

	Policy:	Administration of Oxygen (Adult)
	Number:	
Approved by: MAC November 2008	Manual:	
Signature:	Section:	Medical Directive Emergency
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Procedure:

- Initiation & Titration of Oxygen by mask or nasal prongs to maintain SaO₂ ≥95, unless patient has history of COPD. If patient has COPD, maintain SaO₂ of 88-92%/

Indications:

Signs and symptoms of one or more of the following actual or potential:

- Respiratory distress
- SaO₂ ≤94% or below established desirable range for the individual patient
- Hemodynamic instability
- Evidence of suspected hypoxemia (chest pain, tachycardia, haemorrhage, hypovolemia, sickle cell, altered LOC, trauma, smoke and/or toxin inhalation)

Note:

- If signs and symptoms and/or SaO₂ levels do not improve promptly, notify physician.

References:

1. *Japanese Society of Pulmonary Medicine. Japanese Society of Respiratory Disease Management., Oxygen inhalation therapy--low oxygen-flow system with the nasal cannula, Nihon Kokyuki Gakkai Zasshi. Suppl:29-30, 2006 Jul.*
2. *Nursing care of dyspnea: the 6th vital sign in individuals with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Registered Nurses Association of Ontario - Professional Association. 2005 Mar. 136 pages. NGC:004217*
3. *Heart Association*
4. *Tintinelli, JE, Kelen, GD, and Stapczynski, J.S. Emergency Medicine: A Comprehensive Study Guide, 6th Edition 2004*
5. *Beveridge, R., Grunfeld, F., Hodder, R. (1996) Guidelines for the emergency management of asthma in adults. (Electronic version). CMAJ, 164(9)*
6. *Ontario Hospital Association (2007) Emergency Department Management of Asthma (Adult)*
7. *Fitchett, D., Goodman, S., Langer, A. (2001) New Advances in the management of acute coronary syndrome. (electronic version) CMAJ, 164(9)*
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