

## **New Policy on Management of a Patient with a Difficult Airway**

**Activation of the airway management occurs after the airway is found to be more complex than expected, or the patient is known to have a difficult airway and now requires intubation, or has had a failed intubation attempt using standard techniques.**

New Policy # CM A-35 Adult Difficult Airway Management (Downtown)

New Procedure CM A-35A Adult Difficult Airway Management Procedure (Downtown)

Revised Policy # CM G-01 Glidescope and Difficult Airway Cart (Downtown and Community)

Revised Procedure CM G-01A Glidescope and Difficult Airway Cart (Downtown)

Revised Procedure CM G-01B Glidescope and Difficult Airway Cart (Community)

### **Downtown Campus:**

- If a patient has a known difficult airway it will be **documented** in the patient's medical record by the **primary service** and flagged in the record by nursing, using Patient FYI process in EPIC. Activation of the \*difficult airway **algorithm** should occur for any patient with a known difficult airway requiring urgent intubation and/or when there is an inability to intubate with standard techniques.
- \*To activate the Difficult Airway Algorithm dial 4-4444 or press code button on phone and request a STAT (triple) page of anesthesia AND ENT to unit/area and give extension call back number. (CM A-35A)
- 6 Glidescope and Difficult Airway Carts will be available throughout the hospital
- Do not activate the difficult airway algorithm in the OR or ED.

### **Community Campus:**

- If the Difficult Airway Cart is needed request a STAT (triple) page of anesthesia to the unit/area and give extension call back number.
- 2 Glidescope and Difficult Airway Carts will be available. These will be located in the ED and ICU.

**Definition-***Glidescope-a video camera assisted laryngoscope for assisting with endotracheal intubation and examination.*

*See next page for Adult Difficult airway Management Algorithm*

