Clinical Practice Procedures: Trauma/Nasal pack

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Policy code</th>
<th>CPP_TR_NP_0418</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>April, 2018</td>
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<td>Purpose</td>
<td>To ensure a consistent procedural approach for nasal pack.</td>
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<td>Scope</td>
<td>Applies to Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) clinical staff.</td>
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<td>Health care setting</td>
<td>Pre-hospital assessment and treatment.</td>
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<td>Population</td>
<td>Applies to all ages unless stated otherwise.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source of funding</td>
<td>Internal – 100%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Review date</td>
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Nasal pack

Uncontrolled epistaxis in the setting of complex facial injuries is a serious and potentially life threatening situation.[1]

The Rapid Rhino® RR550 inflatable tamponade is a unilateral epistaxis device that consists of a 5.5 cm fabric encased balloon, intended to control naso-pharyngeal bleeding by exerting pressure against the sphenopalatine artery.[2]

Indications
- Uncontrolled epistaxis associated with complex facial fractures despite:
  - appropriate reduction of facial fractures
  - oral packing

Contraindications
- Nil in the setting of acute facial trauma that satisfies the indications listed above.

Complications
- Exacerbation of base of skull fracture, with nasal pack potentially displacing into the cranial vault.
1. Remove the blue plastic sheath and soak the Rapid Rhino in sterile water for 30 seconds converting the hydrocolloid fabric to a self-lubricating surface.

2. Insert the Rapid Rhino® device into the nasal cavity along the septal floor and parallel to the hard palate until the blue plastic promixal fabric ring is well within the nares.

3. Using a 20 mL syringe, inflate the Rapid Rhino device with air and monitor the pilot cuff for direct tactile feedback. Stop inflation when the pilot cuff becomes rounded and firm.

4. As the cuff inflates, it conforms to the nasal anatomy, and provides a gentle, low-pressure tamponade that pushes the fabric directly against the bleeding area.

5. Tape plastic swallow guard to the side of the patients cheek.

**Additional information**

- Patients with respiratory compromise may first require airway control and BVM ventilation.
- Once inserted, the Rapid Rhino® must be left in situ and handed over to hospital staff to be removed appropriately in the hospital environment.