TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE ACCIDENTALLY COMES OUT OF TRACHEA

1. New tracheotomies (less than seven days since tracheostomy performed)
   a. Patient becomes acutely hypoxic, increased pressure to ventilate, unable to detect air movement
   b. Suction tracheostomy tube – remember suction catheter can go down a significant distance into the mediastinum suggesting that you are in the trachea and breath sounds are usually normal
   c. Call for help – senior surgical residents, anesthesia, respiratory care, faculty
   d. Remove air from balloon
   e. Remove inner cannula, then suction
   f. Remove tracheostomy tube sutures – those tying tracheostomy tube to skin
   g. Remove tracheostomy tube
   h. Hyperextend the patient’s neck (unless patient has neck trauma)
   i. Administer oxygen to tracheostomy site and mouth
   j. Begin face mask ventilation Ambu mask by face
   k. Perform endotracheal tube intubation
   l. Begin acquiring equipment
      • Crash cart
      • Tracheotomy tube tray
      • Tracheostomy and endotracheal tube
      • Light
   m. Replace tracheostomy tube after help and equipment have arrived (this may be the operating room)
      • May need to place endotracheal tube into tracheostomy temporarily.

Revised 1/18/17