Critically ill Patient Workup/ Initial Stabilization (Non-Trauma)

(For Trauma – Refer Major Trauma Workup)



Airway Patency

Complete obstruction – Clear the airway and apply basic airway manures and adjuncts.

(If unsuccessful, proceed with advanced airway - LMA, ETT, tracheostomy)

- Suspicion of chocking Follow choking algorithm
- Partial obstruction Clear the airway and apply basic airway manures and adjuncts. (If unsuccessful, proceed with advanced airway - LMA, ETT, tracheostomy)
 - Snoring Apply basic airway manures and adjuncts.
 - Gurgling Suck out secretions.
 - Stridor Identify the course and treat the course.
 - Grunting Try to maintain a positive end expiratory pressure.
- **Patent**
- Achieve airway patency
- Exclude Anaphylaxis
- Proceed to Breathing



RR, Auscultation, SPO₂



Hypoxia is a rapid killer

- Try to achieve saturation targets within minutes
 - 94-98% non-CO₂ retainer
 - 88-92% CO₂ retainer (Chronic lung condition)
- If the desired saturation target cannot be achieved with basic ventilatory support, proceed with advanced ventilatory support (Annexure 01)
 - $FMO_2 \rightarrow NRBM \rightarrow HFNC \rightarrow NIV \rightarrow IPPV$
- Try to find out the cause with SOB workup and correct it while excluding rest of major presentations (Shock, Anaphylaxis, Sepsis, Unconscious, Major Trauma)
- Prop up the patient if BP normal

- RR low < 10 Ambu ventilation.
- RR high > 20 SPO₂ Normal O2 via facemask 5-10L.
- RR high > 20 SPO₂ Low O2 via NRBM 10-15L.
- RR normal SPO2 normal No oxygen needed.
- Auscultation Ronchi Start nebulization
- B/L crept? APO consider Lasix.
- Exclude Anaphylaxis
- Correct Hypoxia
- If target achieved proceed to Circulation



Pulse Rate, Blood pressure, HR, ECG, IV Cannula (Take blood out ± Start running drip)

- Check pulse rate and heart rate
- Blood pressure < 90 mmHg / PP < 20 mmHg Shock Algorithm
- Blood pressure > 140 Refer hypertensive emergency workups after excluding other major presentations
 - Exclude Anaphylaxis
 - Exclude Shock
 - Proceed to Disability



A VPU, Pupils (eyeball movements), Pain assessment, RBS

- Pain- mild/ moderate/ severe- Pain workup
 - Exclude Unconscious
 - Proceed to Exposure



Exposure
Consent,
Curtain,
Chaperone

- Quick head to toe / front and back / Examination for wounds, rashes, etc. Temperature
 - Exclude Sepsis,
 Exclude Major Trauma
 (RTA/Assault/Fall more than 3ft, etc.)

Source: Major presentations in Medical Practice. ISBN 978-624-6246-12-9