



**RCNIC MANUAL**

NUMBER: **V-1.07**

PAGE: **1 of 2**

DATE OF ORIGINAL: **4/93**

DATE OF REVIEW: **8/07, 12/07**

DATE OF REVISION:

**SUBJECT: Apnea, Patient with Altered Respiratory Function**

**APPROVAL**

**OUTCOME CRITERIA**

I. The patient will maintain adequate ventilation and oxygenation.

**PROCESS CRITERIA**

A. Assess respiratory function/apnea episode(s).

1. Explore with patient/family/caregiver the following:

a. Health history

b. Relational events to the apnea: feeding, positioning, sleep patterns, unusual movements, color changes.

c. Environmental influences: smoking, pollutants, allergens, pets, room temperature, layers of clothing and or bedding.

d. Interventions used by family when apnea occurs.

2. Monitor patient's cardiorespiratory patterns.

a. Use cardiorespiratory and oxygen saturation monitors as ordered.

b. Document apnea events noting number, duration, relational events, and necessary interventions.

B. Provide appropriate respiratory support during apneic episodes.

1. Tactile stimulation

2. Position to enhance lung expansion and airway patency. Utilize reflux precautions

3. Provide oxygen as needed.

C. Keep emergency equipment at bedside at all times (i.e.) bag with mask, oxygen, suction, and suction catheters.



**RCNIC MANUAL**

**NUMBER: V-1.07**

**PAGE: 2 of 2**

**DATE OF ORIGINAL: 4/93**

**DATE OF REVIEW: 8/07, 12/07**

**DATE OF REVISION:**

**SUBJECT: Apnea, Patient with Altered Respiratory Function**

**APPROVAL**

**OUTCOME CRITERIA**

II. Family/caregiver and patient will participate knowingly in planning and promoting health-related changes of the child.

**PROCESS CRITERIA**

A. In collaboration with the patient/family/caregiver develop and implement strategies to manage the patient's apnea.

1. Discuss with family/caregiver, actual or potential causes of the patient's apnea, and desired health-related changes.
2. Educate family/caregiver about specific interventions, i.e. positioning, feeding techniques, suctioning, bagging with mask, ventilation equipment, CPR.

B. Participate with patient/family/caregiver and multidisciplinary team in planning discharge to home.

1. Utilize appropriate resources as needed, e.g. social services, home health.
2. Provide patient/family/caregiver with the information regarding selection of home equipment and nursing care resources if needed.

**REFERENCES:**

Kenner, C., Lott, J. (2004) Neonatal Handbook. St. Louis: Saunders.

Wong, D., Perry, S., Hockenberry, M. (2002) Maternal Child Nursing Care. Second Edition. St. Louis: Mosby