



# AIRWAY MANAGEMENT

## Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

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### Supportive Care

1. [Initial Assessment Protocol](#).
2. **If spontaneous breathing is present without compromise:**
  - A. Monitor breathing during transport.
  - B. Administer oxygen via nasal cannula (2-6 L/min) PRN.
3. **If spontaneous breathing is present with compromise:**
  - A. [Maintain airway](#) consider (e.g. modified jaw thrust).
  - B. Administer oxygen via non-rebreather mask (10-15 L/min). Consider [CPAP](#).
  - C. If unconscious, insert [oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal airway](#) PRN.
  - D. Assist ventilations with BVM PRN
  - E. Suction PRN.
  - F. Monitor pulse [oximetry](#) and [capnography](#), as soon as possible.

**(If patient accepts oropharyngeal airway, consider need for intubation Advanced Airway Management.)**

4. **If spontaneous breathing is absent or markedly compromised:**
  - A. [Maintain airway](#) (e.g. modified jaw thrust).
  - B. If unconscious, insert [oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal airway](#).
  - C. Assist ventilations with BVM
  - D. Suction PRN.



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**(If patient accepts oropharyngeal airway, consider need for intubation: [Advanced Airway Management](#) .**

- E. If unconscious and intubation is not available, insert [King Airway](#).
- F. Monitor pulse [oximetry](#) and [capnography](#), as soon as possible.

### ALS Level 1

- G. Perform endotracheal intubation
  - (1) Confirm ETT placement.
  - (2) Secure ETT and place bite block.
  - (3) Attach end-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring device and record waveform strip for PCR.
  - (4) Monitor SpO<sub>2</sub> with pulse oximeter.
- H. **If unable to intubate and patient cannot be adequately ventilated by other means** (see A – F above), perform [Cricothyroidotomy](#) and transport rapidly to the hospital (a).

### ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

None



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