

DT: 5/8/2015

TO: Johnson County EMS System Emergency Departments

FR: Office of the Johnson County EMS System Medical Director

RE: **New Advanced Airway Device Pilot in JOCO EMS System**

In an effort to communicate with all of our care partners in the metro area we wanted to let everyone we know that we will soon be utilizing a new airway device as part of a system feasibility trial.

Select units within the Johnson County EMS system will be placing the **i-gel airway** in all patients needing advanced airway placement. These devices may be showing up in your hospital Emergency Departments starting the first week of May. Below you will find links to a couple short informational video as well as a list of pointers that our manufacturer representative has added for your review.



You can go to www.i-gel.com Click on Emergency Medicine to watch the manufacturer video.

YouTube has a vast array of videos as well: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ao-Sb_OuIE8

- Check the airway placement when the patient arrives. Teeth or gums should be at the black line.
- The connection piece of the i-Gel is the same as an ETT. ETCO2 adapters, resuscitation bags, and ventilator circuits will fit.
- This tube is much more stable than an LMA due to the larger shaft of the tube which also incorporates a bite block. You can achieve ventilation pressure of up to 35 cmH2O with this airway.
- The i-gel is rated for 4 hours of use. If you have a good seal, the tube does not have to be switched out right away. You may decide when it is best to change the tube.

- Intubation is possible through the i-gel. The airway size is marked on the tube. 3 plus the airway size is the ETT size. The Johnson County System will carry two sizes: size 4, for an adult 5 to 6 ft. tall, and size 5, for over 6 ft. in height. The FDA recommends ETT placement through the lumen of the i-gel guided by fiberoptic scope. You can also use a bougie or tube changer to remove the i-gel and lower the ETT back into the marked airway.

i-gel O ₂ size	Maximum size of Endotracheal tube (ETT)
3	6.0mm
4	7.0mm
5	8.0mm

- The port on the end with the colored cap is a passive oxygenation port. It is used for hands only CPR and can be used to provide oxygen to spontaneously breathing patients (if they are tolerating the airway.)
- EMS will be using a suction catheter in the gastric channel to manage fluids. 12 Fr. OG is the largest size for the channel of the adult size i-gel.

The i-gel O2 Resus flyer which will give an overview of the airway. Also attached is the IFU which is the instruction booklet. This booklet will give sizes of the OG tube sizes for the gastric channel and the ETT size graph.

Below is the Intersurgical Representative contact information if you would like more information or would like to set-up an in-service training.

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Respectfully,



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Johnson County EMS System Medical Director