

Oropharyngeal Airway Adjunct – OPA (April 2013)

<p>Item: Medical device used to maintain a patent airway by preventing the tongue from obstructing the upper airway.</p>
<p>Classification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Life Support procedure • Specified in existing regulations.
<p>Use and Level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorized for EMR use • Authorized for all levels of EMT as basic scope of practice.
<p>Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 100063(a)(6)(A) of the EMT Regulations, Chapter 2, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations lists oropharyngeal airway adjuncts as a qualified airway breathing aid. • Section 100106(a) of the AEMT Regulations, Chapter 3, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations refers to AEMTs being able to provide any activity identified in the scope of practice for an EMT. • Section 100146(a) of the Paramedic Regulations, Chapter 4, Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations states that a Paramedic may perform any activity identified in the scope of practice for an EMT.
<p>Training: As specified in EMT and Paramedic regulations for level of provider.</p>
<p>Equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various sized adjuncts available to ensure proper size selection for the patient. • Suction device available in case of intact gag reflex.
<p>Medical Direction: Used in accordance with a protocol written and approved by the local EMS agency medical director (HS 1797.220).</p>
<p>Considerations and Recommendations: No additional guidance at this time.</p>