

Section: Division of Nursing
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PROCEDURE

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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MINOR PROCEDURE
(Scope)

TITLE: FOREIGN BODY REMOVAL - RESPIRATORY TRACT

PURPOSE: To outline the steps to assist in foreign body removal.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: Foreign bodies may be removed from the respiratory tract using either the flexible bronchoscope or rigid bronchoscope. (Rigid bronchoscopies are performed in the Operating Room.) A variety of instruments may be used to retrieve foreign bodies, depending on the type of matter involved.

EQUIPMENT LIST:

1. See equipment list for "Flexible Bronchoscopy" procedure.
2. Retrieval instruments:
 - a. Biopsy forceps
 - b. Three prong retrieval forceps
 - c. Retrieval basket for bronchoscopies
 - d. Magill forceps

CONTENT:

PROCEDURE STEPS:

KEY POINTS:

A. Pre-Procedure Assessment/Care

1. Refer to "Flexible Bronchoscopy" procedure.
2. Obtain information about type of foreign body and length of time foreign body has been present and document.
3. Obtain lab results, particularly arterial blood gases, if ordered; and notify physician of any abnormalities.

Contraindications:

1. Acute asthmatic episode
2. Hypoxia, unless patient is intubated
3. Uncooperative patient
4. NPO status less than six (6) hours

B. Responsibilities During Procedure:

1. Refer to "Flexible Bronchoscopy" procedure.
2. Assist physician with retrieval, keeping forceps in the closed position during insertion and withdrawal and opening for retrieval upon physician's direction.
3. Properly handle, preserve, and label all specimens obtained and send to Lab, include date and time collected.

Potential Complications:

1. Trauma to the airway resulting in bleeding, infection, or perforation.
2. Displacement of foreign body to a more unfavorable or peripheral location.
3. Fracture of an organic object such as a peanut, into smaller pieces.
4. Loss of a large foreign object in the subglottic area during withdrawal, resulting in airway obstruction.
5. Hypoxemia

4. Maintain patient airway and suction oral cavity prn.
5. Document if foreign body was or was not retrieved and patient's response.

B. Post-Procedure
Assessment/Care

1. Refer to "Flexible Bronchoscopy" procedure and post-procedure care after moderate sedation.