ENDOTRACHEAL SUCTIONING PROFICIENCY

Under direct supervision, the student will successfully perform five endotracheal suctionings. Steps which are starred (*) must be accomplished for the student to receive credit for the assessment.

1. Prepares and positions equipment
   a. Selects proper size catheter
   b. Attaches catheter to suction device
   c. Turns suction on
   d. Wears sterile gloves
2. Prepares patient with pre-oxygenation*
3. Handles suction catheter properly*
   a. Grasps suction catheter with gloved hand
   b. Manipulates catheter to avoid contamination
4. Inserts catheter properly*
   a. Inserts catheter to proper depth
   b. Does not apply suction until catheter is at appropriate depth
5. Suctions appropriately*
   a. Withdraws catheter with rotating motion
   b. Suctioning does not exceed 10 seconds
6. If additional suctioning required, flushes catheter with sterile water

PRECEPTOR EMS/STATION DATE PT. COMPLAINT AGE/GENDER

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

After a Paramedic student has successfully performed five endotracheal suctioning, he/she may attempt to obtain a PROFICIENCY CHECK. The preceptor should observe the student perform suction an endotracheal tube without assistance. If the student successfully suctions the endotracheal tube, the preceptor should complete the statement which follows. If the student is unable to suction the endotracheal tube or demonstrates significant problems with technique, the student should be required to demonstrate proficiency on a subsequent attempt.

I, _____ have observed _____ correctly
(Print Preceptor's Name) (Print Student's Name)
suction the endotracheal tube. Since Paramedics suction patients under standing orders or under orders received via radio contact with physician in the Emergency Department, they must be able to perform this skill without direct supervision.

This student has demonstrated to my satisfaction, based on this and previous observations, that he/she is proficient in the skill of endotracheal suctioning and could perform this skill without direct supervision.

Signature of Preceptor _____

Hospital/Department _____

Date_____