

**MWLC EMS Skill Performance Record**  
**OROPHARYNGEAL SUCTIONING**

Name:	1 <sup>st</sup> attempt: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Repeat
Date:	2 <sup>nd</sup> attempt: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Repeat

**Instructions:** An adult's mouth is filled with blood. You are asked to assemble the equipment, choose the correct catheter from those available, and perform oropharyngeal suctioning.

**Equipment needed:** Airway manikin; various sizes suction catheters, suction unit, BSI

	Performance standard	Attempt 1 rating	Attempt 2 rating
0	Step omitted (or leave blank)		
1	Not yet competent: Unsuccessful; required critical or excess prompting; marginal or inconsistent technique		
2	Successful; competent with correct timing, sequence & technique, no prompting necessary		
	<b>State indications for procedure:</b> Secretions in mouth, nose or pharynx		
	* Universal plus droplet precautions (gloves/face shield)		
	<b>Prepare patient</b> Explain steps of procedure to patient		
	Obtain SpO <sub>2</sub> on room air if available and time allows		
	* Preoxygenate patient prior to suctioning if time allows		
	<b>Prepare equipment:</b> Inspect suction unit for power and proper assemblage		
	* Select appropriate suction catheter (flexible or rigid); attach to suction tubing		
	<b>Perform procedure</b> Open mouth using cross-finger technique		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Turn power on to high. <input type="checkbox"/> Kink tubing and ensure that unit achieves vacuum of 300 mmHg.		
	Without applying suction <input type="checkbox"/> Insert suction catheter no deeper than pharynx. <input type="checkbox"/> If Yankauer tip, insert w/ convex side along roof of mouth.		
	* Apply suction using a gentle twisting motion while limiting suction application to 10 sec on an adult and 5 sec in a child		
	Refrain from jabbing catheter up and down while applying suction		
	* Reoxygenate patient with O <sub>2</sub> 15 L/NRM or BVM		
	Verbalize: Flush the suction catheter with NS or water between suction attempts to remove any material that could clog ports		
	Verbalize 2 complications if suction were applied improperly or for too long: <input type="checkbox"/> *Hypoxia <input type="checkbox"/> Atelectasis <input type="checkbox"/> *Bradycardia <input type="checkbox"/> Hypotension <input type="checkbox"/> Tissue trauma <input type="checkbox"/> ↑ ICP		
	<b>Critical Criteria: Check if occurred during an attempt</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to take or verbalize appropriate body substance isolation precautions <input type="checkbox"/> Contaminates equipment or site without appropriately correcting the situation <input type="checkbox"/> Performs any improper technique resulting in the potential for patient harm <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibits unacceptable affect with patient or other personnel		

**Scoring:** All steps must be independently performed in correct sequence with appropriate timing and all starred (\*) items must be explained/ performed correctly in order for the person to demonstrate competency. Any errors or omissions of these items will require additional practice and a repeat assessment of skill proficiency.

**Rating: (Select 1)**

- Proficient:** The paramedic can sequence, perform and complete the performance standards independently, with expertise and to high quality without critical error, assistance or instruction.
- Competent:** Satisfactory performance without critical error; minimal coaching needed.
- Practice evolving/not yet competent:** Did not perform in correct sequence, timing, and/or without prompts, reliance on procedure manual, and/or critical error; recommend additional practice

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Preceptor (PRINT NAME – signature)