

Kittitas County Prehospital EMS Protocols

SUBJECT: UPPER AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION

- A. If complete foreign body obstruction:
 - 1. Use abdominal compressions or chest thrusts. Use chest thrusts for pregnant patients.
 - 2. Post-removal, suction PRN.
 - 3. Administer O₂ @ 12-15 lpm per non-rebreather mask.
- B. If partial obstruction and patient breathing satisfactorily, administer O₂ and transport ASAP in position of comfort.
- C. If BLS procedures unsuccessful, perform direct laryngoscopy with attempt at removal with Magill Forceps.
- D. Follow with ET intubation if necessary.
- E. If ventilation still not possible, consider needle or surgical cricothyroidotomy with supplemental oxygen at maximum flow rates.