DO NOT FORGET · THE SHORT CHECKLIST



Surgical airway (front-of-neck access)

Emergency scalpel cricothyroidotomy (scalpel, bougie, tube) to oxygenate a patient in a can't-intubate-can't-oxygenate situation.

EM Orbit

Patient reference	Date	Time	Completed by

The 3 steps that must not be missed

- [ ] BEFORE
Declare 'can't intubate, can't oxygenate' aloud and call for front-of-neck access as soon as Plans A to C have failed
Hesitation, not the procedure, causes most deaths in CICO.

- [ ] BEFORE
Keep trying to oxygenate from above (face mask, supraglottic airway, nasal oxygen) throughout the procedure

- [ ] DURING
Confirm placement with waveform capnography; no trace means wrong place

The short list: an aid to memory, not the whole procedure. The full checklist is at the QR code. It does not replace your local protocol or your clinical judgement.