When possible sterile techniques should be followed during tracheal suctioning.

As time permits, suctioning should not exceed ten (10) seconds per procedure.

**Procedure**

Safe scene, standard precautions.

Select appropriate suction equipment.

Explain procedure to patient if applicable.

Hyperventilate the patient for at least two (2) minutes prior to procedure.

Open sterile saline solution.

Lubricate catheter tip with saline.

Insert catheter to carina (until resistance is met).

Slowly withdraw catheter using rotating motion and apply negative pressure.

Hyperventilate patient.