The Management of Respiratory Emergencies Flowchart summarizes general management of respiratory emergencies and specific management by etiology. Note that this chart does not include all respiratory emergencies; it provides key management strategies for a limited number of diseases.

**Upper Airway Obstruction**
- **Croup**
  - Nebulized epinephrine
  - Corticosteroids
- **Anaphylaxis**
  - IM epinephrine (or autoinjector)
  - Albuterol
  - Antihistamines
  - Corticosteroids
- **Aspiration Foreign Body**
  - Allow position of comfort
  - Specialty consultation

**Lower Airway Obstruction**
- **Bronchiolitis**
  - Nasal suctioning
  - Bronchodilator trial
- **Asthma**
  - Albuterol ± ipratropium
  - Corticosteroids
  - Subcutaneous epinephrine
  - Magnesium sulfate
  - Terbutaline

**Lung Tissue Disease**
- **Pneumonia/Pneumonitis**
  - Infectious
  - Chemical
  - Aspiration
  - Albuterol
  - Antibiotics (as indicated)
  - Consider CPAP
  - Pulmonary Edema
  - Cardiogenic or Noncardiogenic (ARDS)
  - Consider noninvasive or invasive ventilatory support with PEEP
  - Consider vasoactive support
  - Consider diuretic

**Disordered Control of Breathing**
- **Increased ICP**
  - Avoid hypoxemia
  - Avoid hypercarbia
  - Avoid hyperthermia
- **Poisoning/Overdose**
  - Antidote (if available)
  - Contact poison control
- **Neuromuscular Disease**
  - Consider noninvasive or invasive ventilatory support