



Emergency Department Pre-Intubation Checklist

PREPARE PATIENT

Airway assessment (LEMON)
 Verbalise anticipated difficulties

Optimise positioning
 Tragus - sternal notch
 Head-up 20° (or higher)
 Ramp if obese

Optimise pre-oxygenation
 Apnoeic oxygenation - nasal prongs 15l/min
 Pre-oxygenation device

NRB	BVM + PEEP	Mapleson	HFNC /
mask	valve	circuit	CPAP

Optimise haemodynamics
 Adequate IV / IO access x 2
 Running line

Shocked or unstable?
 Push-dose pressor
 Arterial line

Pressor infusion

Call for help?

ED Duty Consultant DECT 77255

Duty Anaesthetist DECT 71242

PREPARE EQUIPMENT

Monitoring

SaO ₂	ETCO ₂	ECG	NIBP / IBP
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Airway

Suction on + under pillow	Video laryngoscope	LMA x 2
BVM / Mapleson	Laryngoscope x 2	Syringe
NPA / OPA	ETT x 2	Tube tie / tape

Difficult airway equipment Bougie / stylet

Drugs and doses verbalised

Pre-treatment	Induction agent + analgesic	Muscle relaxant
Post-intubation sedation & analgesia		

Allergies checked

PREPARE TEAM

Identify roles

Medical team leader	First intubator	Giving drugs
Nursing team leader	Airway nurse	BURP / MILS
Scibe / timer	Second intubator	Surgical airway

ICU Notified

PREPARE FOR DIFFICULTY

Airway difficulties & plan verbalised

- Plan A - Best effort at endotracheal tube
- Plan B - Re-oxygenate, modify approach
- Plan C - Re-oxygenate, best effort at LMA
- Plan D - Neck Rescue - Scalpel + finger + bougie + #6 ETT

Team ready + checklist complete -> Proceed with induction