Avoiding the Hazards of Inadvertent Administration of High Suction Pressures

Tracheal

Nasogastric
There are **two key aspects** of clinical suctioning that are most commonly overlooked which could lead to over-suctioning and various clinical complications:

1. **Choosing the appropriate suction pressure:**

   Recommended Guidelines for setting Suction Pressures

   **Endotracheal**[^14]
   - Adults: -100 to -140 mmHg
   - Pediatrics: -80 to -100 mmHg
   - Infants: -60 to -80 mmHg

   **Nasogastric drainage**[^15]
   - Adult: -20 to -80 mmHg (Intermittent)

   Always follow your institutions recommended guidelines for clinical suctioning.

2. **Setting the suction pressure correctly:**

   **Always Occlude-To-Set for proper suction levels**

   In order to properly set the maximum pressure, the flow path must be fully occluded.

   ![tubing occluded]

   If the flow path is not occluded, the pressure setting will be too high.

   ![tubing left open]

   When this happens the clinician inadvertently sets the minimum vacuum pressure and may expose the patient to high suction pressure that may cause harm to the patient during suctioning.

   The results could be......

   **inadvertent high suction pressures.**

   Hazards during suctioning are as follows:

   **During tracheal suctioning:**
   - Hypoxia/Hypoxemia[^1,2,4,5,6,7,8,10,11]
   - Atelectasis[^2,5,8]
   - Mucosal tissue tears[^5,9,13]
   - Bleeding[^5,9,13]
   - Increased risk of infection[^3,5,12]

   **During nasogastric suctioning:**
   - Mucosal tissue tears[^5,9,13]
   - Bleeding[^5,9,13]
   - Increased risk of infection[^3,5,12]

[^14]: See Page 4 for reference information
[^15]: See Page 4 for reference information
Are your **Vacuum Regulators** helping you to avoid over suctioning?

**OHIO MEDICAL’S Push-To-Set™ Technology** is an integrated passive safety system designed to prevent inadvertent over-suctioning.

**THE TECHNOLOGY:**

When the vacuum adjustment knob is depressed, the vacuum flow path is "automatically occluded" and will accurately reflect maximum suction pressure.

Because the patented PTS technology occludes the flow path when the knob is depressed, the clinician is not required to occlude the flow path to set maximum pressure.

**DID YOU KNOW......**

- Push-To-Set™ technology enhances setting safe suction pressures through automatic occlusion.
- Digital technology enhances display of accurate suction pressure (± 1%) providing unsurpassed safety.
Reference Information


