

## **NASOPHARYNGOSCOPY NURSING PROCEDURE**

**Policy:**

To provide nursing staff with knowledge of clinical procedures needed to assist physician during Nasopharyngeal exams. This procedure will better visualize the structures of the nasopharyngeal passages.

**Procedure:**

1. Hand washing with an antimicrobial soap is carried out by personnel before each procedure. Chohexidine is the agent of choice. Clean gloves are worn by the operator and any assisting personnel.
2. The nursing staff is responsible for assisting the patient to the exam chair, drape chest area with a clean towel; set up scope by plugging into light source and check for proper function; squeeze small amount of viscous lidocaine onto a 3 x 3 gauze; and set up atomizer for the physician.
3. The physician lubricates the scope with sterile viscous lidocaine and inserts the scope; performs the procedure.
4. The work surfaces and exam table are cleaned with hospital approved disinfectant by the nursing staff before and after each procedure.
5. The nasopharyngoscope is decontaminated and then disinfected using a high level disinfectant (gluteraldehyde) in the clinic by trained personnel. See Use of Gluteraldehyde Policy.
6. See Policy N2-1 for care of nasal atomizer.
7. Written and verbal post-procedure instructions are given by the physician or nurse with documentation in the medical record.

**EQUIPMENT NEEDED:**

Flexible nasopharyngoscope  
Light source  
Viscous lidocaine  
Clean towel  
3 x 3 gauze sponge  
Atomizer bottle/medication

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