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Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Device      Formulated: 01/09/04	<b>Effective:</b> 5/31/05 <b>Revised:</b> 01/31/12

## **Continuous Positive Airway Pressure**

<b>Purpose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To identify proper patient selection in the use of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure</li> </ul>
<b>Scope</b>	Indication for a patient to be placed on CPAP and the factors that are contraindications to use CPAP on other patients.
<b>Audience</b>	Licensed Respiratory Care Practitioners with an understanding of age specific requirements of patient population
<b>Indications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients who use CPAP device at home</li> <li>Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea.</li> <li>Patients without artificial airways who exhibit medically unacceptable or worsening hypoxemia despite administration of supplemental oxygen.</li> </ul>
<b>Contraindications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients with facial burns</li> <li>Patients with maxillo-facial fractures</li> <li>Patients with artificial airways</li> <li>Patients incapable of maintaining life-sustaining ventilation in the event of mal-positioning of the mask.</li> <li>Patients with or susceptible to pneumothorax or pneumomediastinum should be monitored closely</li> <li>A history of allergy or hypersensitivity to the mask</li> <li>ICP &gt; 20 mm Hg</li> <li>Acute sinusitis</li> <li>Epistaxis</li> <li>Esophageal surgery</li> <li>Active hemoptysis</li> <li>Nausea</li> <li>Known or suspected tympanic membrane rupture or other middle ear pathology.</li> </ul>
<b>Procedure</b>	Review Chart for order, diagnosis, indications, and other information, wash hands and check patient identification.
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2	Explain procedure to patient; Demonstrate use of nasal facemask while determining proper size mask to obtain seal. The mask should fit from the end of the nasal bone to just below the nares. Be careful in ensure the mask rest above the upper lip. Placement in the area immediately above or on the

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lip may increase the likelihood for leaks. The mask should fit the patient comfortably. The mask sizing gauge may be used to assist in selection.

- 3 Assemble circuit and connect to the CPAP device. Ensure proper placement of exhalation valve (facing outward and unobstructed). Connect oxygen tubing for supplemental oxygen (prescribed in liters per minute or by O<sub>2</sub> to maintain SpO<sub>2</sub> in a specified range). Verify machine settings are in accordance with written orders.
- 4 Place the mask over the patient's nose and select proper spacer size. Attach spacer to the mask. Attach head strap to mask. Apply mask and head strap to patient. Adjust the straps until all significant leaks are eliminated. Avoid over-tightening, which may cause leaks and patient discomfort. Skin integrity (pressure prevalence) must be documented with each assessment for patients that require continuous CPAP therapy or for those who are wearing CPAP for >8 hours at a time.
- 5 Chart specific CPAP pressure. Note mask size and supplemental oxygen liter flow, as well as appropriate clinical data. Adjustments of set parameters are made in accordance with arterial blood gas results and saturations as per physician orders. Monitor clinical and physiological parameters.

**Addendum** Patients who bring their CPAP device from home will be monitored by Respiratory Care Services and provided with supplemental oxygen as prescribed by a physician. Patients with a home CPAP device will need to have appropriate orders written by their assigned inpatient physician. The unit must be inspected for electrical safety. All setting adjustments require a physician's order prior to respiratory therapists making changes.

Respiratory Care Services will track patients with a home CPAP device. Patient care will be monitored every 72 hours for appropriateness of care.

**Infection Control** Follow procedures outlined in the Healthcare Epidemiology Policies and Procedures #2.24; Respiratory Care Services

**References** RCS Policy BiLevel Pressure Device , 7.3.30  
AARC Clinical Practice Guidelines; Use of Positive Airway Pressure Adjuncts to Bronchial Hygiene Therapy Respiratory Care 1993;38:516-521