

Bimanual Trachea Manipulation (≥ PL1)

Clinical Indications:

1. All patients in need of airway protection due to gastric insufflation and/or vomitus entering airway.
2. As needed during advanced airway procedures to aid intubation attempts.

Contraindications:

1. None in the emergency setting, unless the technique worsens the likelihood of a successful intubation attempt.

Precautions

1. Caution should be exercised when utilizing this technique on children of any age. The cricoid cartilage is not as firm in children as adults. As a result, less pressure is needed to achieve the same effect.

Preparation for Use:

1. Pre-oxygenate and/or ventilate while before performing technique as part of advanced airway management.

Procedure:

1. Locate the cricoid cartilage by:
 - I. Palpating the protuberant midline portion of the thyroid cartilage ("Adams Apple"), then
 - II. Move the fingertip inferiorly until it rests in the soft, flat depression between the thyroid cartilage and the cricoid cartilage
2. When using to assist intubation the provider performing the intubation may place their fingers over those of the provider to direct the movement of the larynx backward, upward, rightward pressure (BURP) to allow visualization.
3. Once visualized the intubating provider may remove their hand requesting the assisting provider to hold that position while they introduce the endotracheal tube.

