County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department

Division: Emergency Medical Services Agency

Supraglottic Airway Device FOR USE IN PATIENTS >34 KG

BLS

Universal Protocol #601 Pulse Oximetry – O₂ administration per Airway Management Protocol #602

ALS Standing Orders

- Patients who meet indications for Endotracheal Intubation Procedure #717
- Patients who after the ALS Provider has visualized the patient's airway and has determined that their airway will be difficult to access.
- SGA use is not approved for pediatric use. SGA shall only be used for patients >34kg.

I-GEL

- Monitor End-tidal capnography throughout use.
- Select appropriate tube size.

3	Small Adult	30-60kg
4	Medium Adult	50-90kg
5	Large Adult	90+kg

- While preparing tube, have assistive personnel open the airway, and clear of any foreign objects. Pre-oxygenate with 100% oxygen via bls airway and BVM.
- Apply water soluble lubricant to the distal tip and posterior aspect (only) of the tube, taking care to avoid introduction of the lubricant into or near the ventilatory openings.
- Grasp the lubricated i-gel firmly along the integral bite block. Position the device so that the i-gel cuff outlet is facing towards the chin of the patient.
- Position patient into "sniffing position" with head extended and neck flexed. The chin should be gently pressed down before proceeding to insert the i-Gel.
- Introduce the leading soft tip into the mouth of the patient in a direction towards the hard palate.
- Glide the device downwards and backwards along the hard palate with a continuous but gentle push until a definitive resistance is felt.
- At this point the tip of the airway should be located into the upper esophageal opening and the cuff should be located against the laryngeal framework. The incisors should be resting on the integral bite-block.
- Attach a BVM. While gently bagging the patient to assess ventilation, carefully withdraw the airway until ventilation is easy and free flowing (large tidal volume with minimal airway pressure).
- Confirm proper position by auscultation, chest movement and verification of ETCO2 by waveform capnography.
- The i-gel should be secured down per manufacturer recommendation.
- Patients who have an advanced airway established shall have that airway secured with tape or a commercial device. Devices and tape should be applied in a manner that avoids compression of the front and sides of the neck, which may impair venous return from the brain.
- Ensure proper documentation of placement of the i-Gel placement including verification methods.

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As needed			
Notes			
Contraindications			
•Gag reflex. •Caustic ingestion. •Known esophageal disease (e.g., cancer, varices, or stricture).			
 Following visualization of the patient's airway and determining the patient's airway to be accessible (able to visualize the patient's vocal cords), SGA shall not be utilized and ALS providers shall reference Procedure #717 for ETI. 			
 To verify patency and placement of the SGA Device, providers shall verify placement of the i-Gel device by waveform capnography and a minimum of one additional method. This additional method can be any of the following: Auscultation of lung sounds Colorimetric CO2 Detector Device Esophageal Bulb Detection Device During placement of an SGA, apneic oxygenation is recommended to be utilized when available. If appropriate, providers shall place a nasal cannula onto the patient prior to i-Gel placement and continue use of the nasal cannula during placement in order to assist in oxygenation. 			