Passy-Muir® Tracheostomy Speaking Valve

The Passy-Muir® Tracheostomy Speaking Valve allows the patient with a tracheostomy to speak. It is a one-way valve that connects to the tracheostomy tube. The valve opens during inspiration to allow air to go into the lungs. The valve closes during expiration and forces air up through the vocal cords to create speech.
Advantages of the Speaking Valve

- Improves speech.
- Improves swallowing.
- Decreases secretions – requires less suctioning.
- Improves smell.
- Increases appetite.
- Improves quality of life.
- Directs air flow through the mouth and nose – patients can blow their nose and cough up secretions.
- Can be used with oxygen, humidity and ventilators.

How to Use the Speaking Valve

Non-Ventilator Patients

- Clear tracheal and oral secretions by suctioning or by having the patient cough.
- Completely deflate the cuff of the tracheostomy tube.
- If necessary, remove the oxygen or humidity.
- Attach the valve to the tracheostomy tube and twist ¼ turn.
- If necessary, replace the oxygen or humidity.
- To remove the valve, twist the valve off gently while holding the trach plate.

Ventilator Dependent Patients

- Clear tracheal and oral secretions by sectioning or by having the patient cough.
- Completely deflate the cuff of the tracheostomy tube.
- Place the valve in-line to the ventilator tubing in the following manner: ____________________________
• If necessary, adjust the ventilator settings:
  FiO₂ _________________ Tidal Volume _________________
  Other ____________________________________________

• To remove the valve, take the valve out of the ventilator circuit.

• If necessary, return ventilator settings:
  FiO₂ _________________ Tidal Volume _________________
  Other ____________________________________________

• If necessary, inflate the cuff again.

**Special Considerations**

• Remove the valve during aerosol treatments.

• You can remove the valve when suctioning is needed.

• Do not sleep with the valve in place.

• The valve may occasionally pop off; just replace it and be sure connections are tight.

**Cleaning**

• Clean daily.

• Wash in soapy water. Ivory soap or other mild soaps are recommended.

• Rinse thoroughly with warm water.

• Allow to air dry.

• Soak the valve in a germicide solution 1 to 2 times per week. Solution ____________.

• Do **not** use the following items for cleaning because they can damage the valve.
  - Hot water or harsh chemicals
  - Peroxide, bleach, vinegar or alcohol
  - Any brushes
If the valve makes noise or sticks, and it is less than 2 months old, clean the valve again. Rinse thoroughly with warm water.

**When to Get a New Valve**

The valve should be replaced after two months of use or if it becomes sticky, noisy or begins to vibrate.

Contact _________________ when the valve needs to be replaced or if you have any questions.

Talk to your doctor or others on your health care team if you have questions. You may request more written information from the Library for Health Information at (614) 293-3707 or email: health-info@osu.edu.