



CHAPTER 9

SKILL GUIDES

Outdoor Emergency Care: A Patroller's Guide to Medical Care, Sixth Edition

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Skill Guide 9-1

Date: _____

(CPI) = Critical Performance Indicator

Candidate: _____

Start Time: _____

End Time: _____

Performing the Finger Sweep

Objective: To demonstrate performing the finger sweep.			
Skill	Max Points	Skill Demo	
Criteria met: Determines the Scene is Safe, Initiates Standard Precautions, Introduces Self & Obtains Permission to treat/help	-	-	
Open the unresponsive patient's mouth using the cross-finger technique.	1		
Insert your gloved index finger into the patient's mouth so the tip of your finger is behind or beneath the foreign object. (Be careful not to push the foreign object farther into the airway.)	1		(CPI)
Curve your finger into a hook and remove the object. (You may need to repeat this technique more than once to completely clear the airway.)	1		(CPI)
Must receive 3 out of 3 points			

Comments: _____

Failure of any of the CPIs is an automatic failure.

Evaluator: _____ NSP ID: _____

PASS FAIL

Skill Guide 9-2

Date: _____

(CPI) = Critical Performance Indicator

Candidate: _____

Start Time: _____

End Time: _____

Suctioning a Patient's Airway

Objective: To properly suction a patient's airway.			
Skill	Max Points	Skill Demo	
Criteria met: Determines the Scene is Safe, Initiates Standard Precautions, Introduces Self & Obtains Permission to treat/help	-	-	
Make sure the suctioning unit is properly assembled and turned on. Clamp the tubing, and make sure the unit generates a vacuum of more than 300 mm Hg.	1		
Measure the catheter from the corner of the mouth to the earlobe or angle of the jaw.	1		(CPI)
Turn the patient's head to the side (unless you suspect cervical spine injury), open the mouth using the cross-finger technique, and insert the catheter to the predetermined depth without suctioning.	1		
Apply suction in a circular motion as you withdraw the catheter. Do not suction an adult for more than 15 seconds, a child for more than 10 seconds, and an infant for more than 5 seconds.	1		(CPI)
Must receive 3 out of 4 points			

Comments: _____

Failure of any of the CPIs is an automatic failure.

Evaluator: _____ NSP ID: _____

PASS FAIL

Skill Guide 9-3

Date: _____

(CPI) = Critical Performance Indicator

Candidate: _____

Start Time: _____

End Time: _____

Time allowed: 10 min.

Inserting a Nasopharyngeal Airway

Objective: To demonstrate how to insert a nasopharyngeal airway			
Skill	Max Points	Skill Demo	
Criteria met: Determines the Scene is Safe, Initiates Standard Precautions, Introduces Self & Obtains Permission to treat/help	-	-	
S Size the NPA by holding the tube against the side of the patient's face. The flange should rest against the nostril, the end should just touch the patient's lower earlobe on the same side of the face, and the outside of the tube should be slightly smaller than the nostril into which it will be placed.	1		(CPI)
L Lubricate the adjunct. Apply a small amount of water-based lubricant along the entire length of the NPA tube.	1		(CPI)
I Insert the device. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold the tube between your thumb and first two fingers. • Place the bevel side of the tube toward the nasal septum. • Gently insert the tube into the nostril while following the curvature of the tube until the flange is flush with the nostril. If an obstruction is met, pull the tube back slightly and reinsert, again while rotating the tube between your fingers. Properly placed, the curvature of the tube will follow the natural curve of the nasal passage and lie in the distal portion of the nasopharynx directly above the larynx. 	1		(CPI)
C Check the device. Confirm proper placement of the tube by listening to the patient breath. You should be able to hear or feel air movement through the tube. If no air is detected, check to see if the patient is still breathing. If the patient is not, assist the patient's ventilations. If the patient is breathing, the tube may be obstructed, may need to be repositioned, or may need to be removed and resized. Rarely, foreign material inside the nose can obstruct the opening of the NPA.	1		
Must receive 4 out of 4 points.			

Comments: _____

Failure of any of the CPIs is an automatic failure.

Evaluator: _____ NSP ID: _____

PASS FAIL

Skill Guide 9-4

Date: _____

(CPI) = Critical Performance Indicator

Candidate: _____

Start Time: _____

End Time: _____

Inserting an Oropharyngeal Airway

Objective: To insert an oropharyngeal airway into an adult.			
Skill	Max Points	Skill Demo	
Criteria met: Determines the Scene is Safe, Initiates Standard Precautions, Introduces Self & Obtains Permission to treat/help	-	-	
To properly size an OPA, hold the adjunct against the side of the patient's face with the flange adjacent to the corner of the patient's mouth. The tip of the adjunct should touch the angle of the jaw on the same side of the face; alternatively, measure from the corner of the mouth to the earlobe on the same side of the face.	1		[CPI]
To insert an OPA, open the patient's mouth using the cross-finger technique or push down on the chin. Insert the OPA, with the tip pointed up toward the roof of the mouth, until it is halfway into the mouth.	1		[CPI]
Rotate the adjunct 180 degrees so the tip faces toward the patient's tongue. The tongue should now lie along the curve of the OPA, and the external flange should rest against the patient's lips. In children, the device is not rotated. The tip is pointed toward the tongue, not the roof of the mouth when inserted.	1		[CPI]
Must receive 3 out of 3 points.			

Comments: _____

Failure of any of the CPIs is an automatic failure.

Evaluator: _____ NSP ID: _____

PASS FAIL

Skill Guide 9-5

Date: _____

(CPI) = Critical Performance Indicator

Candidate: _____

Start Time: _____

End Time: _____

Placing an Oxygen Cylinder into Service

Objective: Demonstrate how to place an oxygen cylinder into service.			
Skill	Max Points	Skill Demo	
Using an oxygen wrench, turn the valve counterclockwise to slowly "crack" the cylinder.	1		(CPI)
Attach the regulator/flowmeter to the valve stem using the two pin-indexing holes and make sure that the washer is in place over the larger hole.	1		
Align the regulator so that the pins fit snugly into the correct holes on the valve stem, and hand tighten the regulator.	1		
Attach the oxygen connective tubing to the flowmeter.	1		
Must receive 4 out of 4 points.			

Comments: _____

Failure of any of the CPIs is an automatic failure.

Evaluator: _____ NSP ID: _____

PASS FAIL