TYPES OF NASAL SUCTIONING

Nasal aspiration with a bulb tip

- Use a bulb syringe or nasal aspirator attached to oral suction by the parent OR portable or wall suction source to suction mucous from the nose. Put two drops of normal saline (saltwater) in each nostril before suctioning. This may help remove more mucous. Suction before feeding, before sleeping, or if your child appears uncomfortable.

- Nasal aspiration is **NOT considered an aerosol-generating procedure** (AGP).

  ◊ Personal protective equipment when performing this procedure with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 patients should include contact (gown and gloves), and droplet (surgical mask) with eye protection.

Nasopharyngeal suction with a catheter

- Use a catheter attached to a portable or wall suction source. After lubricating the catheter, gently advance it through the nostril and direct it toward the floor of the nasal cavity. Advance the catheter toward the lower pharynx, until the patient coughs or resistance is felt. At that point, apply suction and slowly remove the catheter.

- Nasopharyngeal suction **IS considered an aerosol-generating procedure** (AGP).

  ◊ Personal protective equipment when performing this procedure with suspected/confirmed COVID-19 patients should include contact (gown and gloves) and airborne (N-95 with goggles/face shield or PAPR) precautions.

  ◊ The length of time a room should be shut down after an aerosol-generating procedure is dependent upon how many air exchanges occur per hour. If a room is not a negative pressure room, ideally the room should be shut down for 60 minutes before cleaning to allow tiny particles suspended in the air to settle.
1. Locate the portable suction machine (additional wall suction instructions at #11).

2. Ensure connections between the machine and suction cannister are secure.

3. Insert disposable suction cannister.
4. Place lid on top of disposable cannister and snap firmly into place. Be sure to snap connections around entire circumference of cannister.

5. Connect the suction from the machine to the suction cannister. Ensure the main suction switch is turned on.
6. Connect suction tubing to suction cannister.

7. Locate the power button and power on the machine.

8. Occlude the end of the suction tubing and use the vacuum regulator knob to adjust the suction pressure to \(~100 \text{ mmHg}\).
9. Choose suction device and attach to suction tubing.

OR

10. Occlude thumb port to apply suction to the nare.

11. If using wall suction, complete steps 2-4.
12. Connect suction tubing to suction cannister and ensure tubing from vacuum regulator is connected tightly.

13. Ensure main suction control is switched to on.

14. Locate vacuum adjust knob and with suction tubing occluded, adjust suction pressure to ~100 mmHg. Proceed with suction device selection and attachment as previously described.