

CS#4

Endotracheal Intubation in Patients with Cervical Spine Immobilization **A Comparison of Macintosh and Airtraq Laryngoscopes**

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The Airtraq reduced the duration of intubation attempts (mean SD: 13.2 5.5 vs. 20.3 12.2 s), the need for additional manoeuvres, and the intubation difficulty scale score (0.1 0.5 vs. 2.7 2.5). Tracheal intubation with the Airtraq caused fewer alterations in blood pressure and heart rate.

Conclusions: These findings demonstrate the utility of the Airtraq laryngoscope for tracheal intubation in patients with cervical spine immobilization.

Table 3. Data for Intubation Attempts with Each Device

Parameter Assessed	Macintosh	Airtraq
Overall success rate (%)	19 (95)	20 (100)
Intubation difficulty scale score	2 (0.3)	0 (0.0)†
Duration of intubation attempt, s	20.3 ± 12.2	13.2 ± 5.4*
Lowest SpO ₂ during intubation attempt, %	98.7 ± 1.4	99.4 ± 0.7
No. of intubation attempts (%)		
1	19 (95)	20 (100)
2	0	0
3	1 (5)	0
No. of optimization maneuvers (%)		
0	12 (60)	20 (100)*
1	5 (25)	0
≥ 2	3 (15)	0