

# CS #7

## Evaluation of the Airtraq and Macintosh laryngoscopes in patients at increased risk for difficult tracheal intubation\*

Anaesthesia, 2008, 63, pages 182–188. Maharaj CH et Al. Univ. Of Ireland, Galway

**Forty consenting patients**, who were deemed to possess at least three characteristics indicating an **increased risk for difficulty** in tracheal intubation, were randomly assigned to undergo tracheal intubation using a Macintosh (n = 20) or Airtraq (n = 20) laryngoscope.

**Four patients were not successfully intubated with the Macintosh laryngoscope, but were intubated successfully with the Airtraq.** The Airtraq reduced the duration of intubation attempts (mean (SD); 13.4 (6.3) vs 47.7 (8.5) s), the need for additional manoeuvres, and the intubation difficulty score (0.4 (0.8) vs 7.7 (3.0)).

Tracheal intubation with the Airtraq also **reduced the degree of hemodynamic stimulation and minor trauma** compared to the Macintosh laryngoscope.

