

# CR#7

## **Emergency use of the Airtraq laryngoscope in traumatic asphyxia: case report**

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It was used to successfully intubate a severely injured 41-year-old patient who had **sustained traumatic asphyxia after attempting suicide by hanging.**

He was **bleeding into his upper airway**, necessitating regular suctioning. The patient underwent an emergency **rapid sequence intubation** at the scene of injury, with **in-line immobilisation** and cricoid pressure while lying on the ground in bright sunlight.

**A Cormack and Lehane grade 1 view of the oedematous vocal cords was readily obtained, and successful endotracheal intubation was rapidly achieved at the first attempt.** The endotracheal tube was clearly seen to pass through the vocal cords and enter the trachea.

The Airtraq required minimal manipulation to obtain a close-up, panoramic, high-grade view of the larynx.