

Airway Assessment

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Non-Intubated



Non-Intubated

- **Physical Characteristic Evaluation**
 - Recessed jaw
 - Protruding jaw
 - Deviated trachea
 - Large tongue
 - Short, thick neck
 - Protruding teeth
 - High, arched palate

Non-Intubated

- **Verbally ask them to open their mouth if responsive or pry it open if able**
- **Temporomandibular Joint exam**
 - Normal distance between the upper and lower incisors is 4-6 cm (approx. 2 inches)
 - Reduced ability to open the mouth indicates reduced mobility of the joint and impaired access to the patient's airway
- **Oral Cavity Inspection**
 - Identify loose, chipped or capped teeth, and dental anomalies such as dentures
 - Identify tumors or other obstruction of airflow

Intubated



Intubated

- **ETT Physical Characteristics Evaluation**
 - ETT size
 - Tube depth (tube size x 3 = approx depth)
 - This rule does not apply to short or long necks
 - Tube secured with
 - Tape, commercial tube holder, etc.
 - Contents of ETT
 - Mist, secretions, chunks

Intubated

- **Questions to be asked**
 - Medications and dosages if given?
 - Difficulty or ease in obtaining intubation?
 - You could lose this tube and info might be good to know
 - Any history or possibility of aspiration during procedure?
 - Accepting MD's would probably like to know this

Intubated

- **Questions to be asked**
 - Any episodes of desaturation during procedure and how fast and long?
 - Accepting MD's would probably like to know this and possibly treating for anoxic brain injury.
 - Has the tube been repositioned?

