

Self-Assessment – Module A-1: Oro- and Nasopharyngeal Airways

1. List two contraindications to use of an oropharyngeal airway.
 - a. **CONSCIOUS OR SEMI CONSCIOUS PATIENT**
 - b. **ORAL TRAUMA**
 - c. **MANDIBULAR OR MAXILLARY TRAUMA**
 - d. **ORAL SPACE-OCCUPYING LESIONS**
 - e. **ORAL OR PHARYNGEAL FOREIGN BODIES**

2. Differentiate between the Berman and Guedel oropharyngeal airways.
 - a. **BERMAN – I BEAM**
 - b. **GUEDEL – HOLLOW CENTRAL CHAMBER**

3. List one method for determining the proper size of an oropharyngeal airway.
 - a. **PLACE AIRWAY ALONG SIDE OF FACE *IN DIRECTION OF INSERTION* AND MEASURE LENGTH FROM THE FRONT TEETH TO THE ANGLE OF JAW OR FROM THE ANGLE OF JAW TO THE TIP OF THE CHIN IF TEETH ARE MISSING, OR, PLACE AIRWAY ALONG SIDE OF FACE MEASURING FROM THE CORNER OF THE MOUTH TO THE TIP OF THE EARLOBE.**

4. List one method of inserting the oropharyngeal airway.
 - a. **HYPEREXTEND NECK, OPEN MOUTH WITH CROSS-FINGER TECHNIQUE, LAY AIRWAY ON ITS SIDE, INSERT TO BACK OF THROAT AND THEN ROTATE 90 DEGREES INTO PLACE, THE FLANGE SHOULD REST AT THE LIPS.**

5. What is the consequence of inserting an oropharyngeal airway that is one size too small?
 - a. **INEFFECTIVE AIRWAY OPENING**

6. List two contraindications to use of an nasopharyngeal airway.
 - a. **NASAL TRAUMA**
 - b. **NASAL LESIONS**
 - c. **PEDIATRIC AND INFANT SIZES NOT AVAILABLE.**
 - d. **KNOWN BASILAR SKULL FRACTURES.**
 - e. **CRANIAL VAULT INTUBATION.**
 - f. **KNOWN BLEEDING DISORDER IS A RELATIVE CONTRAINDICATION.**

7. List one method for determining the proper size of a nasopharyngeal airway.
 - a. **LAY ALONG SIDE OF FACE (*IN EITHER DIRECTION*) AND MEASURE LENGTH FROM TIP OF THE NOSE TO THE TRAGUS OF THE EAR PLUS ONE INCH OR TIP OF THE NOSE TO MEATUS OF EAR OR TIP OF THE NOSE TO THE TIP OF THE EAR LOBE.**

 - b. **MUST ALSO CONSIDER DIAMETER AS PROPER LENGTH MAY BE TOO LARGE TO FIT SO ADJUST SIZE ACCORDINGLY. MAY NEED TO DOWNSIZE.**

8. List one method of inserting the nasopharyngeal airway.
 - a. **LUBRICATE THE AIRWAY WITH WATER SOLUBLE LUBRICANT SUCH AS LUBIFAX, K-Y JELLY OR LIDOCAINE JELLY. (ABSOLUTELY NO PETROLEUM PRODUCTS)**

 - b. **TOPICAL ANESTHETIC SPRAY MAY ALSO BE USED WITH CAUTION.**

 - c. **HYPEREXTEND NECK, INSERT (WITHOUT ROTATING AND WITH ITS NATURAL CURVE) ALONG THE FLOOR OF THE NASAL CAVITY TOWARDS THE BACK OF THE THROAT.**

 - d. **EXPOSE NASAL CAVITY BY PULLING NOSE BACK.**

 - e. **IF POSSIBLE CHOOSE AN AIRWAY THAT WILL BE PLACED WITH THE BEVEL TOWARD THE SEPTUM.**

 - f. **VISUALIZE INSIDE THE MOUTH TO VERIFY THAT THE AIRWAY IS BE POSITIONED BEHIND THE TONGUE.**

9. What is the consequence of inserting an nasopharyngeal airway that is one size too large?
 - a. **OBSTRUCTION OF THE EPIGLOTTIS, COUGHING**