



EMT - Paramedic Treatment Protocol 4305

Airway Obstruction

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A. Conscious.

1. Able to talk or cough:
 - a. Reassure victim.
 - b. Encourage coughing.
 - c. Oxygen 15 LPM non-rebreather mask.
 - d. Transport immediately and notify Medical Command.
2. Unable to talk or cough, or weak ineffective cough:
 - a. Deliver repeated abdominal thrusts until obstruction relieved or victim becomes unconscious. For patients under 1 year of age, do alternating 5 back blows and 5 chest thrusts.
 - b. Chest thrusts are preferred on advanced pregnancy and marked obesity.
 - c. Transport immediately and notify Medical Command

B. Unconscious.

1. Open Airway.
2. Attempt ventilation.
3. Reposition airway, attempt ventilation.
4. Deliver 5 abdominal thrusts. For patients under 1 year of age, do alternating 5 back blows and 5 chest thrusts. **Do not use abdominal thrusts in patients under 1 year of age.**



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5. Finger sweep for foreign body. **Do not perform finger sweep on patients under 8 years of age.**
6. Repeat steps 1 - 5 above.
7. If still obstructed, visualize with laryngoscope, remove obstruction with Magill forceps.
8. If unsuccessful, transport immediately. Repeat steps 1-5 enroute.

9. **Contact Medical Command.**



10. Consider needle cricothyrotomy **per direct MCP order.** Refer to **Airway Management Protocol 4901.**

