

AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION

A. Conscious Patient:

1. Able to talk or cough:
 - a. Reassure victim and encourage coughing.
 - b. Oxygen 15 LPM via nonrebreather mask.
 - c. Transport immediately and notify **Medical Command**.
2. Unable to talk, cough, or has weak ineffective cough:
 - a. Deliver repeated abdominal thrusts until obstruction relieved or victim becomes unconscious. For patients <1 year of age, do alternating 5 back blows and 5 chest thrusts.
 - b. Chest thrusts are preferred on advanced pregnancy and marked obesity.
 - c. Transport immediately and notify **Medical Command**.

B. Unconscious:

1. Open Airway and attempt ventilation.
2. Reposition airway, if necessary, and attempt ventilation.
3. Begin CPR starting with compressions.
4. Finger sweep for foreign body if visualized. **DO NOT perform finger sweep on patients < 8 years of age.**
5. Repeat steps 1 - 5 above.
6. If unsuccessful, transport immediately. Repeat steps 1 - 5 en route.
7. Request ALS backup without delaying transport and meet enroute.
8. If further airway management is required refer to **Airway Management Protocol 6901**.
9. **Contact Medical Command.**

