

COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)		Policy Number: 723	
APPROVED: Administration: Steven L. Carroll, Paramedic		Date: June 1, 2018	
APPROVED: Medical Director Daniel Shepherd, MD		Date: June 1, 2018	
Origination Date: December 2004		Effective Date: June 1, 2018	
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- I. PURPOSE: To define the indications, procedure and documentation for the use of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) by EMS Personnel
- II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Sections 1797.220 and 1798. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Section 100063.
- III. POLICY: EMS Personnel may utilize CPAP on patients in accordance with Ventura County Policy 705.
- IV. PROCEDURE:
  - A. Training: Prior to using CPAP EMS Personnel must successfully complete a training program approved by the VC EMS Medical Director, which includes operation of the device to be used.
  - B. Indications: Patients age 8 and above with one or more of the following:
    1. Congestive Heart Failure with acute pulmonary edema
    2. Near drowning
    3. Any cause of respiratory failure.
  - C. Contraindications:
    1. Absolute
      - a. Respiratory or cardiac arrest
      - b. Agonal respirations
      - c. Unconsciousness
      - e. Pneumothorax
      - f. Inability to maintain airway patency
      - g. Head injury with increased ICP
    2. Relative:
      - a. Decreased LOC
      - b. Unable to tolerate mask

- c. Systolic blood pressure < 90 mmHg
- d. Vomiting

E. Patient Treatment

1. Place patient in a seated position with legs dependent
2. Monitor ECG(if available), Vital signs, SpO2
3. Set up CPAP system
4. Explain procedure to patient.
5. Apply mask while reassuring patient.
6. Frequently reevaluate patient. Normally, the patient should improve in the first 5 minutes with CPAP, as evidenced by a decreased heart rate, respiratory rate and/or blood pressure and an increased SpO2. Should the patient become worse with CPAP, remove the CPAP device and assist ventilations with BVM as needed.

D. DOCUMENTATION

1. The use of CPAP must be documented.
  2. Vital signs and SpO2 must be documented every 5 minutes.
  3. Narrative documentation should include a description of the patient's response to CPAP.
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