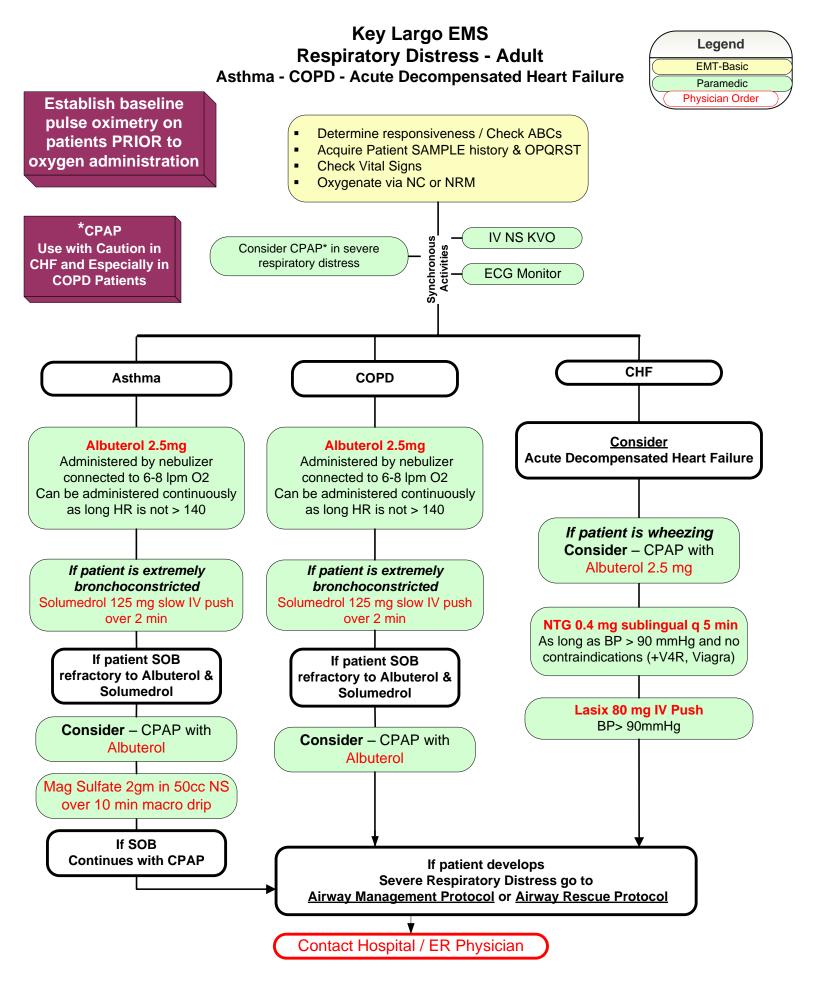


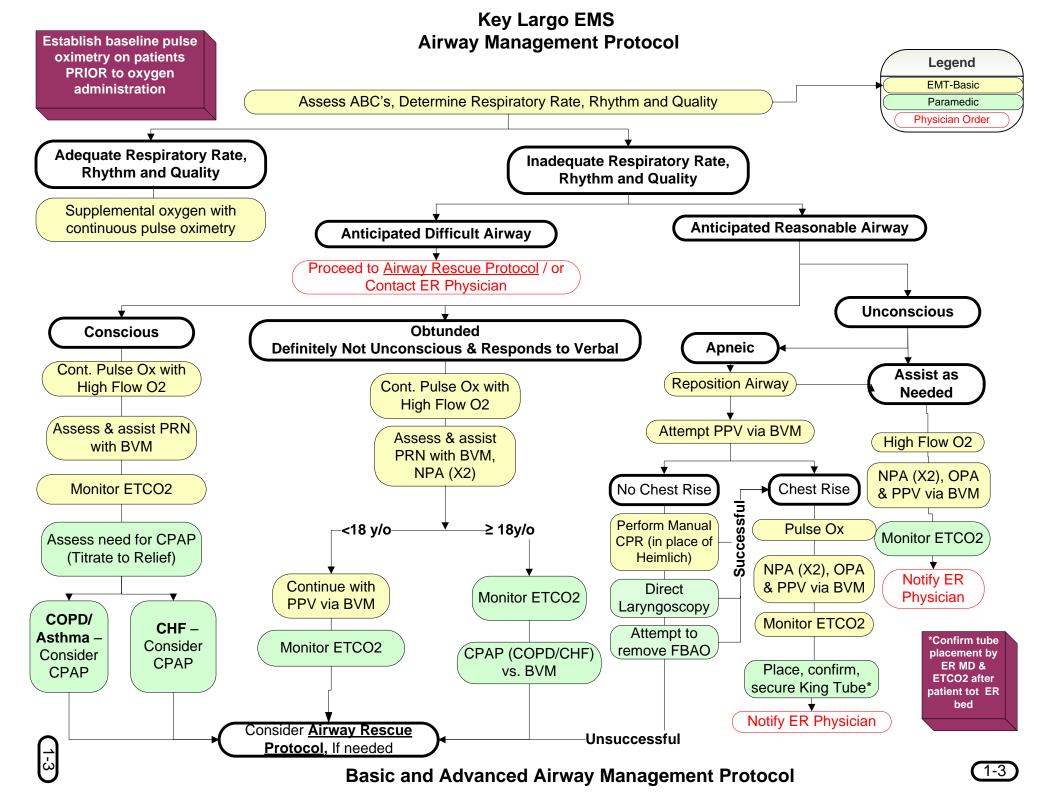
Airway Rescue Protocol for the Endangered Airway

1-1



Shortness of Breath Adult (Asthma,COPD & Acute Decompensated Heart Failure)

1-2



# KEY LARGO EMS COMMON MEDICAL PROTOCOL

#### EMT

- Ensures Scene Safety, Substance Isolation Precautions
- Oxygen 15 lpm NRM, DO NOT FORCE- Consider "Blow By" and humidified
- Initiate Basic Airway Management procedures as needed
- Acquire patient history to include S.A.M.P.L.E.
- Vital signs

### Paramedic

- Provide Advanced Airway Management procedures as needed
- Monitor and interpret ECG
- If Croup, Epiglottitis or allergic airway swelling suspected, contact Medical Control
- Initiate IV NS KVO. If IV difficult, abandon attempt. Agitation/crying could lead to further swelling of the airway.
- Consider airway Foreign Body vs glottic or subglottic inflammation
- Solumedrol: <u>Adult</u>:125 mg slow IV push over 2 min <u>Pedi:</u> 1mg/kg IV over 2 min
- If you think the condition is an allergic reaction, IV Benadryl may be helpful

### Signs of Airway Obstruction:

- Child may prefer to sit up and lean forward in sniffing position
- Drooling may be present if patient unable to swallow
- Retractions and/or nasal flaring, high fever, toxic appearance, gagging or dysphagia
- Acute onset facial swelling and wheezing consistent with allergic reaction
- Infant or toddler who is irritable, not moving neck or poor feeding may have retropharyngeal abscess
- Peritonsillar abscess can present in the older child as muffled voice and trismus

#### Paramedic

- Definitive airway management with endotracheal intubation should be a last resort. However, in the severe burn or smoke inhalation patient, this may have to be done early PRIOR to the airway sealing off from massive edema.
- AIRWAY CONTROL: Versed 2.5 mg (up to 10 mg max) May take several minutes for full effect.
- Go to Airway Rescue Protocol

### Causes:

- Infections: Croup, Epiglotittis, Retropharyngeal abscess, Peritonsillar abscess
- Swelling: Burns, anaphylaxis, laryngospasm
- Choking: foreign bodies can cause partial or complete obstructions **Respiratory Failure Findings:**
- Poor color with ashen or central cyanosis
- Obtunded mental status
- Decreased chest wall movement
- Tachypnea (rapid breathing) followed eventually by Bradypnea (slow breathing)
- Pulse Ox may be unreliable; rely on color and improving LOC

Establish baseline pulse oximetry reading PRIOR to oxygen administration

Basic Airway Management (BAM): is defined as follows: Assisted Ventilation's while using basic airway adjuncts (OPA, NPA) King Tube and a Bag Valve Mask. Advanced Airway Management (AAM): Includes all Basic procedures with the addition of Endotracheal, NasoTracheal, Surgical airways.

# STRIDOR