# Trauma Airway Management and Rapid Sequence Intubation

**Job Title:** Nurse  
**Trauma Services:** Emergency Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency/Skill Review</th>
<th>Initial Self-Assessment Date:<strong>/</strong>/__</th>
<th>Method of Validation Mentor: Date and initial one or more method</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Preceptor's Initials (must initial to validate each competency)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Experienced</td>
<td>D: Demonstration/skill check off</td>
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<td>V: Verbalization of Knowledge/Critical Thinking</td>
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**Equipment Checklist**

- Personal protective equipment (PPE; e.g., gloves, gown, face mask with eye shield)
- Stethoscope
- Vital signs monitoring equipment
- Laryngoscope with either a straight or curved blade, depending on clinician preference or Glidescope
- ET tube of appropriate size and Stylet
- Bag valve mask (BVM) device attached to an oxygen source
- Water-soluble lubricant
- Mechanical ventilator programmed to the ordered settings
- Pulse oximeter/End tidal CO₂ detector
- Syringe for inflating cuff on ET tube
- Tape or other device to secure the ET tube
- Rapid Sequence Induction medications
- Soft physical restraints, as ordered
- Crash Cart

**Prerequisite Skills**

- Verbalize/Discuss recognition, assessment, and history findings consistent with upper airway obstruction and/or need for rapid sequence intubation (RSI)
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3

- Discuss potential complications and precautions
  - Dentures
  - Maxillofacial injuries
  - Cervical collars
  - Aspiration risks
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3

- Verbalize the pharmacological uses and differences of sedative/hypnotic and paralytic medications
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3

**Preparation**

- Reviews order and RSI protocols
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3

- Assesses patient for selecting appropriate size of endotracheal tube
## Competency/Skill Review

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<td>D CI OT V</td>
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1. Experienced
   - D: Demonstration/skill check off
   - CI: Classroom Instruction
   - OT: On the Job Observation by Mentor
   - V: Verbalization of Knowledge/Critical Thinking

2. Some Experience
   - OT: On the Job Observation by Mentor
   - V: Verbalization of Knowledge/Critical Thinking

3. No Experience
   - V: Verbalization of Knowledge/Critical Thinking

Discuss/demonstrate the need for IV access, monitoring, and rapid sequence drug selections

### Procedure

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performs hand hygiene and appropriate patient protective equipment</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verifies patient identify using 2 identifiers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Position patient and assign a helper to maintain in-line stabilization (if indicated)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performs a pre-intervention assessment</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>• AVPU</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Airway</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Breathing</td>
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<td>Administers appropriate RSI medications</td>
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### Demonstration

- Demonstration of opening airway, suction and reassess techniques
- Sequence of RSI medication
- Confirmation of ETT placement to include:
  - Bilateral chest rise and fall
  - Absence of gurgling to epigastric area
  - Auscultation of bilateral breath sounds
  - Skin color
  - EtCO2 colorimetric detector
  - Continuous EtCO2 capnography
  - X-ray

Demonstrate reassessment of interventions

### Re-Assessment and Primary Survey

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<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Discuss assessment finding showing intervention were successful</td>
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<td>Discuss potential problems and interventions prior, during or after a definitive airway is established</td>
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Should we add a list of RSI drugs????
References:

1. Joint Theater Trauma System Clinical Practice Guideline 2012