

Magills Forceps

Procedure

Douglas County KS EMS System

March 2022

Approved Provider: Paramedic

Reference Protocols: None

Indications

- The need to clear an obstructed airway in a patient with no gag reflex

Precautions

- Procedure needs to be completed rapidly as the patient is not breathing

Contraindications

- None

Procedure (Fig. 1)

Attempt to clear airway with standard BLS procedures

- Prepare Equipment
 - Laryngoscope
 - Magills
 - Suction
- Place head in sniffing position if not contraindicated
- Insert blade as if intubating patient
- Visualize epiglottis and obstruction
- Insert magills and grasp obstruction (Fig.1)
- Remove obstruction
- Confirm entire obstruction removed
- If indicated intubate patient as per protocol
- Ensure ventilation and oxygenation of patient

Complications

- Hypoxia due to prolonged removal attempt
- Trauma to airway

Documentation

- Indications for procedure
- Description of procedure
- Response to procedure

Fig. 1

