

Emergency Tracheostomy Tube Reinsertion Medical Directive

A Primary Care Paramedic may provide the treatment prescribed in this “local home medical technology” Medical Directive if authorized.

Indications

Patient with an existing tracheostomy where the inner and/or outer cannula(s) have been removed from the airway

AND

Respiratory distress

AND

Inability to adequately ventilate

Conditions

Emergency Tracheostomy Tube Reinsertion	
Age	N/A
LOA	N/A
HR	N/A
RR	N/A
SBP	N/A
Other	Inner and/or outer cannula has been removed No family member / caregiver is available to replace the tracheostomy cannula Airway patency / ventilation requires reinsertion

Contraindications

Emergency Tracheostomy Tube Reinsertion

Lack of availability of a suitable replacement tracheostomy cannula (new or cleaned)

Inability to landmark or visualize

Treatment

Consider Emergency Tracheostomy Tube Reinsertion

The maximum number of attempts is 2.

Clinical Considerations

A reinsertion attempt is defined as the insertion of the cannula into the tracheostomy.

A new replacement inner cannula is preferred over cleaning and reusing an existing one, which is preferred over mask/stoma ventilation.

Replacing the outer cannula with a new or cleaned one is preferred, but if unsuccessful, attempt mask/stoma ventilation.

Under ideal circumstances, the tracheostomy cannulas should not be changed within the first 14 days after surgical placement.