

**“S-SCORT® VX-2™
SUCTION DEVICE”**



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I. INTRODUCTION

Frequently, suction is required during emergency situations to maintain an open airway, so that breathing is not interrupted. Most of the time a portable suction unit will be used to clear blood and/or vomitus from the airway of an accident victim. The portable suction unit has to be rugged enough to withstand the abuses of inclement weather and rough handling by emergency personnel.

The S-SCORT[®] VX-2[™] is a portable, powerful and exceptionally tough, battery powered suction unit. Powerful enough to meet all state and national standards, and versatile enough to provide essential medical suction in all prehospital circumstances.

The Department is in the process of installing this state-of-the-art portable suction device on all new rescue ambulances. The charging/retention bracket holds the unit securely in place and provides vehicle power to run the S-SCORT[®] VX-2[™] as an onboard suction device, while charging the internal battery. Removed from the bracket, the unit receives power from its internal 12V DC battery. The battery is recharged by an internal, dual mode battery charger, which is activated by direct connection to the vehicle electrical system. The charger monitors the battery, charges the battery only when necessary, shuts down the unit if battery is low and signals battery condition. A fully charged battery will power the unit for 45 minutes (+-10%). The S-SCORT[®] VX-2[™] comes with a two-position regulator, disposable fluid collection canister, and suction tubing.

II. INDICATIONS FOR USE

S-SCORT[®] VX-2[™] should be used to remove vomitus, blood, food, secretions, and other foreign objects that might occlude the airway or increase the likelihood of pulmonary aspiration by inhalation. There are many predisposing factors to aspiration, so every patient should be regarded as a potential aspiration victim. If a gurgling sound is heard when the patient's airway is assessed or during artificial ventilation, immediately apply suction to remove liquid from the airway. Failure to do so may force the liquid substance further into the airway and possibly into the lungs.

III. INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

TEST FOR VACUUM – ADJUSTING THE VARIABLE REGULATOR

- Press the ON/OFF switch on the control panel to start the vacuum pump.
- Attach patient tubing to patient port on collection canister.
- Occlude patient tube and turn vacuum regulator clockwise to the stop.

- Observe gauge (located above the vacuum regulator). The vacuum reading should rise to 300 mmHg from the zero setting in two seconds. It should max out at approximately 525 mmHg.
- After the vacuum test, readjust the vacuum reading to your desired level. If the vacuum does not exceed 525 mmHg, check for a leak in the system i.e., tubing, barb connections or loose canister lid.
- Follow appropriate procedures for suctioning the patient's airway including the use of total body isolation procedures.
- After each use follow the following cleaning procedures to ensure the units operational readiness.

NOTE: A blinking battery condition LED on the control panel indicates low battery capacity. This means the battery has been subjected to irreparable damage. **REPLACE THE BATTERY!** Keep the unit connected to the charging source at all times except for portable use.

IV. MAINTENANCE

- The S-SCORT[®] VX-2[™] is designed to suction contaminated fluids, which should be removed from the system immediately after the procedure. Dispose of the collection canister, patient tube and catheter and replace. If the procedure produced an excessive quantity of fluids, check the vacuum line for evidence of moisture. Place the unit out of service and contact the administrative EMS Battalion Captain to have the unit exchanged.
- If the vacuum line between the pump and canister is moist, it is possible that fluids have reached the vacuum pump. Place the unit out of service and contact the administrative EMS Battalion Captain to have the unit exchanged.
- The capacity of the battery should be checked periodically by running the unit on battery only. Detach from the charging source and run the unit for 15 minutes and look for a blinking yellow light.
- If the Internal Dual Mode Charger appears defective, place the unit out of service and contact the administrative EMS Battalion Captain to have the unit exchanged.
- To clean the S-SCORT[®] VX-2[™], disconnect the unit from its external power source. Use a mild detergent. Do not use alcohol, solvents, or cleaning solutions. For interior cleaning, use dry, compressed air.

V. CONCLUSION

The S-SCORT[®] VX-2[™] is the state-of-the-art suction device for prehospital care. It is portable, powerful, and will be ready to use under all circumstances. It is another tool for Department members to use in their mission to provide optimum patient care and exceptional customer service.