

AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION (# 7202)

- **Routine Medical Care.**
- If obstruction due to laryngeal trauma, see policy #7101 "Trauma Patient Care".
- Do not use a tongue/jaw lift or perform blind finger sweeps
- Obstruction due to epiglottitis:
 - ✓ Do not attempt to visualize the throat or insert anything into the mouth
 - ✓ Minimize outside stimulation. Keep the patient calm. Position of comfort.
- **Rapid Transport.**

***Signs of severe obstruction:**

- ✓ Poor air exchange
- ✓ Increased breathing difficulty
- ✓ Silent cough
- ✓ Cyanosis
- ✓ Inability to speak or breathe
- ✓ Ask the patient "Are you choking?"
If patient nods yes, act

