

Ventilator Bundle

Goal is to prevent Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP)

I. Prevent Aspiration of Contaminated Secretions:

1. Elevation of the bed to between 30 – 45 degrees use:
 - a. 15 – 30 degrees for neonates
 - b. 30 – 45 degrees for infants or above
2. If cuffed ETTs, inflate them to maintain cuff pressure no greater than 20 cm H₂O
3. Keep the vent circuit free from condensate by draining water away every 2 – 4 hours
4. Drain condensate away from the patient and especially prior to repositioning

II. Prevent Bacterial Colonization of oropharynx, stomach, sinuses

1. Decontaminate hands with soap and water (if hands are visibly soiled) or with an alcohol-based hand rub before and after contact with ventilator circuit
2. When soiling from respiratory secretions is anticipated – wear gown and gloves before providing care to patient
3. Comprehensive mouth care every 2-4 hours (q2h for more “high risk” patients) using 0.2% Chlorhexidene as antiseptic for children greater than 2 months of age
4. Ventilator circuit changes should take place only when it is visibly soiled or mechanically malfunctioning
5. Change in-line suction catheter systems only when soiled or otherwise indicated; open catheter systems should be considered single use (change Y connectors and suction tubing 24 hourly)
6. Store Yankauers in a clean non-sealed plastic bag when not in use (change 24 hourly)