

Syllabus	AM_IK_04, AM_IK_05, AM_IK_05, EN_IK_13, EN_IK_14
Topic	Tracheostomy

a)

List 3 indications for requiring a tracheostomy (3 marks)

1.
2.
3.

b)

List 3 immediate and 3 delayed complications of performing a tracheostomy (6 marks)

a) Immediate complications:

1.
2.
3.

b) Delayed complications:

1.
2.
3.

c)

Outline the anaesthetic principles for the insertion of a surgical tracheostomy (6 marks)

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

6.

d)

You are fast-bleeped to the ENT ward, where a 53 year old man with a tracheostomy is having difficulty breathing. Describe 3 things you would do when you arrive at the patient's bedside (3 marks)

1.

2.

3.

e)

The patient has a patent upper airway. Describe 2 procedures you could carry out to assess patency of the tracheostomy tube (2 marks)

1.

2.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being prepared for managing cuff puncture of existing ETT • Recognition of correct placement of tracheostomy tube: EtCO₂ / chest auscultation • Management plan for failure to place or misplaced tracheostomy tube • Selecting a suitable tracheostomy tube 		
d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for expert airway help • Look, listen & feel at the trachostomy site and mouth • Use waveform capnography if available • Ascertain if the patient has a patent upper airway • Apply oxygen to the tracheostomy and mouth if patent upper airway or if in any doubt whether patient has had a laryngectomy 	3	See guideline in references for emergency management of tracheostomy and laryngectomy
e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove speaking valve or cap (if present) • Remove the inner tube • Attempt to pass a suction catheter • Deflate the cuff (if present) 	2	See guideline in references for emergency management of tracheostomy and laryngectomy

References:

1) Emergency tracheostomy management – patent upper airway:

<http://www.tracheostomy.org.uk/storage/files/Patent%20Airway%20Algorithm.pdf>

2) Emergency laryngectomy management:

<http://www.tracheostomy.org.uk/storage/files/Laryngectomy%20Algorithm.pdf>