

## PART 5: APPENDICES

### APPENDIX I: AIRWAY SAFETY TOP TEN CHECKLIST

**Associated Hospital/Organization:** AHA/HRET HEN 2.0

**Purpose of Tool:** A checklist to review current or initiate new interventions for recognition and prevention of airway events and harm in your facility.

**Reference:** [www.hret-hen.org](http://www.hret-hen.org)

Airway Safety Top Ten Checklist				
Process Change	In Place	Not Done	Will Adopt	Notes (Responsible and By When?)
Adopt an assessment tool to identify patients at high risk for respiratory depression or airway compromise. Use this to implement appropriate monitoring guidelines based on patient risk factors for airway compromise and respiratory depression. Educate family for Rapid Response Team activation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Integrate an identification process in the EMR or medical record to alert the healthcare team of the potential for a difficult airway.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adopt the Pasero sedation scale (or another validated tool) to assess sedation levels for patients receiving opioids. Use a change in the scale to trigger a Rapid Response Team evaluation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adopt and utilize a standardized airway assessment tool (such as LEMON: Look, Evaluate, Mallampati, Obstruction, Neck) to identify patients with difficult airways.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Develop airway carts to ensure necessary equipment is readily available to address unanticipated airway events in each relevant unit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Develop or adopt and utilize a difficult-airway algorithm.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adopt spontaneous awakening trials (SATs), coordinated with spontaneous breathing trials (SBTs), to promote early weaning and extubation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Update standards for airway device repositioning and for skin and mucosal inspection to ensure skin and mucosa are intact and not at risk for injury.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Implement simulation training for the healthcare team in airway assessment, difficult-airway management, and airway placement.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cultivate a process for timely root cause analysis with the bedside staff for airway-safety issues, such as delays in recognition, delays in airway placement, hypoxemia during intubation, multiple intubation attempts, airway dislodgement, and skin injury.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	