

Basic Patient Education for Gastric Aspirators**

Purpose: The GOMCO Suction device is a portable drainage pump designed to ensure gentle suction for specific uses such as gastric (stomach) lavage or abdominal decompression. The table top system has two preset drainage levels of 90mm and 120mm of mercury vacuum. The appropriate setting will be determined by your doctor or RN.



Set Up:

1. Position the machine on a flat surface near the patient. Check the collection container for cracks, if cracked it will not seal. Check the float in the green lid to make sure the float moves freely. Place green top on container and push until it snaps on.
2. Screw the overflow filter into the threaded opening on the side of the device (Figure 1). Connect the short, clear plastic tubing to the overflow filter, and then to the top port of the suction canister lid marked as “to vacuum” (Figure 2). Press top cap onto drainage port securely. **Caution: Care must be taken when attaching overflow filter to avoid cross threading or over tightening.**
3. Attach the 6’ tube to the side port on the lid of the collection canister (Figure 3). This is designated on the lid as the “out to patient” port. Place the collection canister in the wire holder.
4. Plug the unit into a grounded wall outlet and turn the power switch to the “ON” position. The amber light on the front of the pump indicates the working cycles.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

- Amber light “off” – this indicates that suction is actually “occurring”.
- Amber light “on” – this indicates that the pump is in the “intermittent” stage and the vacuum in the pump is filling.

Cleaning: (Always disconnect unit from power source prior to cleaning)

1. Make sure to empty the collection canister before the fluid level reaches the “Safe Full” line on the canister, usually when the canister is 2/3 full. Disconnect all tubing from the canister lid; open the large capped port and empty contents down the toilet. *It is recommended that a small amount of water be aspirated before and after suctioning to clear the tubing of all secretions. This prevents drying of secretions in the tubing/canister and clogged catheter tips.*
2. Disassemble and hand wash the canister, and lid with a mild soap and water daily, rinse well, dry and reassemble tubing. The canister may be used many times if it is kept clean. *If the canister becomes cracked or damaged the suction device will not operate.*

Safety

If any adverse conditions occur during suctioning, the procedure should be stopped and your RN contacted immediately.

Please follow these safety precautions:

- Always wear gloves when connecting tubing to the patient.
- If device does not operate as described above do not attempt any repairs. Contact Customer Service for assistance.

****The basic information given in this handout does not replace the manufacturer’s suggested use guidelines. For more information go to <http://therapysupport.com/info> for the complete owner’s manual. Please contact Therapy Support @ 877-885-HEAL for any questions, service, or repairs.**