

 County of San Diego EMS A Division of San Diego County Fire	TREATMENT PROTOCOL		S-121
	AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION		
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BLS

ALS

For conscious patient <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reassure, encourage coughing • O₂ PRN For inadequate air exchange Airway maneuvers (AHA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdominal thrusts • Use chest thrusts in obese or pregnant patients If patient becomes unconscious or is found unconscious <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin CPR Once obstruction is removed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ventilate with high-flow O₂ PRN • O₂ saturation Treat per Respiratory Distress Protocol (S-136)	If patient becomes unconscious or has decreasing LOC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct laryngoscopy and Magill forceps SO, MR PRN • Capnography SO PRN Once obstruction is removed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor/EKG • IV/IO SO
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Note: If unable to ventilate effectively, transport immediately while continuing CPR (unconscious patient)