PROCEDURE FOR USING A MANUAL RESUSCITATION
BAG VALVE MASK (BVM) “AMBU BAG”

A manual bag valve mask is used to deliver breaths manually when a student is unable to breathe on his or her own. This device may be used with a mask to cover the nose and mouth or with a special adaptor for a tracheostomy tube.

**PROCEDURE**

1. Assemble equipment:
   - Oxygen source with appropriate tubing if needed
   - Correct size mask if needed
   - Adaptor for tracheostomy tube if needed

2. If this is not an emergent situation, explain procedure to the student.

3. If oxygen is ordered, attach oxygen tubing to the resuscitator bag.

4. Attach resuscitator bag to tracheostomy tube.

5. If the student is able to breathe independently, coordinate the manual breaths with the student’s breaths. Give a breath by squeezing the resuscitation bag as the student begins to inhale.

**POINTS TO REMEMBER**

If this is an emergency, activate 911 and contact the school nurse and parent/guardian.

- If unable to ventilate the student through the tracheostomy tube, remove the tracheostomy tube, cover the tracheostomy opening with a gloved hand and place the mask over the student’s face and begin to resuscitate the student. The mask should fit between the bridge of the nose and the cleft of the chin. If difficulty is encountered, make sure that the head is properly positioned and attempt resuscitation again.

- If the student has no breathing rate prescribed, a standard range of breaths per minute is:
  - 20 – 24 for infants
  - 16 – 20 for children
  - 12 – 16 for adolescents

- Hold tracheostomy tube with one hand to prevent pulling/dislodging it.

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PROCEDURE

6. Squeeze the bag just enough to see the chest rise.

7. If you feel resistance and/or the student looks distressed, be sure you are giving breaths with the student’s own effort and that the tube is patent.

8. If the student is unable to breathe on his/her own, squeeze the resuscitation bag at a regular rate to deliver prescribed breaths per minute.

9. Remove resuscitation bag from tracheostomy tube.

10. Wash hands.

11. Document procedure in Healthmaster and in EasyTrac, if applicable.

Students who have tracheostomies or who use ventilators MUST have a BVM with them at all times.

BVM sizes:
- 500cc bag if student weighs less than 60 pounds
- 800 cc bag if student weighs less than 100 pounds
- 1200 cc if the student weighs over 100 pounds

If a smaller bag size is not available, a larger BVM may be used, and the caregiver would not compress the bag fully. Ventilate the student just enough to see the chest rise and fall.

Hold the tracheostomy tube with one hand to prevent pulling/dislodging it.