أمانة للرعاية الصحية
Amana Healthcare
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Speaking Valve

For more information and to book an appointment, please contact us:
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amanahealthcare.com

At Amana Healthcare, our specialized Speech and Language Therapists (SLTs) assist individuals who have undergone a tracheostomy to effectively communicate using a speaking valve.

What is a Speaking Valve and How does it work?

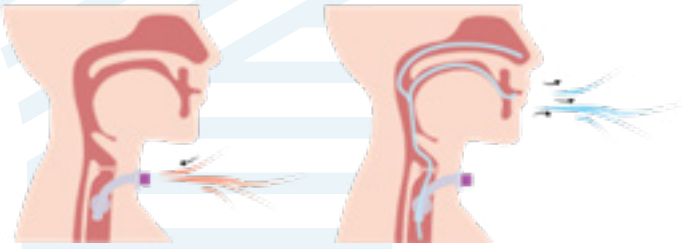
The speaking valve is a button-like medical device positioned on the outer hub of the tracheostomy tube. Acting as a one-way valve, it allows air to enter through the tracheostomy during inhalation but closes during exhalation, directing air through the natural respiratory pathway and enabling speech. This device plays a vital role in giving voice to patients with tracheostomies, thereby bolstering their psychological well-being and facilitating social interaction. However, it's essential to note that the speaking valve requires a patent upper airway and active communication efforts from the patient to be effectively utilized.

Benefits of using a speaking valve

- Improved voice and ability to communicate.
- Improved swallowing function.
- Improved sense of smell and taste.
- Increased cough strength to clear mucous.
- Helps to wean from ventilator and decannulation.
- Improves quality of life.

Air flow with a speaking valve

Inhalation Exhalation



Air flow without a speaking valve

Inhalation Exhalation

Patient selection criteria / indications

- Alert, awake and responsive
- Medically stable
- Able to tolerate cuff deflation
- Able to manage own secretions
- Patent upper airway

Patient exclusion criteria / contraindications

- Unconscious/comatose patients
- Cognitive disorders
- Thick and copious secretions
- Airway obstruction
- Inflated cuff or patient is not able to tolerate complete cuff deflation.
- Unstable medical/pulmonary status

Special considerations

- The cuff must be completely deflated before using the speaking valve.
- The patient must be able to exhale via the upper airway.

Please feel free to contact any of the speech and language therapists if you would like more information.