

Elective endotracheal intubation

When endotracheal intubation is done electively, rather than as an emergency, the baby should be given effective analgesia and a muscle relaxant. This should facilitate an easier, more rapid intubation.

Prior to intubation:

1. Undertake intubation pause and ensure drugs below are drawn up.
2. Ensure adequate analgesia in the form of an IV bolus of morphine sulphate unless the baby is already on a morphine infusion. Suxamethonium does not provide any pain relief for the intubation and may cause painful muscle spasms.
3. Atropine rescue: Atropine Sulphate (IV) should be drawn up ready to give if required. This will help counter any bradycardia and salivation that occurs.
4. Give suxamethonium intravenously by bolus injection.

Position of the ETT can be verified using the Pedi-cap