



THE SUBMENTAL ROUTE WITH LARYNGEAL MASK AIRWAY (LMA-Flexible). A NEW TECHNIQUE

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Aims: To avoid tracheotomies when submental intubation via endotracheal is not indicated.

Method: We use the laryngeal mask with ringed tube (LMA-Flexible) of the size the patient needs. After being correctly placed in the conventional way, we pass the ringed tube through a tunnel carved in the submental space, without moving the laryngeal mask from its supraglottic place. The ringed tube is fixed with a silk stitch.

When the operation is finished the ringed tube of the laryngeal mask is detached from the ventilator connections and the tube is passed through the floor of the mouth to make it come out of the mouth, as in the normal use of the LMA-flexible. The anesthesiologist can retire the laryngeal mask in the conventional way.

Results: With this technique patients have no need of a tracheotomy. This produces less damage to a human being already under a terrible stress.

Conclusion: This procedure let us join the advantages of endotracheal intubation via submental with the ones offered by the use of the laryngeal mask via submental.

Preliminary studies.

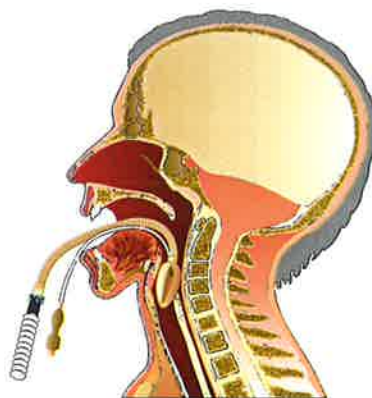


Fig. 1

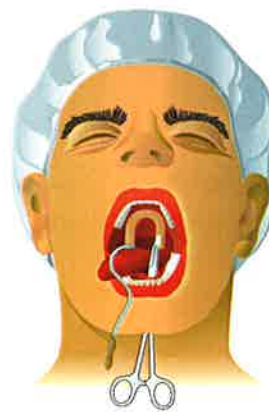


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

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