

JA

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EMS 121EM3

Chapter 9 Class Notes

Airway – The passageway by which air enters and leaves the body. The structures of the airway are the nose, mouth, pharynx, larynx, trachea, bronchi, and lungs

Patent Airway – An airway that is open and clear; will remain open and clear without interference to the passage of air into and out of the body

Bronchoconstriction – the contraction of smooth muscle that lines the bronchial passages that results in a decreased internal diameter of the airway and increased resistance to airflow

Stridor – a high pitched sound generated from partially obstructed airflow in the upper airway

Head-Tilt, Chin-Lift Maneuver – A means of correcting blockage of the airway by the tongue by tilting the head back and lifting the chin. Used when no trauma is suspected.

Jaw-Thrust Maneuver – a means of correcting blockage of the airway by moving the jaw forward without tilting the head or neck; used when trauma is suspected

Oropharyngeal Airway (OPA) – A curved device inserted through the patient's mouth into the pharynx to help maintain an open airway

Nasopharyngeal Airway – a flexible breathing tube inserted through the patient's nostril into the pharynx to help maintain an open airway

Gag Reflex – vomiting or retching that results when something is placed in the back of the pharynx; ties to the swallow reflex.

Suctioning – use of a vacuum device to remove blood, vomitus, and other secretions or foreign materials from the airway