(A) Policy Statement

The Respiratory Care Department will initiate and maintain non-invasive monitoring of end-tidal CO2 as ordered by the physician in the intensive care, ED and step-down units. The nurses will initiate End Tidal CO2 monitoring via special nasal cannulas that are used with the pain pumps for narcotic administration.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To provide indications for the use of end-tidal CO2 monitoring.

(C) Procedure

1. Use of a Colormetric CO2 monitoring device (EasyCap) or EMMA End Tidal CO2 detector is mandatory during intubations for proper tube placement.
2. Examples of situations to be considered for end-tidal CO2 (capnography) monitoring:
   a) Following initiation of mechanical ventilation, until stable arterial blood gases are achieved
   b) While weaning patients following prolonged mechanical ventilation
3. End tidal monitoring associated with the Alaris pain pump will be documented BID: 0800 and 2000, with the oxygen rounds. See Nursing Service Standard of Care and Practice: PCA and Continuous Intravenous Medication.
4. End tidal monitoring while on the ventilator will be documented q4 hrs.

Approved by:

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3/31/6  
Date

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3/31/16  
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Review/Revision Completed By:

Policies Superseded by This Policy: