

## Skill Sheet 020503

### Nasopharyngeal Airway

**Objective:** DEMONSTRATE the recommended procedure for insertion of a Nasopharyngeal Airway.

**References:**

PHTLS (Military Edition) Seventh Edition Elsevier, Mosby  
ATLS Manual, American College of Surgeons, Chicago, IL

**Evaluation:** Students will be evaluated as a Pass/Fail (P/F). The instructor will verify the accuracy of the student's ability to insert a Nasopharyngeal Airway on an airway trainer by means of observing the student's procedures and technique.

**Materials:**

Student Checklist  
Airway Simulator, Nasopharyngeal Airway, surgical lubricant

**Instructor Guidelines:**

1. Provide each instructor with a Student Checklist.
2. Ensure student has all student-required materials.
3. Read the Learning Objective and the evaluation method to the student.
4. Explain the grading of the exercise.
5. Allow time for the students to extract the information required from the instructor-provided scenario.

**Performance Steps:**

1. Assemble and test all necessary equipment.
2. Assess the upper airway for visible obstruction.
3. Open the airway with a chin lift/jaw thrust maneuver.
4. Verbalize the indications for a Nasopharyngeal Airway – unconscious patient.
5. Lubricate the Nasopharyngeal Airway with a surgical lubricant.
6. Insert the airway into the nose at a 90 degree angle to the face. Avoid aiming upwards towards the top of the head. Insert all the way to the flange.
7. Use a rotary and/or back-and-forth motion to facilitate insertion.
8. If unable to insert on one side of the nasal passage, take it out and try the other side.

### Insert a Nasopharyngeal Airway

Task	Completed		
	1st	2nd	3rd
Assessed the upper airway for visible obstruction.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Opened the airway with a chin lift/jaw thrust maneuver.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Lubricated the Nasopharyngeal Airway with a surgical lubricant.	P / F	P / F	P / F
Inserted the airway into the nose at a 90 degree angle to the face. Avoided aiming upwards towards the top of the head. Inserted all the way to the flange	P / F	P / F	P / F
Used a rotary and/or back-and-forth motion to facilitate insertion.	P / F	P / F	P / F
If unable to insert on one side of the nasal passage, took the NPA out and inserted on the other side.	P / F	P / F	P / F

**Critical Criteria:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Aimed the NPA towards the top of the head during insertion.

\_\_\_\_\_ Performed procedure in a manner that was dangerous to the casualty.

**Evaluator's Comments:**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_ Pass: \_\_\_\_\_ Fail: \_\_\_\_\_