

AIRWAY MANAGEMENT

Essay

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In Anaesthesia and Intensive Care*

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SUMMARY

The major responsibility of the anaesthesiologist toward the patient is the provision for adequate respiration and ventilation as the most vital element providing functional respiration is the patient airway when difficult airway is predicted.

Preoperative prediction of potential difficulty with intubation can help to reduce the incidence of catastrophic complication and might reduce the frequency of unnecessary manoeuvres related to false positive prediction.

Plan to deal with predicted difficult airway that's outlines suggested pathways, instrument availability, subdoling specific airway reflexes, optimizing patient positioning and suggesting a specific route.

Difficult airway recognition is facilitated by a systemic search for abnormalities, difficult airway algorithm provide the clinician with a management strategy for evaluation of the airway and then guidelines for management in the form of recommendations that were systematically developed to assist airway management. They were intended to apply to all types of anaesthetic care and for patients of all ages.

There are various instruments available to facilitate airway management, anaesthetic face masks, endotracheal intubations by various types of tubes, airways, laryngeal mask airways, intubating laryngeal mask airway, fiberoptic laryngoscopy, when all methods to maintain patent airway failed, emergency surgical airway must be done to save life of the patient.

In addition to the used role in providing airway management during the administration of an anaesthetic, the anaesthesiologist may be consulted as an expert in airway management in settings outside the operating room such as I.C.U, E.R. These consultations may involve the provision of an acute airway or the management of problems that have arisen in the patient requiring ongoing endotracheal intubation to provide optimal care.

The anaesthesiologist always look forward recent facilities, new devices for airway management.