

CONTINUOUS POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE (CPAP)

PURPOSE

To define the indications, contraindications, complications of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP).

GOALS

1. Elimination of dyspnea
2. Decreased respiratory rate
3. Decreased heart rate
4. Increased SpO₂
5. Stabilized blood pressure

INDICATIONS

1. Moderate - severe respiratory distress
2. Age 8 and above
3. CHF with acute pulmonary edema, Severe Asthma, COPD
4. Near drowning

CONTRAINDICATIONS

1. < 8 yrs of age
2. Respiratory or cardiac arrest
3. Agonal respirations
4. Severe decreased LOC
5. SBP < 90
6. S/S of pneumothorax
7. Inability to maintain airway patency
8. Major trauma, especially Head Injury with increased ICP or significant chest trauma
9. Facial anomalies
10. Emesis

COMPLICATIONS

1. Hypotension
2. Pneumothorax
3. Corneal drying