

# Airway – I-GEL

## Indications:

- Adult cardiac or respiratory arrest.
- Adult unresponsive medical or trauma patients without gag reflexes.
- I-Gel is a back-up airway to the ET [**Intermediate/Paramedic Only**].
- I-Gel is a back-up airway to the oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal airway for [**EMT-B and Advanced**].

EMT	EMT	EMT
A	Advanced EMT	A
I	Intermediate	I
P	Paramedic	P

## Contraindications:

- Responsive patients with an intact gag reflex.
- Severe facial swelling from anaphylaxis.
- Severe neck swelling/trauma and/or neck hematoma.
- Caustic burns.
- Patient with known esophageal disease.
- Patients who have ingested caustic substances.
- Foreign body obstruction.
- Laryngectomies and tracheostomy.

## Caution:

- Because of the chance of regurgitation, the provider operating the BVM should assure they use proper BSI procedures to protect them from splash that may come from the gastric tube port (this port is not to be blocked when there is no gastric tube in place).

## Procedure:

1. Estimate ideal body weight.
2. Pre-oxygenate the patient.
3. Open packaging and prepare i-gel, securing strap, and suction.
4. Open the lubricant and place a small bolus on the inner side of the main shell of the package.
5. Lubricate the back, sides, and front of the i-gel with a thin layer of enclosed lubricant.
6. Position the head: “sniffing” position is ideal, “neutral” position is acceptable.
7. Hold the I-Gel by the bite block with the dominant hand. With non-dominant hand, hold mouth open and apply chin lift. Position the device so that the i-gel O2 cuff outlet is facing the patient. Introduce the leading soft tip into the mouth of the patient in the direction of the hard palate.
8. Glide the device downward and backwards along the hard palate with a continuous but gentle push until a definitive resistance is felt.
9. The tip of the airway should be located into the upper esophageal opening with the cuff located against the laryngeal framework. The incisors should be resting on the bite block
10. Secure the device by sliding the strap underneath the patient’s neck and attaching to the hook ring. Take care to ensure that the strap is secured appropriately.
11. Commence with positive pressure ventilation per appropriate protocols
12. Complete all applicable airway confirmation fields including chest rise, equal bilateral breath sounds, absence of epigastric sounds and end-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> reading
13. Secure the device. Reconfirm airway placement after device is secured, after every patient movement and at regular intervals.
14. Document the time, provider, provider level, and success for the procedure.

## Considerations

- Insertion can be achieved in less than 5 seconds
- Sometimes a feel of “give-away” is felt before the end point resistance is met. This is due to the passage of the bowl of the i-gel through the facial pillars. It is important to continue to insert the device until a definitive resistance is felt
- Once correct insertion is achieved and the teeth are located on the integral bite block, do not repeatedly push down or apply excessive force during insertion
- If there is resistance, remove, re-lubricate, and reposition the airway before repeat insertion. No more than three attempts on one patient should be attempted.
- It is not necessary to insert fingers of thumbs into the patient’s mouth during insertion
- Sizes 3 and 4 accept a 12 French suction catheter for insertion through the gastric channel to empty fluid from the stomach. Size 5 accepts a 14 French suction catheter for insertion through the gastric channel to empty fluid from the stomach.

# Airway – I-GEL

## Female Ideal body weight by height

Height	lbs	kg		Height	lbs	kg
4' 7"	74.8	34		5' 10"	150.7	68.5
4' 8"	79.86	36.3		5' 11"	155.76	70.8
4' 9"	84.92	38.6		6' 0"	160.82	73.1
4' 10"	89.98	40.9		6' 1"	165.88	75.4
4' 11	95.04	43.2		6' 2"	170.94	77.7
5' 0"	100.1	45.5		6' 3"	176	80
5' 1"	105.16	47.8		6' 4"	181.06	82.3
5' 2"	110.22	50.1		6' 5"	186.12	84.6
5' 3"	115.28	52.4		6' 6"	191.18	86.9
5' 4"	120.34	54.7		6' 7"	196.24	89.2
5' 5"	125.4	57		6' 8"	201.3	91.5
5' 6"	130.46	59.3		6' 9"	206.36	93.8
5' 7"	135.52	61.6		6' 10"	211.42	96.1
5' 8"	140.58	63.9		6' 11"	216.48	98.4
5' 9"	145.64	66.2		7' 0"	221.54	100.7

## Male Ideal Body Weight by Height

Height	lbs	kg		Height	lbs	kg
4' 7"	84.7	38.5		5' 10"	160.6	73
4' 8"	89.76	40.8		5' 11"	165.66	75.3
4' 9"	94.82	43.1		6' 0"	170.72	77.6
4' 10"	99.88	45.4		6' 1"	175.78	79.9
4' 11	104.94	47.7		6' 2"	180.84	82.2
5' 0"	110	50		6' 3"	185.9	84.5
5' 1"	115.06	52.3		6' 4"	190.96	86.8
5' 2"	120.12	54.6		6' 5"	196.02	89.1
5' 3"	125.18	56.9		6' 6"	201.08	91.4
5' 4"	130.24	59.2		6' 7"	206.14	93.7
5' 5"	135.3	61.5		6' 8"	211.2	96
5' 6"	140.36	63.8		6' 9"	216.26	98.3
5' 7"	145.42	66.1		6' 10"	221.32	100.6
5' 8"	150.48	68.4		6' 11"	226.38	102.9
5' 9"	155.54	70.7		7' 0"	231.44	105.2