



Clinical Practice Procedures: Trauma/Nasal pack

Policy code	CPP_TR_NP_0221
Date	February, 2021
Purpose	To ensure a consistent procedural approach for nasal pack.
Scope	Applies to Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) clinical staff.
Health care setting	Pre-hospital assessment and treatment.
Population	Applies to all ages unless stated otherwise.
Source of funding	Internal – 100%
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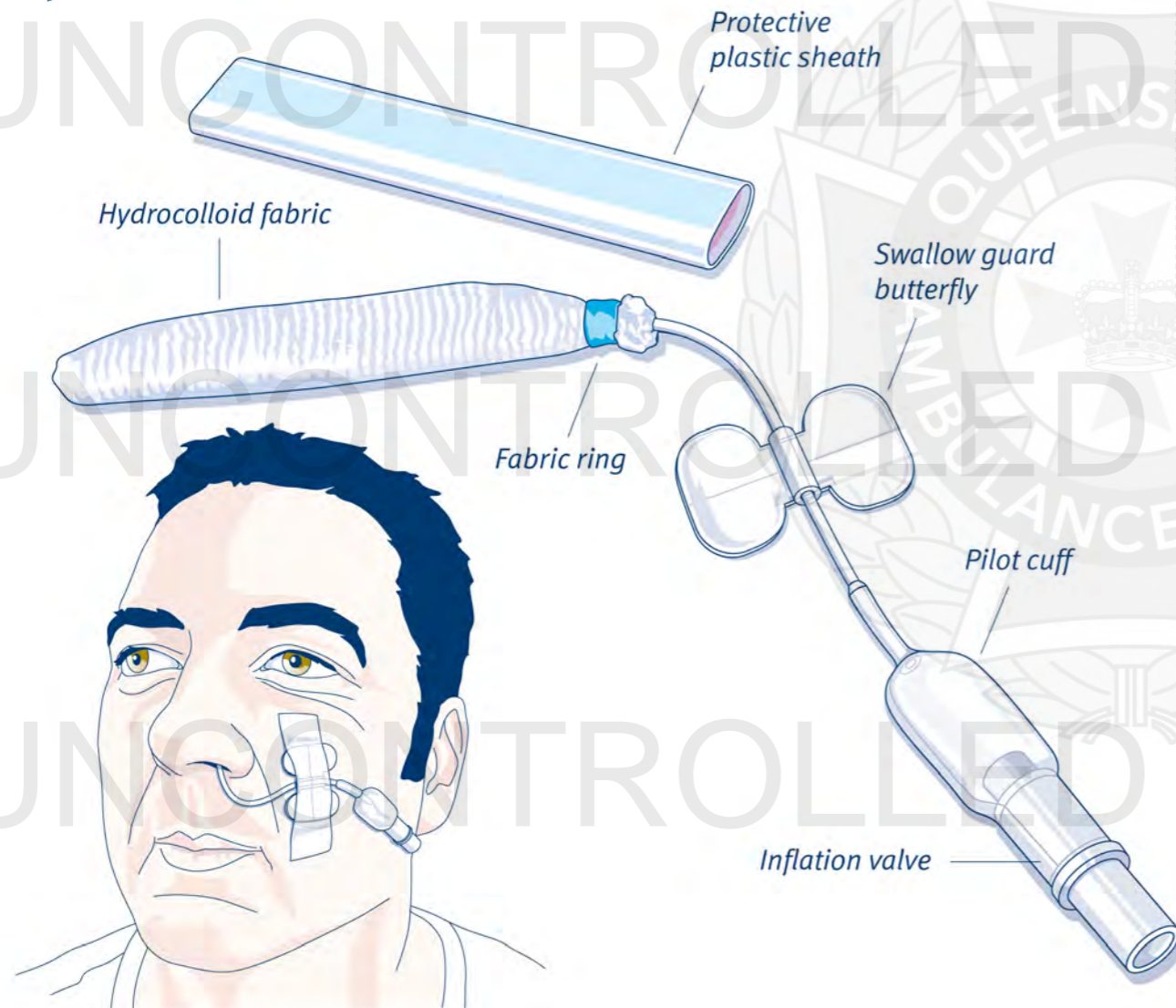
Nasal pack

February, 2021

Uncontrolled epistaxis in the setting of complex facial injuries is a serious and potentially life threatening situation.^[1]

The Rapid Rhino® RR550 inflatable tamponade is a unilateral epistaxis device that consists of a 5.5 cm fabric encased balloon, intended to control naso-pharyngeal bleeding by exerting pressure against the sphenopalatine artery.^[2]

Rapid Rhino® Nasal Pack RR550



Indications

- Uncontrolled epistaxis associated with complex facial fractures despite:
 - appropriate reduction of facial fractures
 - oral packing

Contraindications

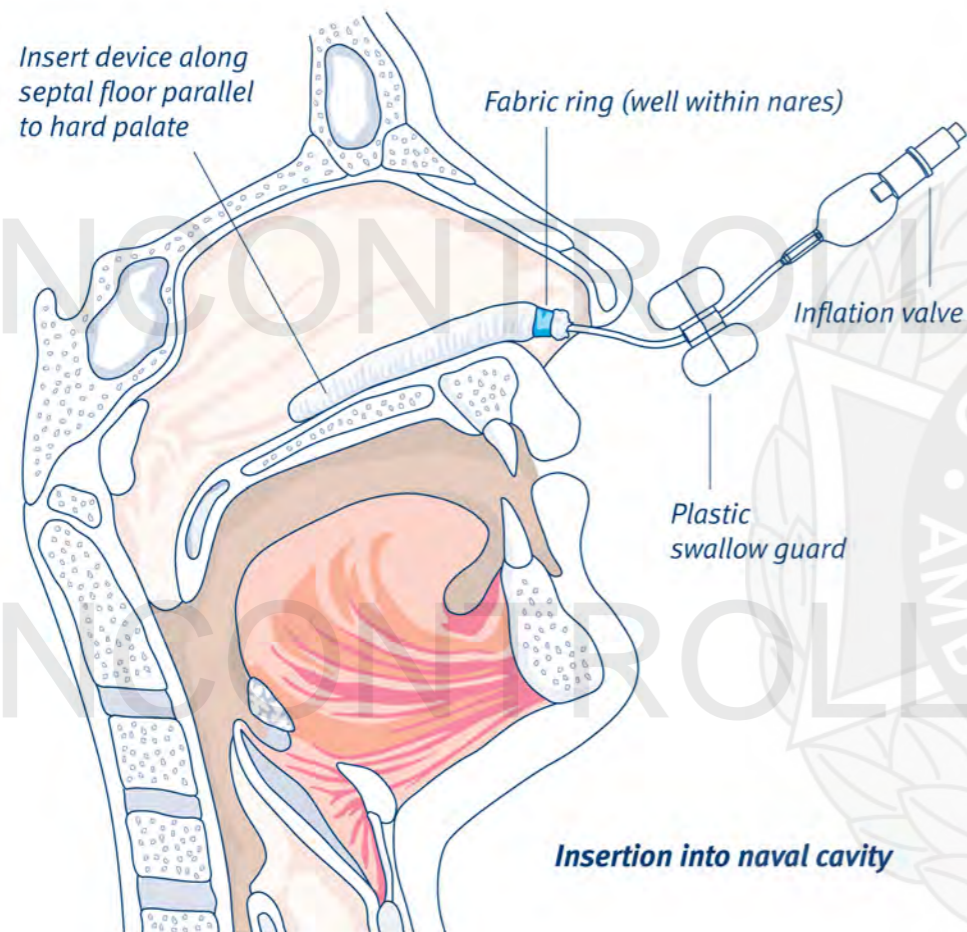
- Nil in the setting of acute facial trauma that satisfies the indications listed above.

Complications

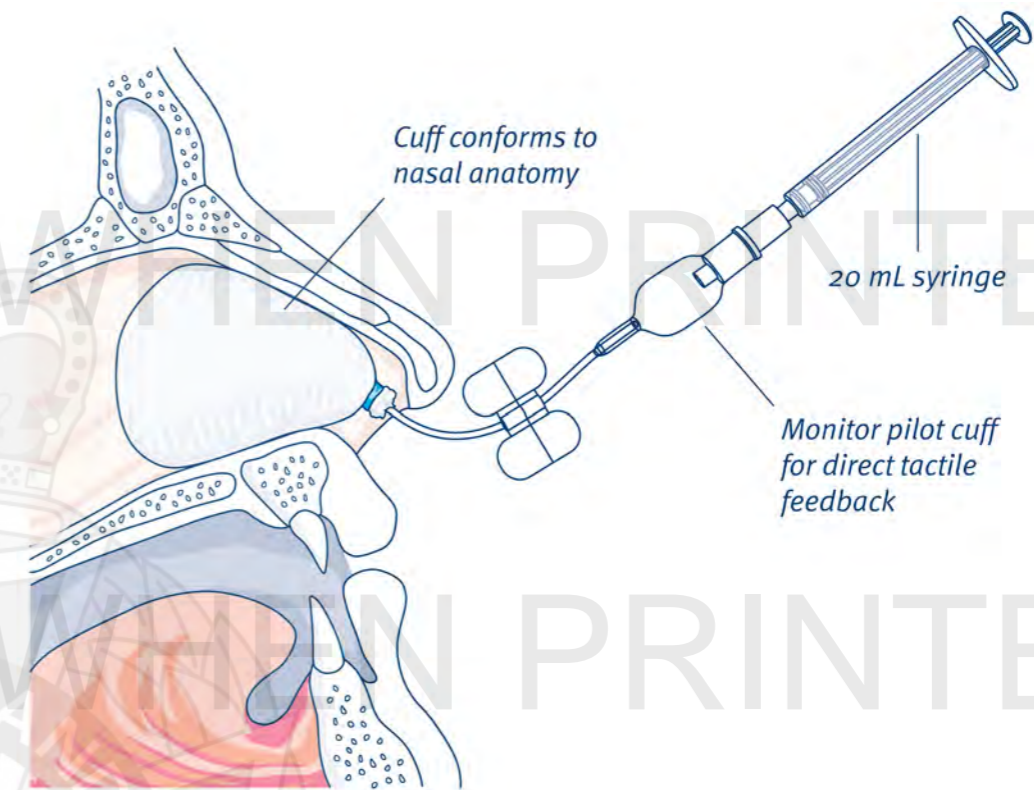
- Exacerbation of base of skull fracture, with nasal pack potentially displacing into the cranial vault.

Procedure – Nasal pack

1. Remove the blue plastic sheath and soak the Rapid Rhino in sterile water for 30 seconds converting the hydrocolloid fabric to a self-lubricating surface.
2. Insert the Rapid Rhino® device into the nasal cavity along the septal floor and parallel to the hard palate until the blue plastic proximal fabric ring is well within the nares.



3. Using a 20 mL syringe, inflate the Rapid Rhino® device with air and monitor the pilot cuff for direct tactile feedback. Stop inflation when the pilot cuff becomes rounded and firm.
4. As the cuff inflates, it conforms to the nasal anatomy, and provides a gentle, low-pressure tamponade that pushes the fabric directly against the bleeding area.



5. Tape the plastic swallow guard to the side of the patient's cheek.
6. When Rapid Rhino® nasal packs are used bilaterally, for example, as a component of facial packing in severe facial trauma, both Rapid Rhinos® must be inserted before simultaneously inflating them with 2 x 20 mL syringes. These should then be checked for symmetry & minor adjustments made if required.

+ Additional information

- Patients with respiratory compromise may first require airway control and BVM ventilation.
- Once inserted, the Rapid Rhino® must be left in situ and handed over to hospital staff to be removed appropriately in the hospital environment.