



# Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)

ALS PROCEDURE AP-04

<b>INDICATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients age <math>\geq</math> 8 years of age in moderate to severe respiratory distress or respiratory failure.</li> </ul>
<b>CONTRAINDICATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respiratory or cardiac arrest.</li> <li>• Tracheostomy.</li> <li>• Agonal respirations.</li> <li>• Signs and symptoms of pneumothorax.</li> <li>• Inability to maintain airway patency.</li> <li>• Vomiting.</li> <li>• Systolic blood pressure <math>&lt;</math> 80 mmHg.</li> </ul>
<b>PROCEDURE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place patient in seated position.</li> <li>• Monitor <math>SP_{O_2}</math> and <math>ETCO_2</math> throughout procedure.</li> <li>• Set up CPAP system (per manufacturer's recommendation) with pressure set <u>between 5-10</u> cm <math>H_2O</math>.</li> <li>• Explain procedure to patient.</li> <li>• Place the delivery mask over the mouth and nose. Oxygen should be flowing through the device at this point.</li> <li>• Secure the mask with provided straps starting with the lower straps until minimal air leak occurs.</li> <li>• Encourage patient to breathe normally. Patients may have a tendency to hyperventilate.</li> <li>• Re-evaluate the patient every 5 minutes. Normally, the patient will improve in the first 5 minutes with CPAP, as evidenced by:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decreased heart rate, respiratory rate, and blood pressure.</li> <li>• Increased <math>SP_{O_2}</math>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">Airway/Respiratory Management M-20</a>, should be considered if the patient fails to show improvement.</li> </ul>
<b>KEY CONCEPTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be aware of possible complications associated with this procedure that include, hypotension, pneumothorax, corneal drying, and gastric distention.</li> </ul>