



Clinical Indications:

- EMT, EMT-I, EMT-P: In an apneic and pulseless patient.
- EMT-P: May be used in the Adult Failed Airway protocol.
- Patient must be ≥ 5 feet and ≥ 16 years of age.

Contraindications:

1. Responsive patients with an intact gag reflex.
2. Patients with known esophageal disease.
3. Patients who have ingested caustic substances.
4. Patients under 5 feet tall.

Procedure:

1. Preoxygenate and hyperventilate the patient.
2. Lubricate the tube.
3. Place patients head in the neutral position.
4. Gently insert the tube until the printed rings are aligned with the teeth.
5. Inflate line 1 (blue pilot balloon) leading to the pharyngeal cuff with 100 cc of air.
6. Inflate line 2 (white pilot balloon) leading to the distal cuff with 10-15 cc of air.
7. Ventilate the patient through the longer blue tube. Auscultate for breath sounds and sounds over the epigastrium. Look for chest to rise and fall.
8. If breath sounds are positive and epigastric sounds are negative, continue ventilation through the blue tube. The tube is in the esophagus. **In the esophageal mode, stomach contents can be aspirated through the open-ended clear tube relieving gastric distention.
9. If breath sounds are negative and epigastric sounds are positive, attempt ventilation through the shorter, clear tube and reassess for lung and epigastric sounds. If breath sounds are present and the chest rises, you have intubated the trachea and continue ventilation through the shorter tube.
10. The device is secured by the large pharyngeal balloon.
11. If the combitube is utilized for the Adult Failed Airway protocol, RSI medications shall be utilized to maintain an absent gag reflex.

Certification Requirements:

- EMT, EMT-I, EMT-P
- Successfully complete a skill evaluation for this procedure at least once during the certification period.