



Lifevac Anti-Choking Device

EMMCO West, Inc. has been made aware that regional EMS agencies have been approached to use the Lifevac anti-choking device. The device has been reviewed by the PA Department of Health, Bureau of EMS, state medical advisory committee. It was identified that there are no published peer-reviewed studies supporting the effectiveness and/or safety this device. It is not recognized in AHA choking guidelines. It is **NOT** within the current PA scope of practice for EMS personnel. It is **NOT** authorized to be used by PA DOH licensed EMS agencies.

For choking patients – BLS Care

For children < 1 year of age, put head down and use back blows/chest thrusts. For adults and children > 1 year of age, use abdominal thrusts. For pregnant patients or patients who are too obese for abdominal thrusts, use chest thrusts.

For choking patients – ALS Care

SLAT = Simultaneous Laryngoscopy and Abdominal Thrusts. When the foreign body can be visualized within the trachea but cannot be grasped by Magill forceps, there have been case reports of success when one rescuer visualizes the airway with a laryngoscope and another rescuer applies abdominal thrusts to temporarily dislodge the foreign body so that it can be grasped by the first rescuer with the Magill forceps.

Contact EMMCO West, Inc. for any questions/concerns regarding the use of this device by licensed EMS agencies and/or certified PA EMS providers.