dental units. Saliva ejectors and typical high-speed suction devices are inadequate for this purpose. If during an emergency, the patient is breathing spontaneously, the application of supplemental oxygen via nasal cannula, nasal hood, or face mask will increase the inspired oxygen concentration. The immediate diagnosis of hypoventilation, soft tissue obstruction, and apnea is critical in any emergency situation. Basic airway rescue algorithms all follow a step-wise approach beginning with attempts at opening the airway via head tilt, chin lift, and jaw extension, proceeding to positive pressure ventilation with a bag-valve-mask system and, if needed, the insertion of an oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal airway. Advanced airway rescue by trained dentists may involve the use of supraglottic airways and tracheal intubation. Equipment and skills required for basic airway management are discussed in Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers and advanced airway management in Advanced Cardiac Life Support training courses, but actual ‘hands on’ tasks and team training vary. Continuing education and continuing refresher courses incorporating simulation scenarios, such as those sponsored by the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology are integral to maintain proficiency and assure correct resuscitative actions by the dental team in emergency management.

REFERENCES


CONTINUING EDUCATION QUESTIONS

1. An oxygen flow of 4 L/min via a nasal cannula will provide an FIO2 of approximately:
   A. 0.28
   B. 0.32
   C. 0.36
   D. 0.42
2. Which of the following guidelines should be followed when providing supplemental oxygen to a patient with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)?
   A. Avoid concentrations >40%
   B. Limit flow to 4 L/min via nasal cannula
   C. Limit flow to 6 L/min via nasal hood
   D. Provide a concentration adequate to sustain hemoglobin saturation (SpO2) above 90%
3. Nasopharyngeal airways should be avoided in patients who:
   (1) Are anticoagulated
   (2) Are conscious
   (3) Have nasal deformities
   A. 1 and 2
   B. 1 and 3
   C. 2 and 3
   D. 1, 2, and 3
4. Excessive pressure when using bag-valve-mask (BVM) resuscitators may result in which of the following?
   (1) Gastric distention
   (2) Barotrauma
   (3) Excessive FIO2
   A. 1 and 2
   B. 1 and 3
   C. 2 and 3
   D. 1, 2, and 3