

Tutor Guide – Supraglottic Airway (SGA) placement

Thank you very much for helping with the airway mastery learning program. Attached is the pre-course material which trainees should read and complete before attending. It includes a checklist and you should use this when assessing them. It includes a pass mark, which should be regarded as formative rather than summative. Ideally the programme should be delivered as described here, but we recognise that not every department will be able to achieve this.

- Teaching takes up to 60 minutes depending on the trainee.
- There should ideally only be up to two trainees per tutor at a time.
- Ideally the trainee should also have had an opportunity to practice with the equipment on the manikin prior to the session.
- It is very important to create a safe space and non-threatening environment for the learner.

Stages of the process are:

1. Trainee reads pre-course material and watches video before attending.
2. Participant performs procedure on the manikin as a formative assessment.
3. Tutor gives specific feedback about the performance.
4. Trainee repeats procedure until you are happy they do it properly (this may need more than one session).

Skills to assess as part of formative assessment (use checklist):

1. Decision-making re use of SGA; sizing; device-selection (including 1st & 2nd generation devices according to local availability).
2. Demonstrates understanding of other equipment, monitoring, personnel and supervision that is needed for safe practice.
3. Effective SGA placement (ideally including both 1st & 2nd generation devices).

Equipment:

- a manikin/ airway head
- a range of SGAs (all that are freely available in your place of work)

Things to stress are:

- Decision-making – SGA vs ETT; pros & cons of SGA.
- Preparation – equipment, staff.
- Demonstration of effective positioning, device preparation.
- Demonstration of device insertion.
- Confirmation of optimal placement with effective ventilation and appropriate capnograph trace.

Trainees should repeat the procedure until you are happy that they are doing it properly (see checklist).

SGA checklist

Date:

Trainee name:

Tutor:

Step	1 st attempt	2 nd attempt
Pre-procedure		
Assessment of patient and airway		
Ensures trained assistant & senior supervision		
Confirm airway plan with anaesthetic assistant		
Inspection & preparation of SGA		
Perform WHO sign in		
Full monitoring including ETCO ₂		
Ensures patent IV cannula		
Optimise patient position		
Pre-oxygenation until ETO ₂ > 0.8		
Procedure		
Support airway using simple manoeuvres		
Support ventilation using bag mask ventilation		
Assess adequacy of anaesthesia		
Holds and inserts SGA correctly		
Inflate cuff if present		
Attaches ventilator tubing to SGA		
Confirms ventilation with gentle positive pressure – chest rising, ETCO ₂ , no audible leak		
Hold SGA in place until secured		
Secure SGA with tie or tape		
Check gastric port if 2nd generation SGA used		
Check cuff pressure if applicable		
Post-procedure		
Documentation of airway management		
Throughout		
Appropriate communication with assistant & patient		
Aware of patient condition / vital signs		
Shows understanding of adequate anaesthetic and maintenance of anaesthesia		

Pass mark: 21/24

Comments: