

Subject: Treatment Guidelines – ALS
Airway Obstruction

Associated Policies:

- I. Priorities
 - A. ABC's.
 - B. If complete airway obstruction, proceed to obstructed airway treatment.
 - C. Rapid transport, if unconscious or conscious with progressive symptoms.

- II. Airway Obstruction
 - Mechanical upper airway obstruction.
 - A. Conscious Adult/Child/Infant Patient (Able to Speak/Cry):
 - 1. Follow BLS airway obstruction protocol Policy# 6029.

 - B. Conscious Adult/Child/Infant Patient with Complete Obstruction Unable to Cough or Speak/Cry):
 - 1. Follow BLS airway obstruction protocol Policy # 6029.
 - 2. If still obstructed, visualize the airway with laryngoscopy attempt to remove the obstruction with Magill forceps.
 - 3. Attempt to ventilate.
 - 4. Repeat the above sequence, if still obstructed.
 - 5. If unable to remove the obstruction perform Needle cricothyrotomy per Policy # 5430.

 - C. Adult/Child/Infant Patient Who Becomes Unconscious or found unconscious:
 - 1. Follow BLS airway obstruction protocol Policy # 6029.
 - 2. If still obstructed, visualize the airway with laryngoscopy and remove the obstruction with Magill forceps.
 - 3. Attempt to ventilate.
 - 4. Repeat the above sequence, if still obstructed.
 - 5. If unable to remove obstruction perform Needle cricothyrotomy per Policy # 5430.