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A review of indications for endotracheal intubation in a private emergency centre in Pretoria

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APPENDIX A

ACHEAL INTUBATION IN THE EMERGENCY UNIT – GRADING SCALE

(5 = definitely applicable, 4 = highly applicable, 3 = applicable, 2 = possibly applicable, 1 = not applicable)
Encircle the most appropriate number according to your experience

1. Obtain and maintain an open airway e.g. obstruction

1.1 **Functional obstruction e.g.** positioning of the patient, the tongue

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: .....

1.2 Mechanical obstruction

1.2.1 Intrinsic factors e.g. oedema, haematoma, infection, tumour

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: .....

1.2.2 Extrinsic factors e.g. foreign body, applied cricoid pressure

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: .....

2. **Protect the airway in inadequate protective reflexes e.g.** low GCS

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: .....

3. Correct inadequate oxygenation and/or ventilation = respiratory failure

3.1 **Hypoxemia:** PaO2 < 60mmHg on 40% oxygen

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: .....

3.2 **Hypoxemia:** Saturation < 90% on 40% oxygen

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: .....

3.3 **Hypercarbia:** PaCO2 > 60 mmHg

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: .....

3.4 **Hypercarbia: D**iminished level of consciousness with inadequate respiratory effort

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: .....

4 **Predicted clinical course**

4.1 **Presenting condition:** List the possible clinical conditions which predictably should be intubated (give each a value out of 5 as above): .....é é é é é é é é é é é é

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………………………………………………………………………………………………

Comment: ……………………………………………………………………………………………

4.2 **Potential for deterioration:** Continued swelling or bleeding causing possible obstruction, tiring causing respiratory failure, continued reducing in GCS causing inadequate protective reflexes,

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: ……………………………………………………………………………………………

4.3 Transport inside the facility/hospital: Transport to a less favourable environment with less equipment or adequate personnel e.g. radiology

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: ……………………………………………………………………………………………

4.4 Transport to another facility/hospital:

5 4 3 2 1

Comment: ……………………………………………………………………………………………

5. Any other condition that would warrant intubation (give each a value out of 5 as above): é ...

6. Other comments: é