

Airway Safety Top Ten Checklist

TOP TEN EVIDENCE BASED INTERVENTIONS				
PROCESS CHANGE	IN PLACE	NOT DONE	WILL ADOPT	NOTES (RESPONSIBLE AND BY WHEN?)
Adopt an assessment tool to identify patients at high risk for airway compromise.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Develop a decision tree with monitoring guidelines based on patient risk factors for airway and ventilatory compromise. Educate family for rapid response team activation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adopt the PASERO sedation scale (or another validated tool) to assess sedation levels for patients receiving opioids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
To provide identification of high-risk airways, develop and utilize a standardized airway assessment tool such as: LEMON: LOOK, EVALUATE, MALLAMPATI, OBSTRUCTION, NECK.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Provide an airway cart in each relevant unit to ensure necessary equipment is readily available to address unanticipated airway events.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Develop and utilize an algorithm to address difficult airways.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adopt spontaneous awakening trials (SATs), coordinated with spontaneous breathing trials (SBTs), to promote early weaning and extubation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Update standards for tube repositioning and for skin and mucosal inspection to ensure skin and mucosa are intact and not at risk for injury.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Implement simulation training for the care team in airway assessment, difficult airway management, and airway placement.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Develop a process for timely Root Cause Analysis with the bedside staff for airway safety issues such as delays in recognition, delays in airway placement, airway dislodgement, and skin injury.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

