

EMERGENCY ACTION CARD

Key Basic Plan

v1.2

The Key Basic Plan will detect, identify and fix or temporise almost all initial problems. Specific problems are addressed in dedicated Emergency Action Cards (EACs)

START: IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY DRIVER, STOP SAFELY

1 Adequate oxygen delivery

- Check oxygen flow and set FiO₂ to 1.0
- Visual inspection of entire ventilator circuit
- Check alarms

2 Airway

- Own airway: confirm patency, listen for noise
- ETT/trache: confirm position/patency and exclude leak
- Check capnography trace
- Consider whether you need to isolate equipment (Box B)

3 Breathing

- Check chest symmetry, breath sounds, RR, SpO₂, measured VT_{exp}
- Is there EtCO₂?
- Review airway pressure using ventilator and/or Mapleson C system

4 Circulation

- Check rate, rhythm, perfusion
- Re-check BP
- Consider fluid bolus
- If pregnant and hypotensive, position patient in left lateral

5 Drugs

- Check patency of IV access
- Confirm infusions running at appropriate rate

6 Equipment

- Check power, oxygen, monitoring, pumps

7 Next steps (Box C)

- Inform receiving hospital and Leadership SPOC when able and appropriate
- Complete Datix when back at base

Box A: CRITICAL CHANGES

- If problem worsens significantly, or a new problem arises, go back to **START** of Key Basic Plan
- If Transfer Practitioner or Transfer Doctor transfer, contact Remote Duty Consultant
- Consider contacting Leadership SPOC for support, if required

Box B: ISOLATE EQUIPMENT TO EXCLUDE EQUIPMENT FAULT

- Ventilate lungs using Mapleson C system connected DIRECTLY to ETT or tracheostomy tube connector
- DO NOT use the HME filter, angle piece or catheter mount
- If remains difficult to ventilate with Mapleson C system, re-connect ventilator
- If increased pressure NOT manually confirmed, assume problem with ventilator/circuit/HMEF/catheter mount: check and replace

Box C: NEXT STEPS

If emergency has not been resolved, or patient condition significantly changed, consider:

- Return to referring hospital
- Diversion to nearest Emergency Department
- Expedite journey to receiving hospital