trach tube with obturator (1 size smaller)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trach ties</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Syringe for trach cuff inflation/deflation if needed</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle for inflation/deflation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Water based lubricant</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Split gauze</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Gauze (To place over stoma site in event of rescue breathing)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tape (to tape gauze over stoma site)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ambu bag and mask (plus trach adapter if needed)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Suction catheters (for deep suctioning)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Little sucker suction</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 60 mL syringe for suctioning if no power to suction machine</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Measuring tape</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Normal saline pink squirts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Scissors</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Humidvents (“noses” if applicable)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle (for cleaning suction tubing)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hand sanitizer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Disconnect Wedge</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> List of Emergency phone numbers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Suction machine with battery charged</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oxygen, if indicated (tubing, adapters, key)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oxygen saturation monitor with battery charged</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ventilator with battery charged</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Feeding pump with battery charged</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Charging cords for all equipment (suction machine, oximeter, ventilator, feeding pump)</li> </ul> <p>Other Supplies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Emergency G-Tube Kit</li> </ul> |

Do not hesitate to contact this office with any questions.

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