

High Flow Nasal Oxygen

WHAT IS IT?

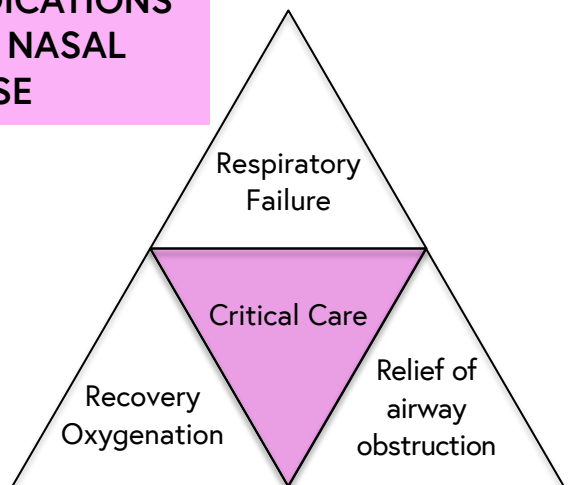
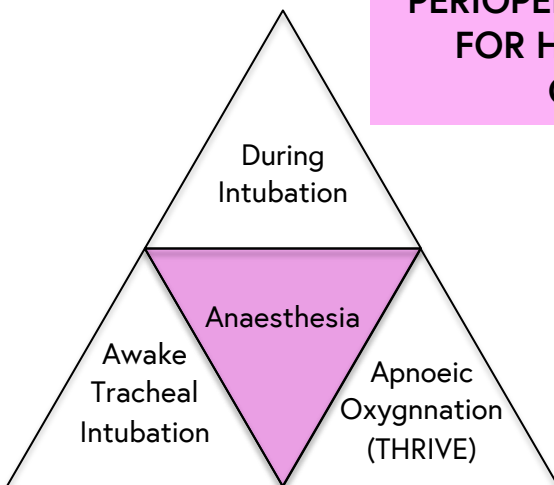
A method of delivering oxygen via nasal cannula at rates of up to **70 litres per minute**. Some devices allow for **warming and humidification**.

Inspired oxygen concentrations can vary between 21 - 100%. High flow rates also provide a **continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)** which can **reduce the work of breathing and improve oxygenation**.

High flow nasal oxygen may also be administered **outside of the theatre setting** for example on the **intensive care unit**, respiratory wards or in the emergency department.



PERIOPERATIVE INDICATIONS FOR HIGH FLOW NASAL OXYGEN USE



ADVANTAGES

Easy and quick to apply

Can be used for both pre-oxygenation and apnoeic oxygenation in conjunction with a conventional facemask

Applies a degree of CPAP at higher flows which can facilitate oxygenation and decrease work of breathing

Can be used in recovery for improved peri-operative oxygenation



DISADVANTAGES / CONTRAINDICATIONS

Facial injury, dry mucosa, coryzal symptoms or epistaxis

Upper airway or nasal obstruction would preclude use of HFNO2

Uncooperative patients or reduced GCS

Should not delay mechanical ventilation if it is indicated

Additional device and disposables incur cost