

REGIONS HOSPITAL EMS

POLICY/PROCEDURE: Intubated Patients	Page 1 of 1
ISSUED BY: Medical Director	No. 05-121
DATE: January 1, 2005	Supersedes: No.

Purpose:

To assure that all patients who have been intubated have appropriate immobilization of head and neck to limit the possibility of extubation.

Policy:

Endotracheal intubated patients will have tube placement checked by visualization, ETTL, auscultation of lungs, absence of abdominal sounds and ETCO₂ with all of the above and tube depth documented on the patient care report. Patients with a Combitube will be assessed by all of the above except ETTL.

All intubated patients will have the endotracheal tube secured by a device that locks the tube into place or by tape if tube restraint does not fit. The patient will be placed into a cervical collar and onto a long backboard with headblock. This will limit the movement of the head and neck and decrease the possibility of an accidental extubation.

All intubated patients will have ET/Combitube placement checked each time the patient is moved and before entering the emergency department. Each check must be documented on the patient care report.