



## CRASH CART SYSTEM

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**Abstract:** A crash cart is a trolley used for procuring lifesaving equipment and drugs in a hospital emergency room, intensive care unit, clinics and other areas. The cart can be moved easily and is readily accessible as all the sides can be quickly viewed as well as equipment's and drug can be easily obtained during a crisis situation like medical/surgical emergency for life support protocols i.e. Advanced Cardiac Life Support/Advance Life Support (ACLS/ALS), Pediatric Advanced life Support [PALS] to potentially save someone's life.

**Key words:** Crash cart, Trolley Arrangement, Portability, Durability and Quality.

### Purposes:

1. To enhance the Code Blue team's response to patients with emergency medical situations by providing immediate access to supplies and medications.
2. An emergency crash cart is a cart that facilitates coordination of emergency equipment.
3. A specific crash cart type facilitates staff familiarity with equipment
4. It helps to ensure the availability a properly

stocked emergency cart at the time of emergency.

5. It also ensures the accessibility a properly functioning defibrillator will be readily available.
6. It helps to save the valuable time at the time of emergency.

### General information:

1. A Licensed Staff member as designated by the head of the department is responsible for checking the crash cart, oxygen cylinder levels, defibrillator, and documenting compliance on the crash cart checklist.
2. Each emergency cart is equipped with a lock and kept locked unless in use.
3. If the lock is not intact, the cart is to be checked and unit personnel will replace any missing supplies.

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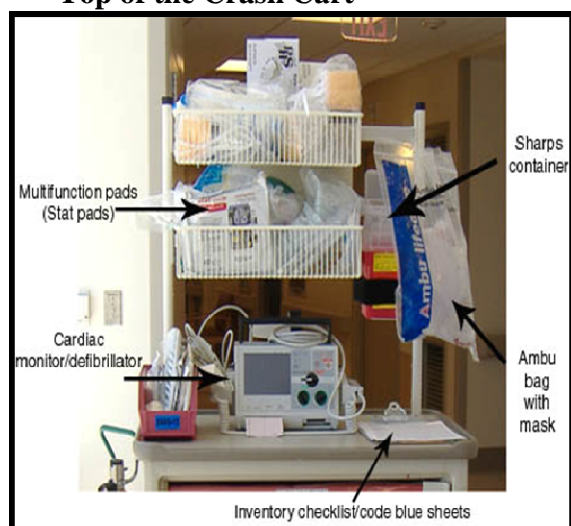
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4. Crash cart is checked every shift and recorded.
5. Defibrillator load checks will be performed every shift with the defibrillator plugged in and unplugged.
6. All carts will be opened and checked for contents once monthly and following each use. Sterile items will be checked for package integrity and expiration date. Items with expiration dates expiring within the month will be replaced. The medication drawer will not be opened if it is sealed and intact.
7. Laryngo-scopes will be checked prior to placement on the cart and monthly.
8. Oxygen cylinders are replaced when the tank has emptied.
9. Drawers of crash carts are to be clearly labeled to identify contents.
10. Special procedure trays are kept on the bottom shelf.

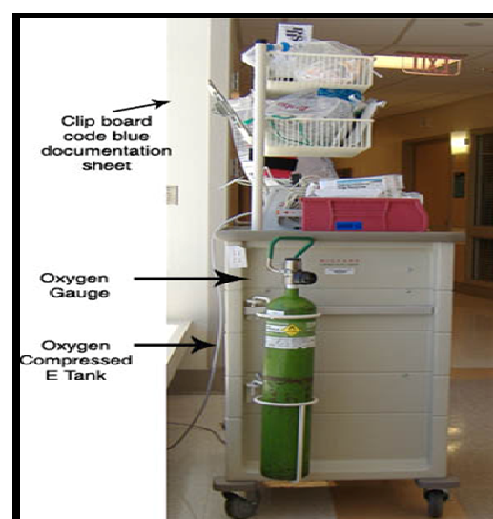
### **Trolley Arrangement Based on Airway, Breathing and Circulation:-**

Commonly on the top of the Crash Cart we can place Defibrillator, Inventory Checklist/ Code Blue sheets. On the side of the Crash Cart we can find an Oxygen Cylinder and all so we can find a Cardiac Board.

#### **Top of the Crash Cart**



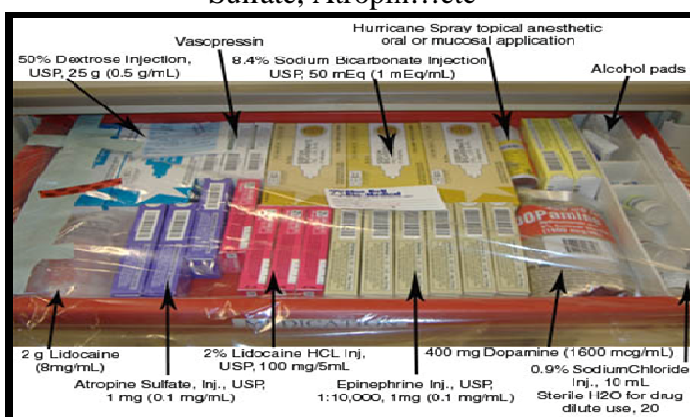
#### **Side of Crash Cart**



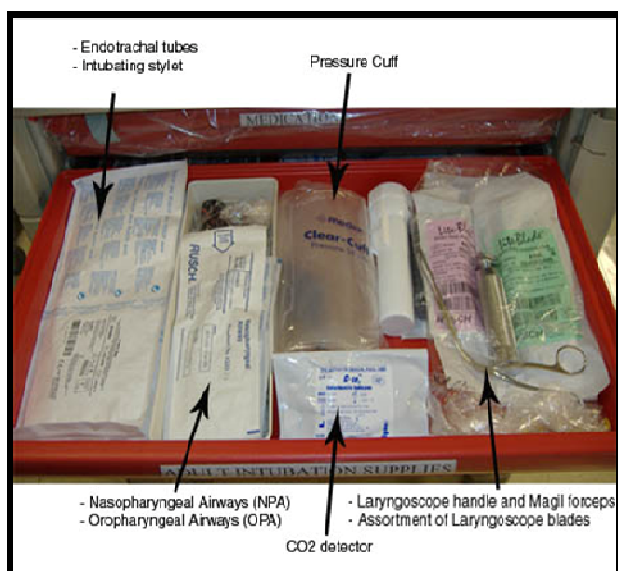
#### **BACK OF CRASH CART**



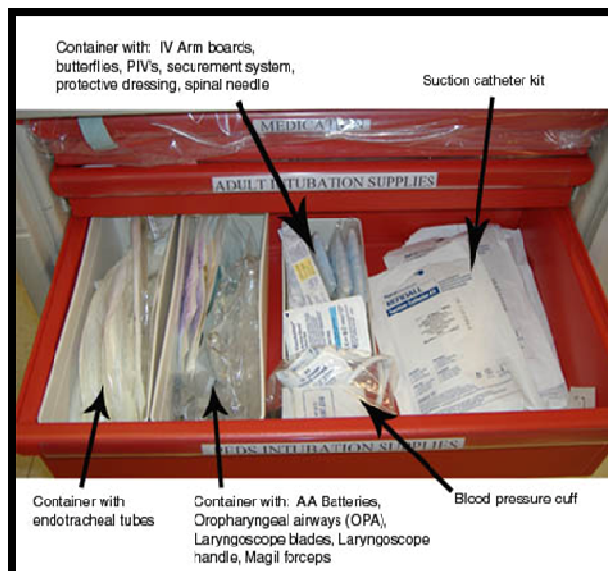
#### **Drawer 1- Medications- Adenosine, Amiodarone, Epinephrin, Magnesium Sulfate, Atropin...etc**



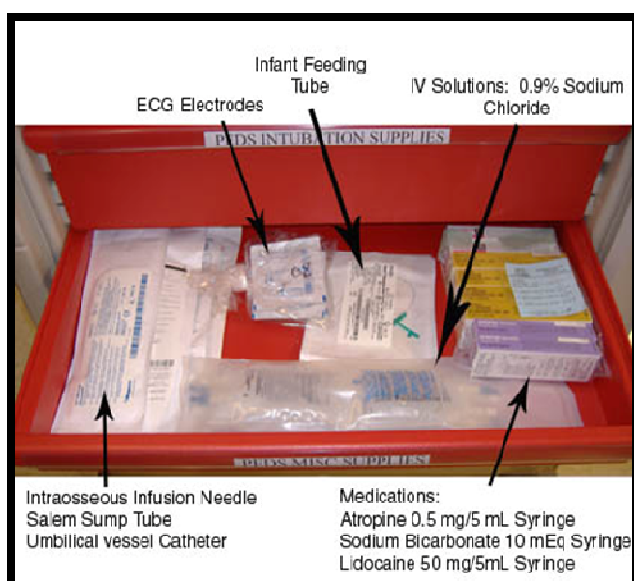
**Drawer 2-Breathing and Airway-** O<sub>2</sub>, Nasal cannulae, Oral airways, Intubation tray, suction catheters, Endotracheal tubes, Tracheostomy tubes, Ambu bag, Inner cannulae,....etc



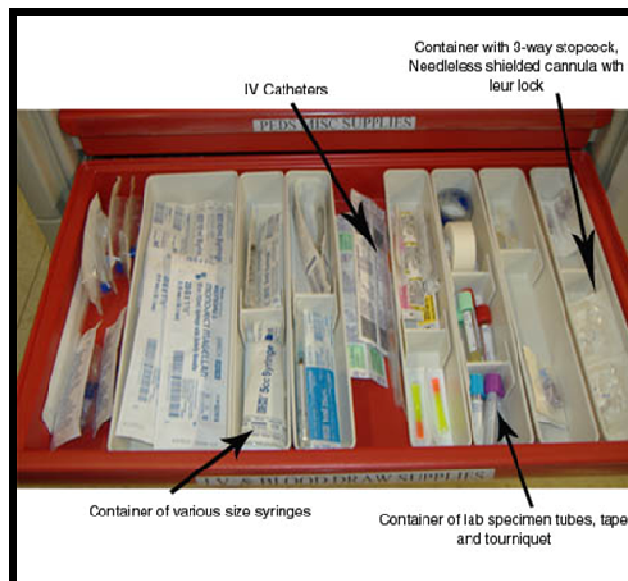
**Drawer 3-Circulation:** IV supplies, 3-Way, Blood set, ABG kits, heparinized aspirators, Needles, Alcohol swabs, Syringes....etc



**DRAWER 4-Circulation:** IV solutions and tubing -RL, NS, D5W, IV Tubing, Macro & Micro drip, Extension tubing, Blood pump tubing, Arm boards: long & short...etc



**DRAWER 5- Cardiac, Chest Procedures-** ECG electrodes, Restraints, Sterile gloves Masks with face shields or masks and, eye protection, Scalpels with blades, Dressings, drain sponge, Betadine solution, Cardiac needle, Sterile towels, 3 - lumen Central Venous Pressure catheter kit, Chest tubes....etc



**Conclusion:** Crash cart is an hindmost shelf for the emergency equipments & procedure. It should be checked regularly against checklist to ensure that they are fully stocked at all time. Hospital crash carts are the trolleys for storing lifesaving equipments and drugs for emergency purpose. The crash carts are known for its portability, durability and quality.

### **Bibliography**

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