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| **Observation** | **Reason/Action** |
| Nosebleed during suctioning | **Stop suctioning.** Gently squeeze bridge of nose and hold for 5 minutes. After bleeding has stopped, refrain from using that side of the nose for suctioning until cleared by family or physician. |
| Gagging or vomiting during suctioning | Gagging is probably caused by catheter going down too far. Withdraw a little and try to finish suctioning. If vomiting occurs, remove catheter and position student to keep airway open. Calm student and make sure that he/ she is breathing without problems. If student still needs suctioning, proceed carefully and do not insert catheter as far as previously inserted. |
| Suction is not adequate to remove secretions | Check for mucous clogs in catheter. Remove by suctioning water through catheter and tube.  Check for kinks in suction tubing. Rotate tubing to undue kink, if noted.  Check for proper size of suction catheter. Larger size may be needed if so ordered by physician. |
| Nasal mucous is too thick to be suctioned and clogs catheter | Unclog catheter by suctioning water through catheter and tubing until cleared.  Instill a few drops of saline into each nostril, if ordered by physician, to thin mucous for easier suctioning. |