

INDICATIONS FOR TRACHEAL INTUBATION IN THE ED AS PER CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

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

1.1 **Mechanical obstruction**

1.1.1 **Intrinsic factors** e.g. oedema, haematoma, infection, tumour

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

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

Hypoxemia: $\text{PaO}_2 < 60\text{mmHg}$ on **highest FIO₂ mask possible with equipment available**

Hypoxemia: Saturation $< 90\%$ on **highest FIO₂ mask possible with equipment available**

Hypercarbia: $\text{PaCO}_2 > 60\text{ mmHg}$

Hypercarbia: Diminished level of consciousness with inadequate respiratory effort

4. **Predicted clinical course**

4.1 **Presenting condition:** E. g. Facial trauma/fractures, inhalation burns etc

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

4.3 **Transport to another facility/hospital depending on condition, distance, time:**