For any upper airway emergency including choking, foreign body, swelling, stridor, croup, and obstructed tracheostomy

**History**
- Sudden onset of shortness of breath/coughing
- Recent history of eating or food present
- History of stroke or swallowing problems
- Past medical history
- Sudden loss of speech
- Syncope

**Signs and Symptoms**
- Sudden onset of coughing, wheezing or gagging
- Stridor
- Inability to talk
- Universal sign for choking
- Panic
- Pointing to throat
- Syncope
- Cyanosis

**Differential**
- Foreign body aspiration
- Food bolus aspiration
- Epiglottitis
- Syncope
- Hypoxia
- Asthma/COPD
- CHF exacerbation
- Anaphylaxis
- Massive pulmonary embolus

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**Pearls**
- Bag valve mask can force the food obstruction deeper.
- If unable to ventilate, consider a foreign body obstruction, particularly after performing proper airway maneuvers.
- Advanced airways are only approved for patients that do not measure on the Broselow Tape. A height of > 4ft is required for the King Airway.