

# Pediatric Respiratory Compromise Instructions to Skill Examiners

Thank you for serving as a Skill Examiner at today's examination. Please take a few moments to review the instructions for your station.

## Skill Examiner Responsibilities

- Act in a professional and unbiased manner toward everyone involved in the exam, including candidates.
- Limit conversation with candidates to instructions and answering exam-related questions.
- Avoid social conversation with candidates or commenting about a candidate's performance.
- Maintain control of your scenario.
  - Familiarize yourself with the details of the scenario.
  - Brief simulated patients and assistants.
  - Make sure all equipment is functional.
- Be sure that all exam materials always remain in a secure place.
- Return all exam materials to the National Registry Representative.
  - Include all notes taken by the candidate.
- Thoroughly document justification for the candidate's score, especially if any Critical Criteria are identified.
- Do not give verbal or physical cues to the candidate of their performance. Remain neutral and objective in your conduct.

## Skill Examiner Key Points

- Candidates are expected to choose equipment and medications based on current evidence-based guidelines and the national scope of practice.
- Candidates are expected to perform the skill as would a competent entry-level provider.
- The chronological order in which a candidate performs each step in a skill is only important if clinically relevant.
- Reasonable equipment substitutions are acceptable. Direct any questions regarding equipment substitutions to the National Registry Representative.
- Report all equipment failures immediately to the National Registry Representative, and promptly replace defective equipment.
- Ensure that candidates follow OSHA recommendations while performing each skill.

### Skill Examiner Key Points

- This skill may be incorporated into the other Ventilatory Management skill as the Examination Coordinator chooses.
- For the purposes of this skill, spinal precautions are not necessary.
- The scenario should present itself as a 1-year-old patient who has been deteriorating for 3 days, and the patient has an initial respiratory rate of 60 breaths per minute upon arrival of EMS.
- If any history or assessment information is missing from the documentation provided, use your expertise to provide appropriate answers to any of the candidate's history and assessment questions.
- Ensure that the details of the patient history and assessment remain consistent for each candidate.
- Reasonable equipment substitutions may be made to reduce the cost of deploying this skill station. Substitutions should be discussed with the National Registry Representative.

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## Equipment List

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Do not open these skill stations for testing until the following equipment is available. If the Pediatric Respiratory Compromise skill station is being evaluated in a separate area, disregard all pediatric equipment in the following list. You must ensure that all equipment is working adequately throughout the examination. All equipment must be disassembled (oxygen supply tubing disconnected, regulator turned off, cuffs deflated with syringes disconnected, etc.) before accepting a candidate for evaluation:

- Personal protective equipment
- Airway manikin (infant)
- Secondary airway confirmation device
- Bag-valve-mask device with reservoir (infant)
- Oxygen cylinder with regulator (may be empty)
- Oxygen connecting tubing
- Selection of oropharyngeal airways (infant)
- Selection of nasopharyngeal airways (infant)
- Stethoscope
- Tongue depressor
- Towel or other appropriate padding

The Skill Examiner reads the following instructions to all Advanced EMT candidates who must complete the Pediatric Respiratory Compromise Skill Station:

## Instructions to the Psychomotor Skills Candidate Pediatric Respiratory Compromise Skill Station

These progressive skills are designed to evaluate your ability to provide immediate and aggressive ventilatory assistance to a 1-year-old child in respiratory distress. No other associated injuries are present. This is a non-trauma situation and cervical precautions are not necessary. You must actually perform all assessments and interventions that you feel are necessary. If you choose to ventilate the manikin with a bag-valve-mask device, you must do so for at least one minute. I will serve as your trained assistant and will be interacting with you throughout these skills. I will correctly carryout your orders upon your direction. Do you have any questions?

At this time, please take two minutes to check your equipment and prepare whatever you feel is necessary.

[After two minutes or sooner if the candidate acknowledges they are prepared, the Skill Examiner continues reading the following:]

You respond to a residence for a sick child who is having difficulty breathing. The scene is safe, and no hemorrhage or other immediate problem is found. As you enter the residence, you see a 1-year-old male sitting on his mother's lap.