

Guidelines for Cuffed ETT Utilization in the Pediatric Patient

When using a cuffed ETT for a pediatric patient:

1. Select the appropriate size ETT (typically ½ size smaller than the recommended uncuffed ETT size as per length based resuscitation tape).
2. Check the integrity of the cuff prior to insertion.
3. After insertion of the ETT, inflate the cuff as necessary to achieve minimal air leak around the ETT (amount of air not to exceed the manufacturer's specification for maximum air inflation).
4. Completely deflate the cuff prior to removal of the ETT.

References:

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Jain MK, Tripathi CB. Endotracheal tube cuff pressure monitoring during neurosurgery - Manual vs. automatic method. *J Anaesthesiol Clin Pharmacol*. 2011;27(3):358-61.
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Lichtenthal, PL and Borg, UB. Endotracheal cuff pressure: role of tracheal size and cuff volume. *Critical Care*. 2011;15(1):147.
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