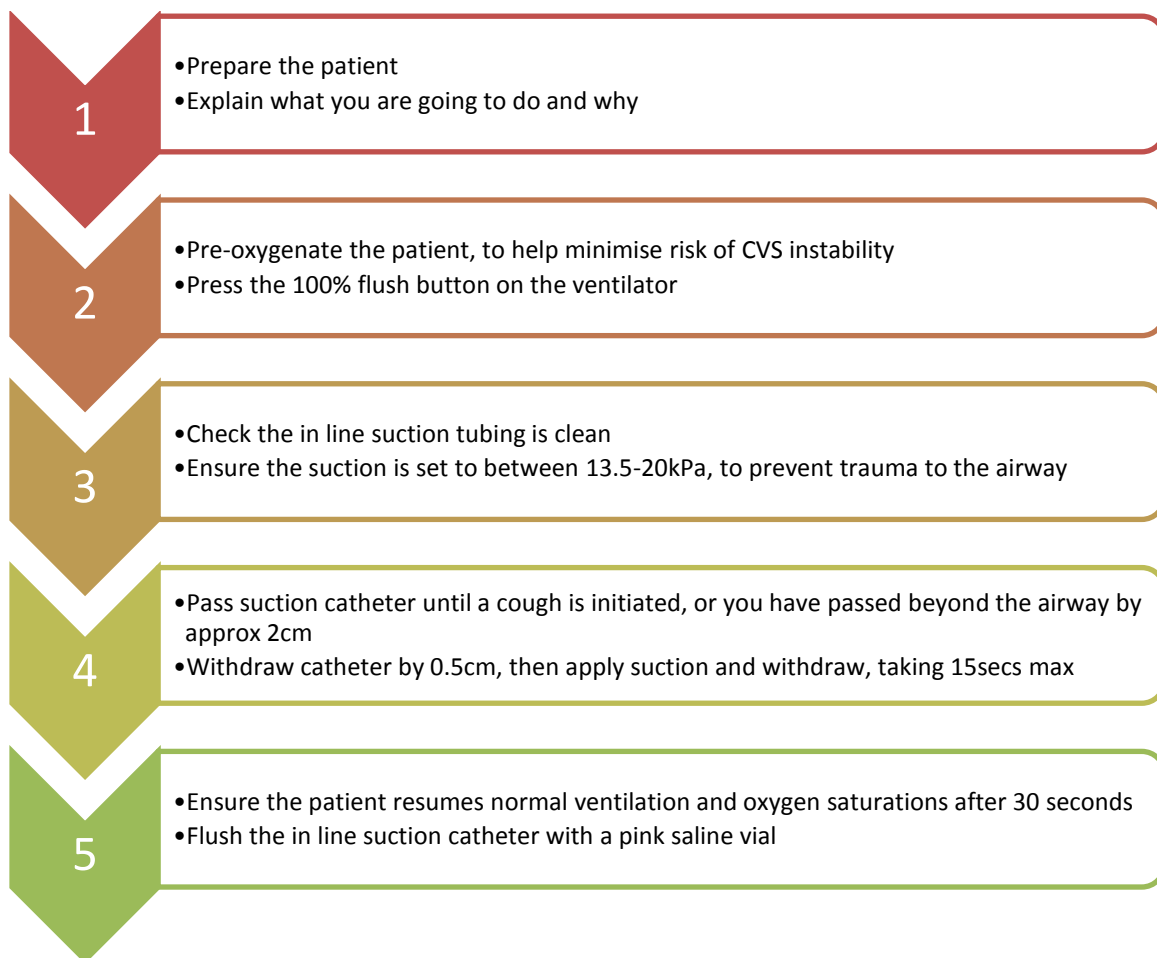


Guidelines for NON-CRITICAL CARE staff

Suctioning Intubated Patients

- Artificial airways such as Endotracheal (ET) tubes or tracheostomy tubes can inhibit the patients' ability to cough or clear secretions, so they may need suctioning to help clear their chest.
- Indications for suctioning can include: coughing persistently, a drop in oxygen saturations, audible secretions, a drop in tidal volume or increased airway pressure on the ventilator, or an increased respiratory rate.
- Suctioning can cause respiratory and cardiovascular instability, so there is a procedure that **must** be adhered to in order to minimise these risks.

Suctioning procedure



If the patient drops their sats or isn't ventilating properly, get help immediately