

## Case 6

**Scenario Location: Emergency Department**

**Scenario Topic: Respiratory Arrest**

**Scenario Rating: 2**

**Lead-in:** You are a nurse practitioner practicing in a double-coverage emergency department (a physician is the other provider) when a patient arrives via EMS with a chief complaint of shortness of breath. Paramedics report a prior history of heart failure and medical noncompliance. The patient arrives on continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP).

### Case Development

<b>Initial Information</b>	The patient is transferred onto an emergency department stretcher. The patient looks tired and cannot speak in complete sentences. What are your new actions?
<b>Additional Information</b>	The patient is placed on a monitor. His initial vital signs are pulse 145/min, blood pressure 210/115 mm Hg, and SpO <sub>2</sub> 82% on 100% oxygen. The patient is transitioned to bilevel positive airway pressure. After 10 minutes, the patient slumps over and becomes apneic. What are your actions now?
<b>Additional Information (if needed)</b>	A definitive airway should be obtained. Treatment for heart failure should be initiated after the patient is placed on bilevel positive airway pressure. ECG, chest x-ray, and laboratory analysis should help confirm the diagnosis.  Some centers may choose to keep the patient on CPAP.  The family arrives and states that the patient has been noncompliant with his medications and has progressively become short of breath with swollen lower extremities. This has happened a few times in the past, often requiring hospitalization.

## Airway Management Skills Testing Checklist

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Test \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Critical Performance Steps</b>	<b>✓ if done correctly</b>
<b>BLS Assessment and Interventions</b>	
Checks for responsiveness • Taps and shouts, "Are you OK?"	
Activates the emergency response system • Shouts for nearby help/Activates the emergency response system and gets the AED <i>or</i> • Directs second rescuer to activate the emergency response system and get the AED	
Checks breathing • Scans chest for movement (5-10 seconds)	
Checks pulse (5-10 seconds) <b>Breathing and pulse check can be done simultaneously</b> Notes that pulse is present and does not initiate chest compressions or attach AED	
Inserts oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal airway	
Administers oxygen	
Performs effective bag-mask ventilation for 1 minute • Gives proper ventilation rate (once every 5-6 seconds) • Gives proper ventilation speed (over 1 second) • Gives proper ventilation volume (~half a bag)	

### STOP TEST

#### Instructor Notes

- Place a ✓ in the box next to each step the student completes successfully.
- If the student does not complete all steps successfully (as indicated by at least 1 blank check box), the student must receive remediation. Make a note here of which skills require remediation (refer to Instructor Manual for information about remediation).

**Test Results** Circle **PASS** or **NR** to indicate pass or needs remediation: **PASS** **NR**

Instructor Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_