



Clinical Practice Guideline

Guideline coverage includes NICU KEMH, NICU PMH and NETS WA

Nasopharyngeal Tube Insertion (NPT) Modified for Pierre Robin Sequence

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#)

Aim

To provide a stable airway for high upper airway obstruction. Particularly in infants with Pierre Robin Sequence.

Indications for Use

- Obstructive episodes.
- Respiratory distress.
- Episodes of desaturation.
- Sleep study indicating obstructive episodes.
- Poor feeding and weight gain.

Equipment

- Ivory endotracheal tube - see [table](#) below.
- Saline.
- Fixomull tape.
- Skin preparation wipe.
- Sterile scissors.
- Sucrose.

Guide for Nasal Tracheal Tube Size

Weight	Tube Size
< 1500 g	2.5 mm
1500-2500 g	3.0 mm
2500-3500 g	3.5 mm
> 3500 g	4.0 mm

Measurement

Measure the length of the tube by measuring from the tip of the nose to the tragus of the ear and add 0.5cm. Cut the tube at the measured distance.

Key Points

- Medical staff to insert initial NPT. Nursing staff deemed competent in the procedure can insert subsequent NPT.

- Use table above as a guide for tube size selection.
- X-ray to be performed after initial insertion for confirmation of tube position.
- Alternate nares when changing NPT.
- NPT to be changed every 48 hours for the first 10 days and then weekly.
- A pre-cut ETT is to be kept at the bedside in case of accidental / unplanned removal of tube.

Procedure

1. Select appropriate size tube and measure as above. Review tube size and measurement, with every tube change.
2. Cut ETT as per [Fig. 1](#) and [2](#) below.
3. Place infant in supine position.
4. Consider use of oral sucrose.
5. Moisten tip of tube with saline if required.
6. Insert tube into nare and gently advance to the measured length. The tip of the tube should end 1cm from the epiglottis.
7. Secure cut lengths of the tube to either side of the nose along cheeks with fixomull as per [Fig. 3](#) below.
8. Document the following
 - ETT size and length at nare.
 - Date for next tube change.
 - Condition of infant during procedure.

Care of NPT

- Suction tube 2-3 hourly for the first 48-96 hours, then PRN.
- Observe and document at least each shift, condition of skin around nares and under taping.
- Change tape if soiled with milk or secretions.
- Remove tape with adhesive remover.

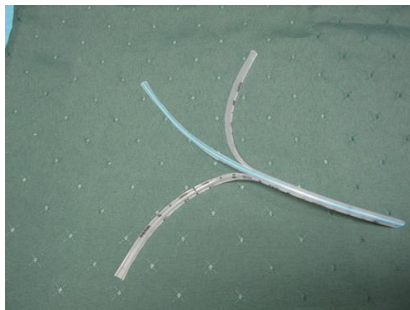


Fig. 1
Cut ETT into 3 strands
Cut a 5cm length along either side of blue line, then down the middle of remainder of tube.

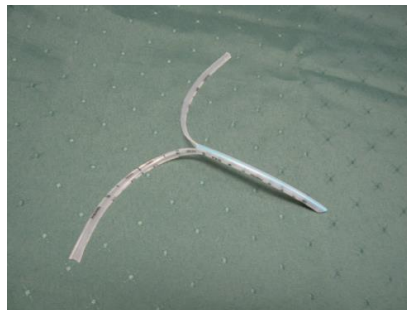



Fig. 2
Trim off strand with blue line, leaving 2 strands.



Fig. 3
Tape the NPT strands either side of the nose along the cheeks.

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