Standards Policy

Rapid Sequence Intubation

Policy:

Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI) requires an EMS System or Agency to follow these guidelines to ensure that this invasive procedure is performed in a safe and effective manner to benefit the citizens and guest of North Carolina.

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure that the procedure is performed in a safe and effective manner
- Facilitate airway management in appropriate patients

Procedure:

1. In addition to other monitoring devices, Waveform Capnography and Pulse Oximetry are required to perform Drug-Assisted Intubation and must be monitored throughout the procedure.

2. Two EMT-Paramedics or higher-level providers must be present and participate in the airway management of the patient during the procedure. One of those must be a System Supervisor.

3. All staff must be trained and signed off by the EMS Medical Director prior to performing Rapid Sequence Induction.

4. A printed copy or electronic download from the monitor defibrillator including the pulse oximetry, heart rate, heart rhythm, waveform capnography, and blood pressure must be stored with the patient care report.

5. An EMS Airway Evaluation Form must be completed on all Rapid Sequence Intubation Attempts.

6. Notification of the Office of the Medical Director within 24 hours of RSI.

7. The EMS Airway Evaluation Form must be reviewed and signed by the EMS Medical Director within 7 days of the Rapid Sequence Intubation.

8. All Rapid Sequence Intubations must be reviewed by the EMS System or Agency and issues identified addressed through the System Peer Review Committee.

9. A copy of the EMS Airway Evaluation form for each Rapid Sequence Intubation must be forwarded to the appropriate OEMS Regional Office listed below at the end of each month for state review.

Western Regional Office
3305-4 16th Avenue SE
Conover, NC 28613
Telephone: 828-466-5548
Fax: 828-466-5651

Central Regional Office
801 Biggs Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603
Telephone: 919-855-4678
Fax: 919-715-0498

Eastern Regional Office
404 Saint Andrews Dr
Greenville, NC 27834
Telephone: 252-355-9026
Fax: 252-355-9063

Policy 21
This policy has been altered from the original 2012 NCCEP Policy by the Johnston County EMS System Medical Director

In addition, the NC EMS Airway Evaluation Form has been revised to a one page document to improve provider compliance and promote receiving/confirming physician acceptance.