

Checklist for Anaesthetic Equipment 2012

AAGBI Safety Guideline



Checks at the start of every operating session

Do not use this equipment unless you have been trained

Check self-inflating bag available

Perform manufacturer's (automatic) machine check

Power supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plugged in• Switched on• Back-up battery charged
Gas supplies and suction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gas and vacuum pipelines – 'tug test'• Cylinders filled and turned off• Flowmeters working (if applicable)• Hypoxic guard working• Oxygen flush working• Suction clean and working
Breathing system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whole system patent and leak free using 'two-bag' test• Vaporisers – fitted correctly, filled, leak free, plugged in (if necessary)• Soda lime - colour checked• Alternative systems (Bain, T-piece) – checked• Correct gas outlet selected
Ventilator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working and configured correctly
Scavenging	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working and configured correctly
Monitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working and configured correctly• Alarms limits and volumes set
Airway equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full range required, working, with spares

RECORD THIS CHECK IN THE PATIENT RECORD

Don't Forget!

- Self-inflating bag
- Common gas outlet
- Difficult airway equipment
- Resuscitation equipment
- TIVA and/or other infusion equipment

This guideline is not a standard of medical care. The ultimate judgement with regard to a particular clinical procedure or treatment plan must be made by the clinician in the light of the clinical data presented and the diagnostic and treatment options available.

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CHECKS BEFORE EACH CASE

Breathing system

Whole system patent and leak free using 'two-bag' test
Vaporisers – fitted correctly, filled, leak free, plugged in (if necessary)
Alternative systems (Bain, T-piece) – checked
Correct gas outlet selected

Ventilator

Working and configured correctly

Airway equipment

Full range required, working, with spares

Suction

Clean and working

THE TWO-BAG TEST

A two-bag test should be performed after the breathing system, vaporisers and ventilator have been checked individually

- i. Attach the patient end of the breathing system (including angle piece and filter) to a test lung or bag.
- ii. Set the fresh gas flow to 5 l.min⁻¹ and ventilate manually. Check the whole breathing system is patent and the unidirectional valves are moving. Check the function of the APL valve by squeezing both bags.
- iii. Turn on the ventilator to ventilate the test lung. Turn off the fresh gas flow, or reduce to a minimum. Open and close each vaporiser in turn. There should be no loss of volume in the system.

This checklist is an abbreviated version of the publication by the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland 'Checking Anaesthesia Equipment 2012'. It was originally published in *Anaesthesia*.

(Endorsed by the Chief Medical Officers)

If you wish to refer to this guideline, please use the following reference: Checklist for anaesthetic equipment 2012. *Anaesthesia* 2012; **66**: pages 662–63. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1365-2044.2012.07163.x/abstract>