

Basic Life Support

For babies and children with a tracheostomy

Start here

D

Dangers

Check for dangers

R

Responsiveness

Check responsiveness

S

Send for help

- Call 777 state paediatric code blue
- Call ORL consultant: 021 715 932

A

Airway

Check and open the child's own airway
THEN assess tracheostomy patency

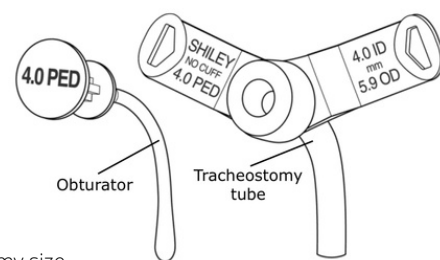
Initial actions

- Remove all caps, filters and valves
- Deflate cuff (if present)
- Remove inner cannula (if present)
- Apply **oxygen** to mouth and tracheostomy

Suction

Pass a suction catheter to at least 8 cm
Suction the tracheostomy

It is uncommon for paediatric tracheostomies to have a cuff and inner cannula, however be aware that these may be present in a small number of cases.



Suction catheter size

Catheter size = 2 x Tracheostomy size

Example: Size 4 tracheostomy = Use 8 Fr catheter



Stoma can be ventilated using face-mask or LMA attached to BVM

Tracheostomy blocked

- Change Tracheostomy - remove blocked tube
- **First attempt**
- Extend neck and use lubricant gel
- Insert new tracheostomy (same sized tube)
- **Second attempt**
- Instil 2 drops of Otrivin junior into stoma
- Insert new tracheostomy (smaller sized tube)
- **Third attempt**
- Thread suction catheter through a smaller tube
- Insert the suction catheter into the stoma
- Railroad the smaller-sized tracheostomy over the suction catheter into the stoma

Can't pass catheter

Can pass catheter

Successful

Unsuccessful

B

Breathing

Look, listen and feel
at both the mouth and tracheostomy

Rescue breaths

IF not breathing normally
Give two breaths via tracheostomy

Can't ventilate

Emergency oxygenation

- Remove the tracheostomy completely
- **IF upper airway PATENT**
- Aim to oxygenate via mouth
- Use airway manoeuvres and adjuncts
- Ventilate mouth with face-mask BVM
- Cover the stoma (with dressing or swabs)
- **IF upper airway NOT PATENT**
- Aim to oxygenate via stoma (see photo)
- Place paediatric sized face-mask or LMA over stoma, and ventilate stoma with BVM
- **Refer to patient bedhead sign for this information**

C

Circulation

IF not breathing and unresponsive **start CPR**
15 compressions : 2 breaths
Attach defibrillator (or AED) and follow ALS algorithm
Ensure help is coming