

SpO₂ < 94%

Assume HYPOXIA until proven otherwise

Administer high flow oxygen
Consider hand ventilation with large tidal volumes

Probe on patient?
Good waveform?

NO

Reposition probe

*If necessary check probe
on your own finger*

YES

Is the problem with the patient?
Is the problem with the equipment?
Call for help if needed

Check A B C D E

Patient Problems

AIRWAY

Use chin lift / jaw thrust if using a mask
Reposition LMA if necessary
Check position of tracheal tube
If in doubt take LMA or tracheal tube out
Treat laryngospasm if present

BREATHING

Check adequate rate
Check adequate tidal volume
Check ET CO₂
Listen to both lungs
Bronchospasm? - consider bronchodilators
Pneumothorax? - consider chest drain

CIRCULATION

Check pulse
Check blood pressure
Check ECG
Blood loss / dehydration / fluid loss?
Consider IV fluid replacement

DRUG EFFECTS

Opioids
Volatile agent
Sedatives
Muscle relaxant
High spinal?

Equipment Problems

EQUIPMENT

Check oxygen supply / concentrator / cylinder
Check for breathing circuit disconnection
Check for breathing circuit obstruction

If problem not resolving:

Eliminate circuit - use self inflating bag

If self inflating bag not available consider:
Mouth to mouth / tracheal tube ventilation

If no pulse / BP / signs of life
Start CPR
Find and treat the cause