HERZING UNIVERSITY | SCHOOL of NURSING

TRACHEOSTOMY SUCTIONING & CARE
SKILL VALIDATION

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Supplies Needed	Trach suctioning kit, Shiley disposable cannula, trach tube holder, extra sterile gloves
Equipment Needed	Nursing Manikin, suction regulator with suction tubing, Shiley trach tube, trach mask with oxygen tubing

	Points Allowed	1st Attempt	2nd Attempt
Preparation			
Perform I-CHECK: Introduce yourself; Check armband **(two patient identifiers);** Hand hygiene; Explain procedure; Check order; Keep privacy	+1		
Prep the patient • Position the patient in a semi-Fowler's position • Drape the patient's chest	+2		
Assess respiratory status • **Listen to lung sounds** • **Apply pulse ox**	+2		
Hyper-oxygenate the patient according to the patient's need/condition	+1		
Turn on the suction unit, setting the pressure to 80-150 mmHg	+1		
Tracheostomy Suctioning			
Open the tracheostomy care kit using sterile technique (away from you)	+1		
Don sterile gloves	+1		
Prepare your sterile field • Prepare your suction catheter by using your non-dominant hand to connect suction tubing to catheter • Moisten with sterile saline and test suction	+2		
Remove the tracheostomy mask with non-dominant hand	+1		
Insert catheter into tracheal airway until resistance or coughing occurs (usually 0.5-1 cm), **avoiding suctioning during insertion** (while maintaining sterility)	+1		
Apply intermittent suction as you slowly withdraw the catheter, rotating it in a back-and-forth motion, suctioning for 10-15 seconds, while maintaining sterility	+1		
Reapply oxygen after each suction pass, using non-dominant, non-sterile hand	+1		
Rinse the catheter and tubing with saline until clear	+1		
Reassess patient's respiratory status, including pulse ox	+1		
Repeat suctioning up to 2 more times if needed, waiting 1 minute in between each pass, while maintaining sterility	+1		
Post-Procedure			
Disconnect suction catheter	+1		
Remove gloves & perform hand hygiene	+1		
Reassess the patient's respiratory status	+1		

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Tracheostomy Care			
Changing disposable inner cannula • Don clean gloves • Unlock and remove the old inner cannula • Insert the new inner cannula **(only touching the top locking device**) and **secure the locking mechanism** • Dispose of the used cannula appropriately	+4		
Cleaning the stoma • Clean stoma with a cotton-tipped applicator or gauze that has been dipped in saline (Starting at the stoma site and moving outward using items only once) • Pat the skin dry with a 4x4 gauze sponge • Slide the split drain sponge under the faceplate	+3		
Changing the tracheostomy holder • Place the new holder over the old one, ensuring the tube remains secure • Remove the old holder only after the new one is fully in place • Place two fingers under new holder to ensure it is not too tight	+3		
Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene	+1		
Document the procedure (pre-assessment, number of suction passes, description of secretions, post-procedure assessment, care provided). *No points, but required*			
Total Points (successful/unsuccessful): 26 out of 32 needed to be successful			
Comments **1st Attempt:** **2nd Attempt:**			

Evaluator Initials or Signature: _____ Date: _____

1ST Attempt Pass _____**/ Needs Remediation**_____

Evaluator Initials or Signature: _____ Date: _____

2nd Attempt Pass _____**/ Lab Fail**_____

Bolded *Items: If missed and not caught, will result in an automatic unsuccessful* *Updated 11/14/2024*