

All skill guidelines are adapted from *Fundamentals of Nursing* (9th Ed.) Potter and Perry (2017).

Maternal Health Competencies - Oxygenation

1. Explain procedure to patient
2. Perform hand hygiene prior to engaging with patient
3. Don clean gloves

Measurement of Oxygen Saturation (Pulse Oximetry)

1. Determine need to measure patient's oxygen saturation
2. Assess for factors that normally influence measurement of SpO₂
3. Determine previous baseline SpO₂
4. Determine most appropriate patient-specific site (e.g., finger, earlobe, forehead)
5. Site must have adequate local circulation and be free of moisture
 - a. Place probe on finger free of polish or artificial nail
 - b. If tremors are present, use earlobe
 - c. If patient is obese, clip-on probe may not fit properly, obtain single-use (tape-on) probe
6. Document findings in the patient's record
7. Perform hand hygiene
8. Apprise provider of abnormal measurement (per clinical policy)

Applying Oxygen Sources

Nasal Cannula

1. Assist patient to fowlers position
2. Attach nasal cannula to oxygen source at prescribed flow rate
3. Insert cannula with prongs facing downward. Fit over ears and secured under chin

Simple Face Mask

1. Attach simple mask to oxygen source at prescribed flow rate
2. Apply simple mask over mouth and nose and secure in place with strap being placed over the crown of the head

Partial and Non-Rebreather Masks

1. Attach non-rebreather mask to oxygen source at prescribed/appropriate flow rate

2. Ensure reservoir bag is inflated
3. Apply non-rebreather mask snugly over mouth and nose and secures in place with strap being placed over the crown of the head

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