

CR#16

Awake intubation with Airtraq laryngoscope in patients with anticipated difficult airway

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A. Gloria et Al. Hospital Sao Joao, Porto, Portugal

Indirect laryngoscopy with Airtraq resulted in grade I C-L views. Oxygen saturation was maintained above 95%. **All the patients were successfully intubated with the Airtraq at first attempt.**

In this case series the Airtraq Laryngoscope proved to be an effective intubation device and can be considered as a valid option in an anticipated difficult airway situation (2). **For the patients it was safe and comfortable to use the Airtraq while they were awake and breathing spontaneously.**

	Age	Gender	Predictors of difficult airway	Mallampati score	Surgery
Case 1	66	Male	Obesity; Protruding upper teeth; Short neck; Limited cervical extension; Grade IV Cormack and Lehane view	4	Hypofisis adenoma resection
Case 2	52	Female	Micrognathia; Inter-incisors distance =1,5 cm	4	Laparoscopic cholecistectomy
Case 3	51	Male	Cervical immobilization; Obesity; Short neck; Respiratory insufficiency; Tetraplegy	4	Post-operative laminectomy
Case 4	56	Male	Reumathoid arthritis; Cifoscoliosis; Short neck; Central obesity	4	Exploratory laparotomy
Case 5	60	Male	Retrofaryngeal abcess; Limited cervical extension; Grade IV Cormack and Lehane view	3	Abcess drainage
Case 6	59	Male	Obesity; Short neck	4	Shoulder surgery