

OPERATIONS: BLS/ALS TREATMENT PROTOCOLS


DATE: 01/01/03

SUBJECT: AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION (Foreign Body)

POLICY NUMBER: 9110

BLS	ALS
<p>American Heart Association/American Red Cross procedures for conscious/unconscious patient for appropriate age group.</p> <p><b>Once obstruction is removed:</b> Monitor respiratory/circulatory status Give oxygen and/or ventilate prn.</p>	<p><b>Losing Consciousness/Unconscious</b></p> <p><b>SO</b> Direct laryngoscopy and Magill forceps If unsuccessful, alternate BLS procedures with ALS (laryngoscopy/Magills) while enroute to hospital.</p>
<p><b>PEDIATRIC NOTE:</b> Consider the possibility of croup and epiglottitis. If epiglottitis is suspected, keep patient in sitting position and do not attempt to visualize the oropharynx; immediate transport.</p>	

APPROVAL:

  
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Bruce E. Haynes, M.D.  
EMS Medical Director