St George's Healthcare NHS
NHS Trust

Emergency Laryngectomy Management

Patient breathes through neck: no upper airway
Patient cannot be oxygenated via the mouth or nose

Call for expert airway help – Anaesthetist bleep 6111 and ENT SpR

Is the patient breathing?

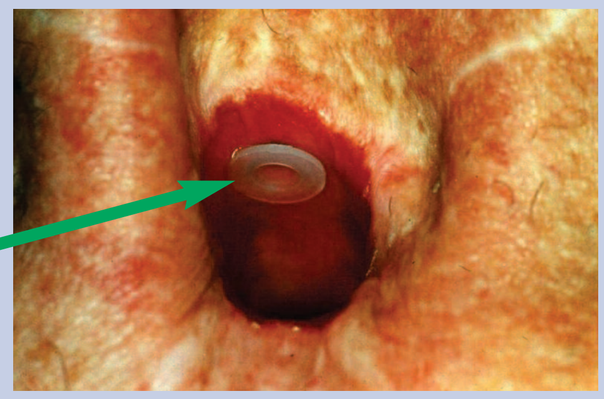
NO → Call Resuscitation Team **2222**
CPR if no pulse / signs of life

YES → Apply high flow oxygen to Laryngectomy Stoma

Assess Laryngectomy Stoma patency

Most Laryngectomy stomas will **not** have a tube in situ

Remove anything covering the stoma (if present)
Do **not** remove any voice prosthesis



Look, listen and feel at the Stoma
Can you feel Air?

YES → The Stoma is patent
Perform Tracheal Suction
Continue ABCDE

NO → Clear any visible obstruction **using forceps or suction catheter**
Encourage patient to cough

Is the patient breathing?

NO → Call Resuscitation team
CPR if no pulse / signs of life

YES → Continue ABCDE assessment

Primary Emergency Oxygenation

Tracheostomy Stoma ventilation
Paediatric face mask applied to Stoma
(in Resus Trolley)
OR
LMA applied to Stoma
(in Difficult Airways Trolley)

Secondary Emergency Oxygenation

Attempt **intubation of Stoma**
Small Tracheostomy tube/
6.0. cuffed ETT
Consider Aintree catheter and fibreoptic scope / Bougie / Airway exchange catheter

Ref: 09610

Adapted from: National Tracheostomy Safety Project: www.tracheostomy.org.uk