Suctioning Definition: Suction is the removal of retained secretions through oropharyngeal, endotracheal, or tracheostomy tube and it should be performed whenever clinically indicated rather than on affixed schedule. Increase in peak airway pressures when patient is on mechanical ventilation. Endotracheal suctioning Definition: It is the mechanical aspiration of tracheal secretions using a negative pressure by passing a sterile catheter into the trachea through an artificial airway (endotracheal or tracheostomy tube). Artificial airway suctioning (Endotracheal or tracheostomy). – To obtain samples of tracheal secretions for laboratory analysis. Oral suctioning (Oropharyngeal suctioning). 2.3.2.3.4.