



A DIVISION OF  
HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
AGENCY

# San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency



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DATE: August 24, 2018

TO: All Prehospital Personnel and Providers  
Base Hospital Personnel  
Emergency Department Physician and  
Nurse Liaisons

FROM: Katherine Shafer, M.D., Medical Director

SUBJ.: Best practice for documentation of advanced airways

The purpose of this memo is to provide guidance on best practices for documentation of advanced airway placement and reassessment on patient care reports. Please see the attached tables for guidelines on documenting the use of the following advanced airways.

1. Oral endotracheal intubation
2. iGel supraglottic airway
3. Needle cricothyrotomy

Please direct any questions you may have regarding this memorandum to Matthew R. Esposito, MSc, MICP, Prehospital Care Coordinator by email [mesposito@sjgov.org](mailto:mesposito@sjgov.org) or telephone (209) 468-6818.

## 1. Documentation for Oral Endotracheal Intubation

Document in PCR	Initial placement	Any gross movement of patient	Transfer of care to another medic	Transfer of care to ED physician	Every 5 min
Use of ETTi	✓				
Visualization of tube through cords	✓				
Condensation in Tube	✓				
Auscultation of Bilateral Lung Sounds	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Negative Epigastric Sounds	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Capnography waveform (Attach Strip to PCR)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Capnography Numerical value	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Confirmed Via Auscultation by transport medic			✓ Include Name in PCR		
Confirmed Via Auscultation by Physician				✓ Include Name in PCR	

## 2. iGel Supraglottic Airway

Document in PCR	Initial placement	Any gross movement of patient	Transfer of care to another medic	Transfer of care to ED physician	Every 5 min
Auscultation of Bilateral Lung Sounds	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Minimal Epigastric Sounds	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Capnography Waveform (Attach Strip to PCR)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Capnography Numerical value	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Confirmed Via Auscultation by transport medic			✓ Include Name in PCR		
Confirmed Via Auscultation by Physician				✓ Include Name in PCR	

### 3. Needle Cricothyrotomy

Document in PCR	Initial placement	Any gross movement of patient	Transfer of care to another medic	Transfer of care to ED physician	Every 5 min
Auscultation of Bilateral Lung Sounds	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Negative Epigastric Sounds	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Confirmed Via Auscultation by transport medic			✓ Include Name in PCR		
Confirmed Via Auscultation by Physician				✓ Include Name in PCR	