

# CR#18

## **Use of the Airtraq® in the difficult airway**

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The first case was an anxious 59-yr-old male who was to undergo a total laryngectomy for cancer of the larynx. A Grade 4 view was confirmed at direct laryngoscopy using a Macintosh laryngoscope. The Airtraq® was subsequently used providing Grade 1 views of the glottis and easy passage of an endotracheal tube.

The second case was a 42-yr-old female. A Grade 3 view of the glottis was achieved at direct laryngoscopy using the Macintosh laryngoscope. When the Airtraq® was employed, a Grade 1 view of the glottis was observed and endotracheal intubation allowed to proceed uneventfully.

**The Airtraq® is cheap and extremely easy to use and we believe it should be included in the anaesthetist's armamentarium for the difficult airway.**