

**Michigan**  
**COMMUNITY INTEGRATED PARAMEDICINE**  
**Procedure Protocol**  
**NASAL PACKING PLACEMENT AND REMOVAL**

Initial Date: November 13, 2020

Revised Date:

Section 11-32

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*This protocol is for trained CIP Paramedics only. If during assessment, procedure, or treatment the patient is found to have a medical emergency in need of hospital treatment, the CIP visit will be suspended, and local MCA protocols utilized.*

**Purpose:** Provide guidelines for CIP paramedics to place and/or remove anterior nasal packing as approved by the MCA.

**Aliases:** Rhino rockets, nasal tampons

- I.  Anterior Nasal Packing Placement (optional)
  - a. Indications
    - i. Nasal packing for nosebleeds that have not been controlled by lesser measures **see CIP Non-Traumatic Nosebleed protocol**
  - b. Contraindications
    - i. Nosebleeds caused by trauma
  - c. Equipment
    - i. MCA approved manufactured nasal packing that includes manufacturer recommendations for placement and usage
  - d. Procedure
    - i. Obtain medical direction prior to procedure
    - ii. Follow manufacturer's directions for placement
    - iii. Remain with patient for 30 minutes to assure bleeding has stopped
      - 1. If bleeding has not stopped activate 9-1-1 for transport to an emergency department
    - iv. Arrange for follow-up with PCP within 24-48 hours.
      - 1. If follow-up with PCP cannot be made within 24-48 hours schedule CIP follow-up within 24 for nasal packing removal.
  - e. Documentation **see CIP Documentation protocol**
- II.  Anterior Nasal Packing Removal (optional)
  - a. Indications
    - i. Nasal packing has been in place for 24-48 hours
  - b. Contraindications
    - i. Active bleeding
  - c. Equipment
    - i. Syringe
  - d. Procedure
    - i. Obtain medical direction prior to procedure
    - ii. Evaluate for presence of balloon
    - iii. Deflate balloon completely with appropriate size syringe
    - iv. Gently pull the strings attached to the packing until packing is completely removed
    - v. Observe patient for 5 minutes to ensure bleeding does not reoccur.
      - 1. If bleeding reoccurs **see CIP Non-Traumatic Nosebleed protocol**



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- e. Documentation **see CIP Documentation protocol**