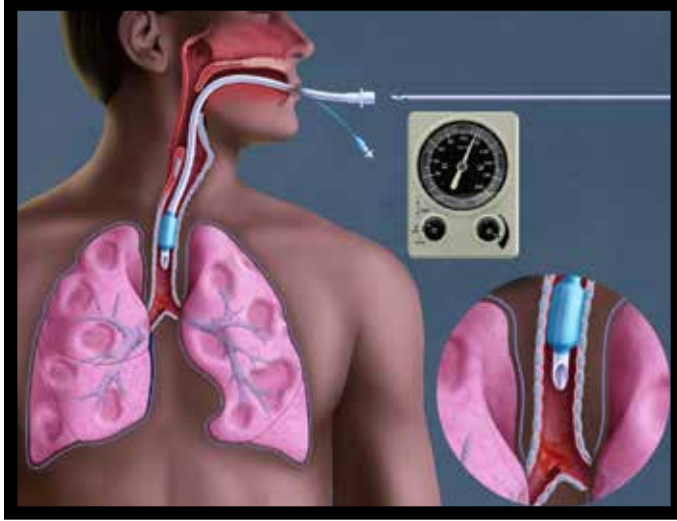


The Fundamentals of Medical Suction

Patient Safety Practices – Setting Safe Suction Pressures

Endotracheal Suction

Help Prevent Atelectasis

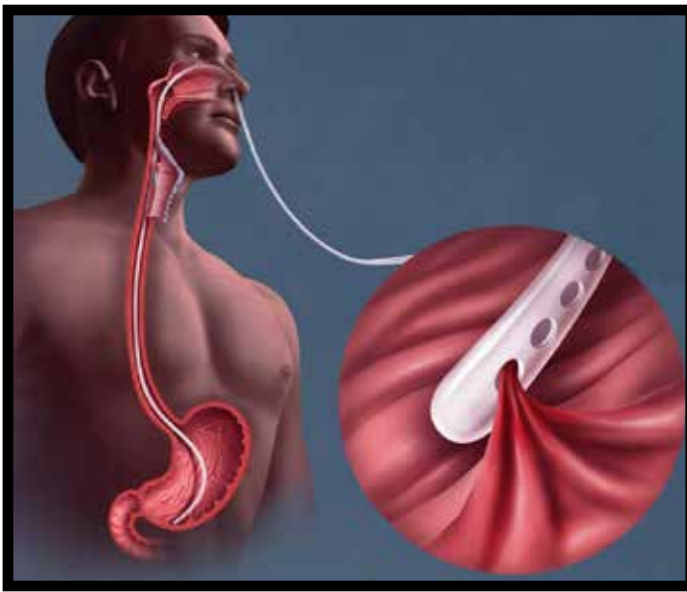


- Occlude tubing **while** setting suction pressure¹
- Check suction pressure before every suction event¹
- Set Suction pressure to less than negative 150mm Hg for Adults¹
- Set suction pressure to negative 80-100mm Hg for Neonates¹

¹Excerpt from American Association of Respiratory Care 2010 published Guidelines Endotracheal Suctioning of Mechanically Ventilated Patients with Artificial Airways; Section 2.3

Nasogastric Suction

Help Prevent Mucosal Tears



- Occlude tubing **while** setting suction pressure
- Check suction pressure before every suction event
- Set suction to Intermittent²
- Set pressure to negative 30-40mm Hg²

²Smeltzer, Suzanne, Brenda Bare, Janice Hinkle, and Kerry Cheever. Brunner and Suddarth's Textbook of Medical-Surgical Nursing: 12th edition (2009), page 1022

Protecting Your Vacuum System

*"Liquid or debris shall not be introduced into the medical-surgical vacuum or WAGD systems for disposal"*³

The following products should be used to protect your Vacuum Regulator/Outlet/Vacuum System:

- Use of an overflow trap attached to your vacuum regulator and an optional Hydrophobic filter (not pictured)
- Use of a Suction Canister with an auto-shut-off device
- ¼" ID tubing to provide higher flows and lower pressures
- Pre-use 'Quick Check' to remove poorly functioning regulators from patient use:
 - a) Visually inspect for damage.
 - b) Inspect gauge: When "Off" gauge reads "Zero". When vacuum is adjusted needle moves freely "Up & Down".
 - c) When in Intermittent Mode: Ensure that unit cycles "On" & "Off" automatically.



³National Fire Protection Association (NFPA® 99-2012; 5.14.1.3, page 55)

To learn more about suction safety visit

www.ohiomedical.com

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