

## ***CPAP Breathing Circuit Exchange Policy***

**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to form and establish an agreement between hospitals and EMS agencies relating to the restocking of CPAP breathing circuits. This policy also defines the roles and responsibilities of those parties agreeing to participate in the CPAP breathing circuit restocking program.

### **I. Participants**

This policy applies to all hospitals, EMS agencies and Medical Control Authorities adopting or endorsing this protocol/policy for the exchange of CPAP breathing circuits amongst participating entities.

- A. Participating EMS agencies are those which under state approved protocols/policies use CPAP pre-hospital, utilize the agreed upon breathing circuit, and transport to a participating hospital.
- B. Participating hospitals are those which submit a letter of endorsement to their respective Medical Control Authority, and agreeing to purchase, stock and exchange the agreed upon breathing circuits to EMS agencies/providers which utilize an identical breathing circuit for patients who are transported to their hospital.
- C. Participating Medical Control Authorities (MCA's) are those which agree to adopt this protocol/policy and ensure compliance, within their state designated service area and within their authority, of all participants with all applicable laws including safe harbor and anti-kickback legislation.
- D. Participating vendors are those which agree to supply the components of this breathing circuit, but are not bound by this particular policy

### **II. Breathing Circuits**

- A. The "agreed upon breathing circuit" is a predefined and prepackaged compilation of mechanical breathing circuit components that function on both the CPAP flow generator and the Resprionics™ Vision BiPAP; this circuit is available from BoundTree Medical, with part number – (202-1024665).
- B. The CPAP flow generator may be of any type (fixed flow, fixed flow-low O2 consumption, or variable flow) provided that the breathing circuit functions properly with the generator to maintain an adequate seal and the designated PEEP settings.

### **III. Participating Hospital Responsibilities**

- A. Hospitals are responsible for providing a secure storage environment, in or nearby the emergency department, for storing replacement breathing circuits.
- B. Hospitals are responsible to ensure that an adequate supply of circuits are available, and a contact number is clearly posted which EMS crews may call to obtain replacements should the supply be depleted.

**IV. Participating EMS Responsibilities**

- A. EMS personnel are responsible for completion of the proper paperwork. Failure to properly label the exchange paperwork may result in the hospital billing the agency for the circuit. A copy of the registration face sheet for the patient must be left in the cabinet where the replacement circuits are stored at the time that the replacement is obtained.

The EMS personnel should legibly write the MedCom number, the agency name, the unit number, the agency call number and the date/time of the call for which the circuit was used on the exchange paperwork.

- B. Circuits may only be obtained if a patient was brought to that hospital on a circuit.
- C. If no patient was transported, the circuit should be replaced from EMS agency stock.**
- D. It is the responsibility of the EMS agency to maintain an adequate replacement stock to meet the needs of their agency based on non-transported patients that receive CPAP (this should be very minimal or none).
- E. If CPAP is initiated on a patient and the patient is then intubated, the CPAP circuit should be turned over to the emergency department staff with the patient; the circuit may then be replaced.

**V. Participating Medical Control Responsibilities**

- A. Medical Controls are responsible for oversight, problem investigation and system design within their respective MCA area.
- B. KCEMS will evaluate the frequency of use based on the QA tools.
- C. KCEMS will be the point of contact for issues or problems with all local EMS agencies and hospitals relating to the breathing circuits. [(616) 451-8438]

**VI. Participating Vendor Responsibilities**

- A. To the extent that protocol can address a vendor, the participating vendor is asked to notify participants if there will be a change in the product, supply problems or problems and issues relating to the circuits, the generators or ancillary parts.

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