CAN’T INTUBATE CAN’T OXYGENATE – THE ROLE OF THE NURSE

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A RARE OCCURRENCE?

Of an estimated 2.9 million general anaesthetics carried out in the UK – 11 cases required front of neck access.

Results in under-skilled staff.

Higher risk in ICU patients’

(4th NAP 2011)
ELAINE BROMILEY (2005)
NO PLAN - for failed airway technique.

COMMUNICATION BREAKDOWN – no one acknowledged CICO

HIERACHY – Nurses were not listened to.

LOSS OF CONTROL

Cadogan (2018)
OUR AIM

• To ensure all ICU nursing staff become familiar with the Can’t Intubate Can’t Oxygenate algorithm.

• Become familiar with the equipment needed.

• Become more confident to assist the anaesthetist for front of neck access.
DAS Guidelines

- Success depends on Decision Making
- Planning
- Preparation
- Skill acquisition
- Standardising equipment

DAS (2015)
South West Emergency Airway Training (SWEAT) Course.

- Evolved from Dr Andrew Heard in the ‘Wet Lab’ Royal Perth Hospital Australia.
- CICO algorithm
- Practical techniques on sheep’s trachea and lungs
- Simulation practice

Baker et al (2016)
**Our Method** – ICU Training Days - Adapted and condensed SWEAT course for nursing staff taught by Dr Adam Revill, Sr Wendy Carlton and Sr Lisa Blakeley.
A Short Scene Setting Video

Just a routine operation/YouTube (2011)
# DAS (2015) Intubation Checklist – Plan D

## Intubation Checklist: critically ill adults – to be done with whole team present.

### Prepare the patient
- Reliable IV / IO access
- Optimise position
  - Sit-up?
  - Mattress hard
- Airway assessment
  - Identify cricothyroid membrane
  - Awake intubation option?
- Optimal preoxygenation
  - 3 mins or ETO$_2$ > 85%
  - Consider CPAP / NIV
  - Nasal O$_2$
- Optimise patient state
  - Fluid / pressor / inotrope
  - Aspirate NG tube
  - Delayed sequence induction
- Allergies?
  - ↑ Potassium risk?
    - avoid suxamethonium

### Prepare the equipment
- Apply monitors
  - SpO$_2$ / waveform ETCO$_2$ / ECG / BP
- Check equipment
  - Tracheal tubes x 2
    - cuffs checked
  - Direct laryngoscopes x 2
  - Videolaryngoscope
  - Bougie / styllet
  - Working suction
  - Supraglottic airways
  - Guedel / nasal airways
  - Flexible scope / Aintree
  - FONA set
- Check drugs
  - Consider ketamine
  - Relaxant
  - Pressor / inotrope
  - Maintenance sedation

### Prepare the team
- Allocate roles
  - One person may have more than one role.
  - Team Leader
  - 1$^{st}$ Intubator
  - 2$^{nd}$ Intubator
  - Cricoid force
  - Intubator’s assistant
  - Drugs
  - Monitoring patient
  - Runner
  - MILS (if indicated)
  - Who will perform FONA?
- Who do we call for help?
- Who is noting the time?

### Prepare for difficulty
- Can we wake the patient if intubation fails?
- Verbalise “Airway Plan is:”
- Plan A:
  - Drugs & laryngoscopy
- Plan B/C:
  - Supraglottic airway
  - Face-mask
  - Fibreoptic intubation via supraglottic airway
- Plan D:
  - FONA
  - Scalpel-bougie-tube
- Does anyone have questions or concerns?
CANNULAR CRICOTHYROIDOTOMY / PACK ONE

SUCCESS

O2 & STABILISE

MELKER AIRWAY

O2 & STABILISE

RAILROAD SIZE 6 ETT

O2 & STABILISE

MELKER/SELDINGER TECHNIQUE

Adapted from DAS Guidelines (2015).
PRACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Dr A Heard/Youtube (2013)
Needle Cricothyroidotomy  
Air jet Oxygenation
Scalpel Bougie Technique
RESULTS

- All but one staff member on our ICU has attended the condensed SWEAT Course.
- The Course received very positive feedback.
- Staff demonstrated advanced knowledge and skill when completing competencies.
- Continued training with simulation and CICO scenarios is necessary to maintain skills.
**Conclusion**

- Success depends on decision making, a plan of action, preparation and skill acquisition.

- Effective Team Work

- Providing training, reinforced with simulation enables skill acquisition and empowers staff to work effectively within a team helping them to make more efficient decisions, communicate and to take control.
Special thanks to Dr Adam Revill/Super Hero/ICU consultant


DrAMBHeardAirway "Cannular Cricothroidotomy, Jet Oxygenation Strategies" On line video clip. Youtube. 14/12/13, WEB, Accessed 8/7/19.

Laerdal Medical AS "Just a routine operation" Online video clip. YouTube, Published 6/7/11, WEB, Accessed 8/6/19.