

# MS#7

## **Pentax-AWS (Airtraq Scope) and Airtraq: big difference between two similar devices.**

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Akihiro Suzuki, Asahikawa Medical College, Japan

According to the manufacturer's manual, the AWS tip position should be inserted posterior to the epiglottis, directly elevating it out of the way (Miller-type approach), whereas it is recommended that the **ATQ tip be placed in the vallecula for indirect lifting of the epiglottis (Macintosh-type approach).** For the ATQ, the **Miller-type approach is also possible as an alternative.** But for the AWS, there is no description of an alternative (Macintosh-type) approach.

However, **AWS intubation using a Macintosh-type approach failed in 12 of 15 attempts due to ETT impingement onto the epiglottis, whereas ATQ intubation using the Miller type approach was successful in 15 of 15 attempts** including 3 in which ETT impingement onto the arytenoid occurred, and this was easily solved by blade adjustment

**It seems the ATQ may have an advantage over the AWS because it provides versatility during intubation; with the ATQ, one can use both anterior and posterior routes.**