Positioning Protocol

Is 30° HOB elevation contraindicated?*

Yes

Consider reverse trendelenburg or lower backrest position

Document HOB limitation

No

HOB ↑ 30° or greater

↑ HOB gradually as tolerated and document

No

Tolerates 30°? †

Yes

HOB ↑ 30° except for repositioning and linen change

Initiate monitoring protocol

No

Reassess tolerance q4h

Document

• HOB in degrees q1h
• Reasons why 30° not achieved
• Tolerance, skin condition

Contraindications *

• Neurosurgery
• IABP
• Femoral line
• C-spine precautions

Signs of Intolerance †

• Hemodynamic instability
• Skin breakdown
• Unable to sleep
• Patient discomfort