

**COHESIVE HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING
MANGUM REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

Ventilator Weaning Protocol (RES-006A)

The Ventilator Weaning Protocol will allow the Respiratory Care Practitioner, upon order of the physician, to progress patients, who meet the weaning criteria, through the stages of weaning.

Weaning Criteria

- Underlying cause for being on ventilator has resolved
- HR <120 and >50
- RR < 30 and > 8
- LOC adequate
- Good cough effort
- No paralytics
- Min. Sedation
- No vasopressors
- SpO₂ > 90% on FiO₂ < 50% and PEEP < 8
- NIF < -20
- MV < 15
- RSBI < 105

Terminate Weaning if:

- Respiratory Rate is > 30 bpm
- SpO₂ < 90% on no more than 50% FiO₂
- Heart rate changes by 20% of baseline
- Worsening anxiety/diaphoresis or complaints of SOB
- Paradoxical breathing

PROCEDURE

CPAP MODE

1. Place the patient in CPAP using a CPAP pressure equivalent to the current PEEP level, not to be less than 5 cm H₂O. Preferably in the AM.
2. Apply Pressure Support (PS) to achieve a Tidal Volume (VT) of 4-6 ml/kg of ideal body weight (IBW). PS levels will not exceed 20 cm H₂O nor be maintained at < 5 cm H₂O.

3. If patient is stable, decrease PS by 2 every 1-2 hours until a level of 5-8 cm H₂O is reached.
4. As the patient progresses to tolerate CPAP with low level PS (5-8 cm H₂O) for 12-15 hours a day for two consecutive days, trach collar trials may be initiated.
5. Once a weaning attempt has reached the 2200 hour or has failed, place back on the previous settings and resume the weaning attempt the following AM.
6. Special care must be taken to avoid unnecessary muscle overload. If at any point during the weaning procedure the patient exhibits indicators of intolerance, return to the last level of tolerated PS. If necessary, the patient may be returned to the settings maintained prior to the weaning attempt.

SIMV MODE

1. Switch patient to SIMV with a PS of 10.
2. If patient is stable for 1 hour, begin decreasing the SIMV rate and PS by 2 every 1-2 hours as tolerated until the patient reaches an SIMV of 4 and a PS of 6.
3. Once patient reaches SIMV of 4 and PS of 6, place patient on CPAP with a PEEP of 5.
4. If patient is stable for 2 hours, proceed with CPAP weaning protocol.

Trach Collar Trials

1. Place Vent on standby.
2. Place a trach collar on patient with FiO₂ 10% greater than on vent.
3. An ABG should be drawn after the first hour. Abnormal results will be called to the physician.
4. As trach collar trials are tolerated 12-15 hours per day for two consecutive days, the trials may be extended to 48 hours.
5. After 48 hours of non-use, the ventilator may be removed from the patient room.

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