

# COVID – 19 Protocol

## Managing Airways:

1. Wear full personal protective equipment PPE at all times during the procedure. Double gloving and cover eyes either by defog goggles or eye wear.
2. Ensure full monitoring – including continuous waveform capnography before, during and after Tracheal intubation.
3. All Intubation will be elective – No emergency intubations (All Intubations to be done by experienced Airway Managers).
4. Limit staff – 1 Intubator, 1 assistant, 1 to administer drug and to monitor the patient. One runner outside the room to be considered.
5. Airway equipment and drugs to be prepared outside the room as much as possible.
6. Pre-oxygenation 5 mins no ventilation (Unless needed) – 2 – persons, 2 handed mask holding with VE grip to improve seal.
7. All intubations will be done under Rapid Sequence. Pass the tube 1 – 2 cms below the vocal cords, to avowing endobronchial placement.
8. If Hemodynamic unstable consider Ketamine 1 – 2 mg/kg, keep vasopressors – bolus and pre-mixed infusion readily available for managing hypotension.
9. Tube in trachea – the endotracheal Tube to be clamped so that there are no Aerosols from the tube till tube is connected to the ventilator.
10. Directly connect to the ventilator – No bagging the patient for confirming air entry and the position of the tube.(Difficult with PPE on)
11. Circuit disconnections to be avoided and ensure all the connection points are tight enough.
12. Suctioning to be done with great precautions. Preferable in- line suctioning to be used.
13. Humidified circuits with HMEs filters – between the catheter mount and circuit at all times. (Keep it dry to avoid blocking. Check for ventilation at times they get blocked to be changed for every patient in operating Theatre and every 12 hours in ICU)
14. Avoid using LMA's (unless for airway rescue only second generation and above to be used.).
15. Operator - ensures to cover the face with wiser or the goggles.
16. Varied views of Non – Invasive ventilation v/s Invasive Ventilation, as Non Invasive creates aerosols. (Debatable)
17. Proper Protection with PPE and always have a buddy to cross check the proper donning and doffing. (Most of the healthcare workers acquired corona virus due to improper techniques of donning and doffing)

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