

Presenter: Eric Tzeng, MD

# Emergency Airway Management

# Case Presentation

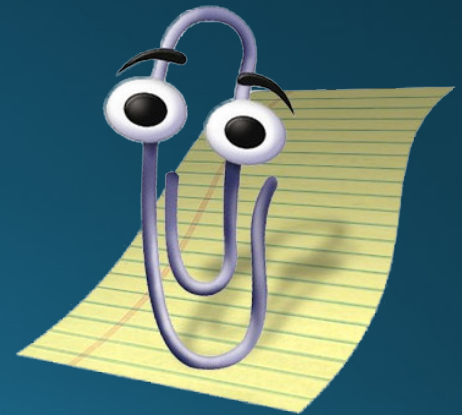
- Get paged for intubation in CCU
- 63m with STEMI who was intubated in ED and taken to cath lab (3 vessel disease)
- Endotracheal dislodged during transport
- RT bagging patient



Hi! It looks like you lost access to the airway. Would you like to have anesthesia fix this for you?

Yes

No



# What is the urgency of the consult?

- **Elective or semi-elective:** you have ample time
  - needs an airway for a procedure
  - anticipated airway management for inhalation burn injury
- **Urgent:** many minutes to hours
  - altered mental status with mild hypoxia corrected by face mask
  - hypoxemia requiring high flow nasal cannula with increased work of breathing
- **Emergent:** handful of minutes
  - unintended self-Extubation
  - persistent hypoxemia or hypercapnia on BIPAP
- **Code:** patient is dying/dead

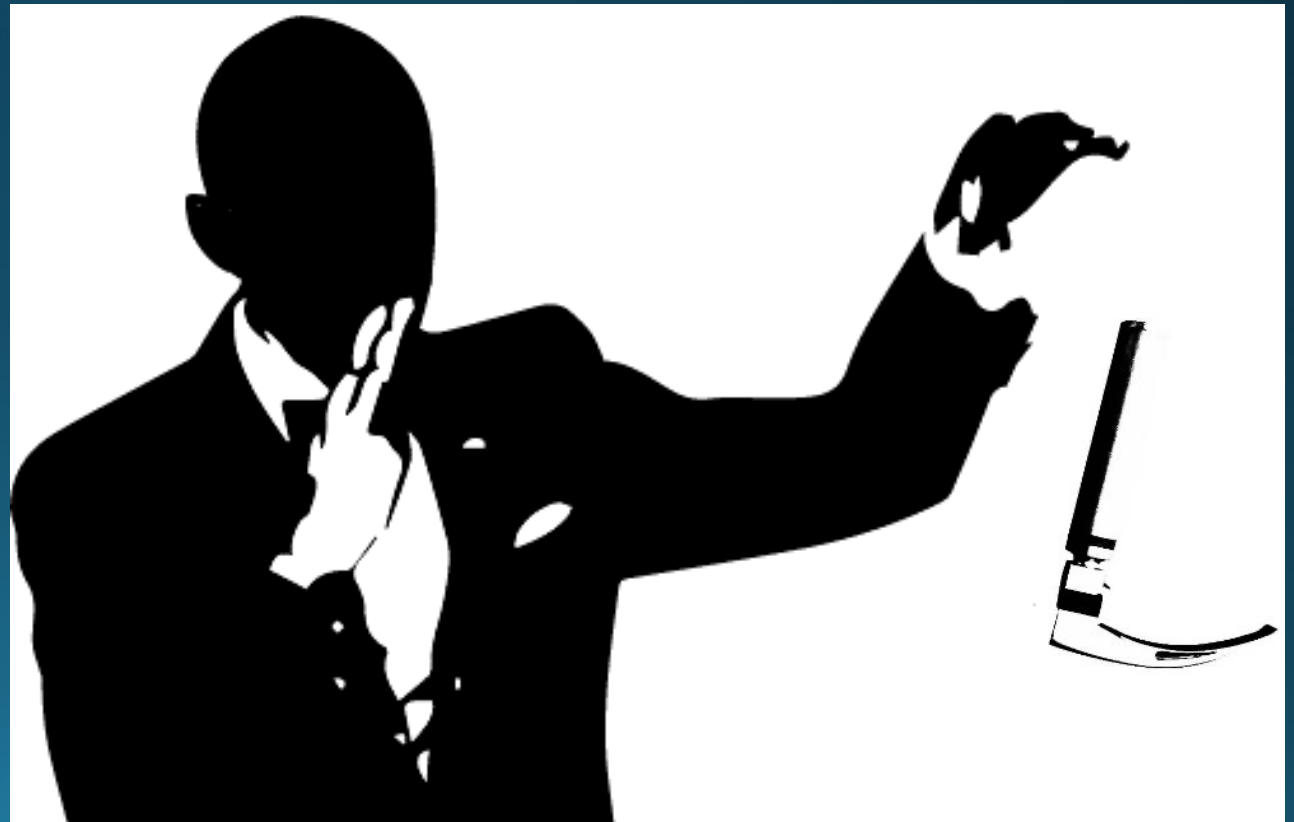
# Relevant history

- Airway / Breathing concerns
- Cardiovascular status
- Drugs and special considerations for induction
- Everything else: leave to the primary team!



# Back to the case: Intubation

- Per chart apparently took 3 attempts in ED and used a D blade
- Easy bag mask ventilation
- Grade 1 view with Mac 3 blade

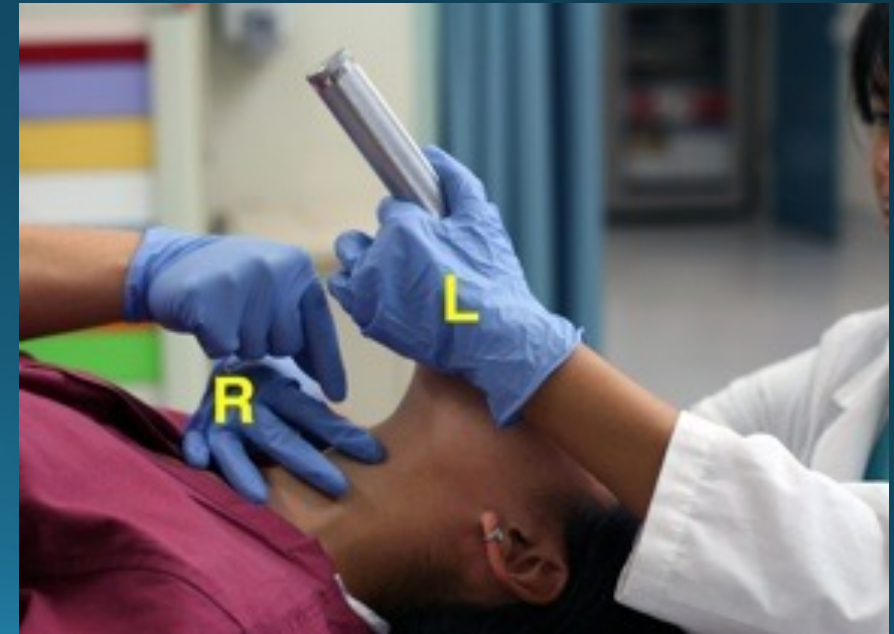
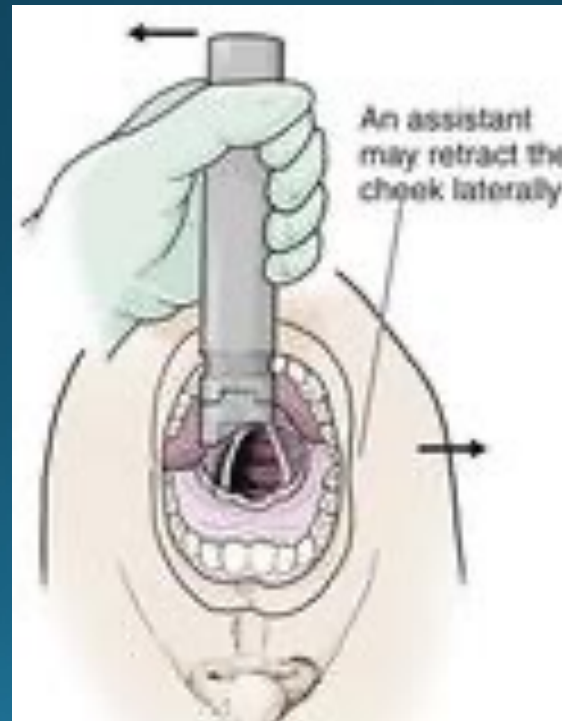
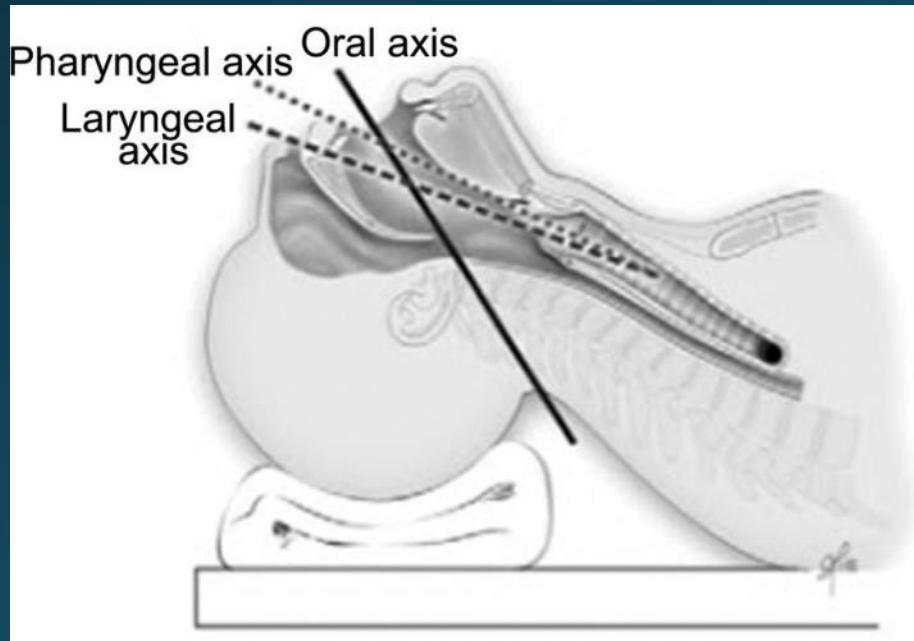


# Vitals

[illegible]

# Optimal laryngoscopy

- Optimal position: flexion of neck on chest and extension of head on neck
- Complete tongue sweep to the left with laryngoscope flange
- External laryngeal manipulation



# Extubation...?

- Over 11 days, the patient's mental status improved and was extubated
- After thirty minutes of being extubated, the patient had evidence of increased work of breathing, splinting, and stridorous breath sounds with saturations in the low 90s on NRB mask.
  - 12-14% of planned extubations need to be reintubated in 2-3 days; 20-40% for neuro critical care patients
- Anesthesia was consulted for urgent re-intubation.



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
PAGE**

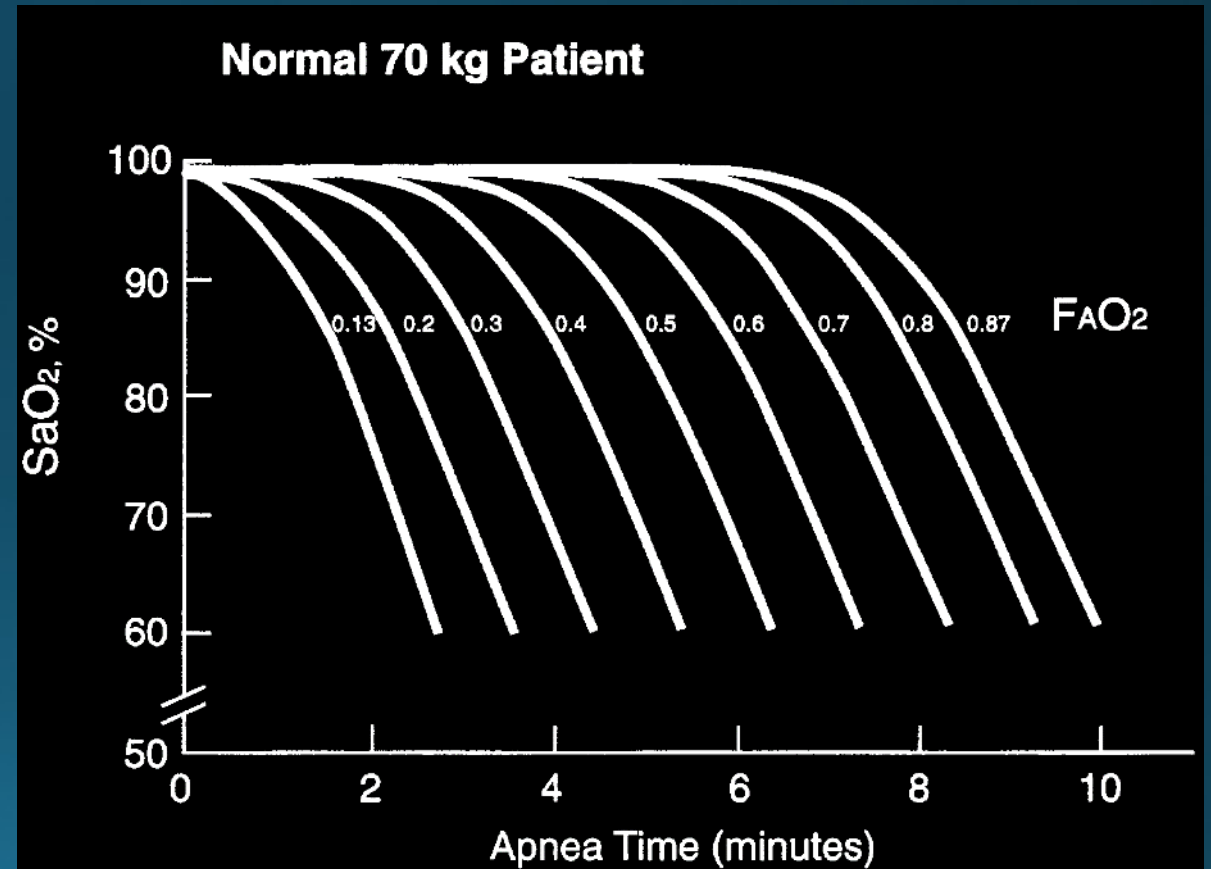
**ANESTHESIA**

# Intubation: round 2

- A mapleson circuit and 100% Fio<sub>2</sub> with bag-mask ventilation was used to assist spontaneous ventilation by the patient for about 5 minutes
- There is a vague, remote history of difficult intubation in the Emergency Department.
- There is a personal memory of an easy intubation 12 days prior without difficulty in bag mask ventilation.
- Thus, conventional direct laryngoscopy is a reasonable start.

# Preoxygenation

- Denitrogenating lungs
- In an apneic patient, oxygen reserve is present only in FRC
- Average FRC is 30cc/kg of IBW
- Under anesthesia, average  $O_2$  consumption is 3cc of  $O_2$  per kg per min.

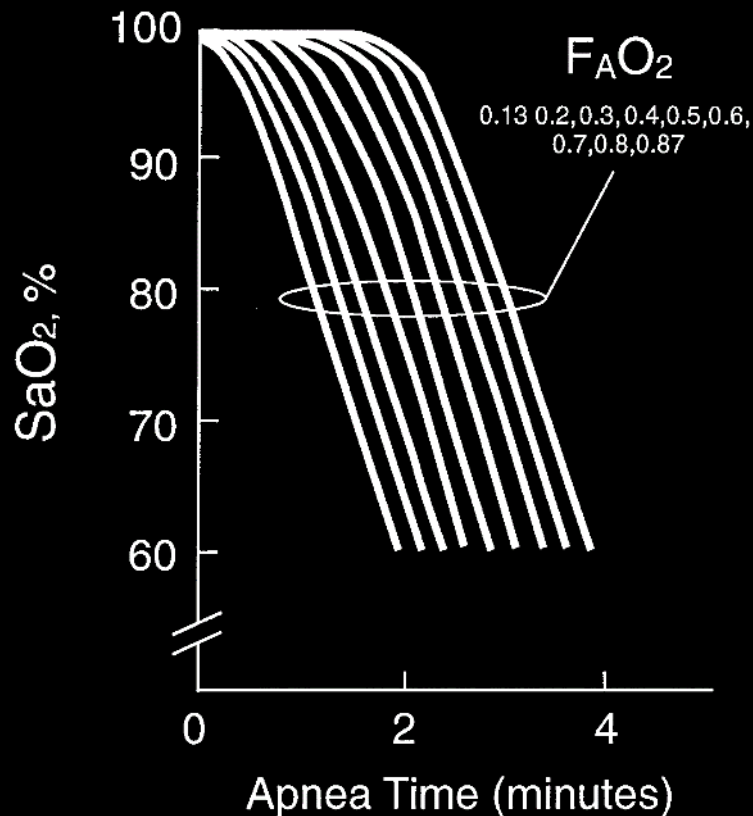




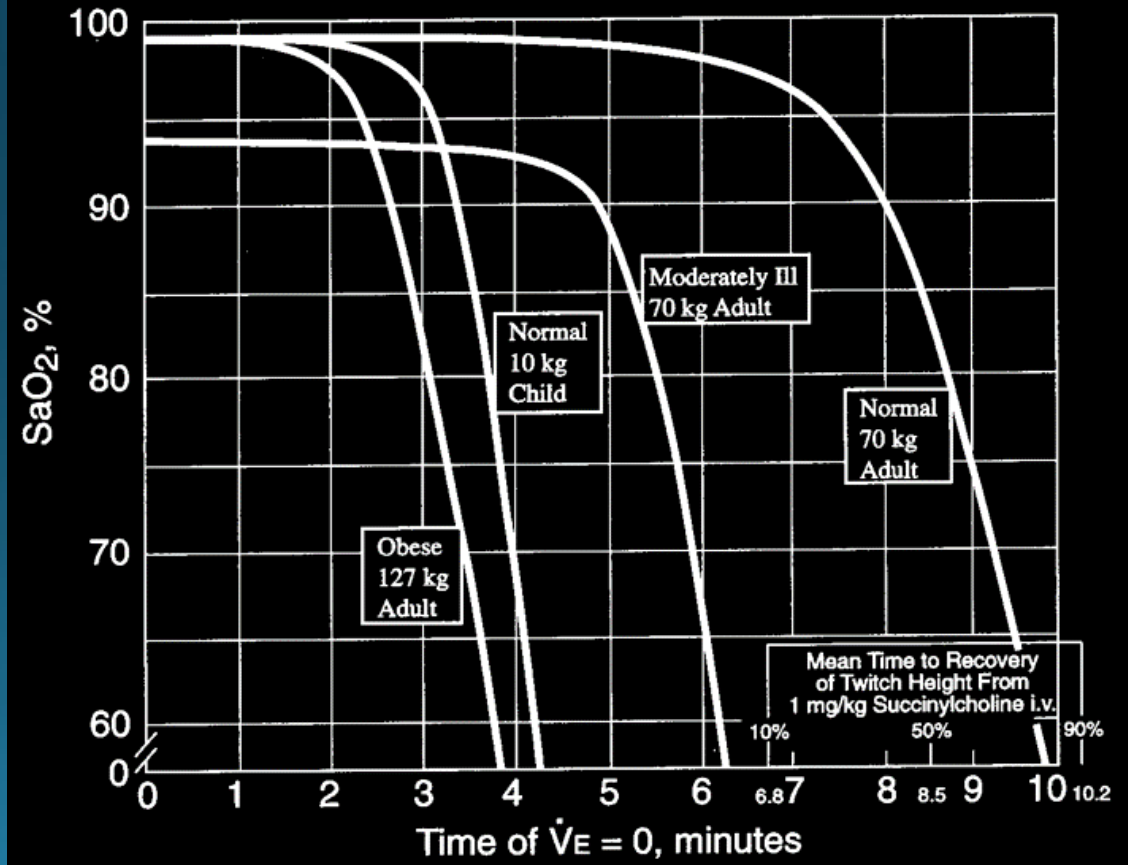
# Preoxygenation

- Less time for obese patients or with lung disease

**Body Mass Index = 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>**

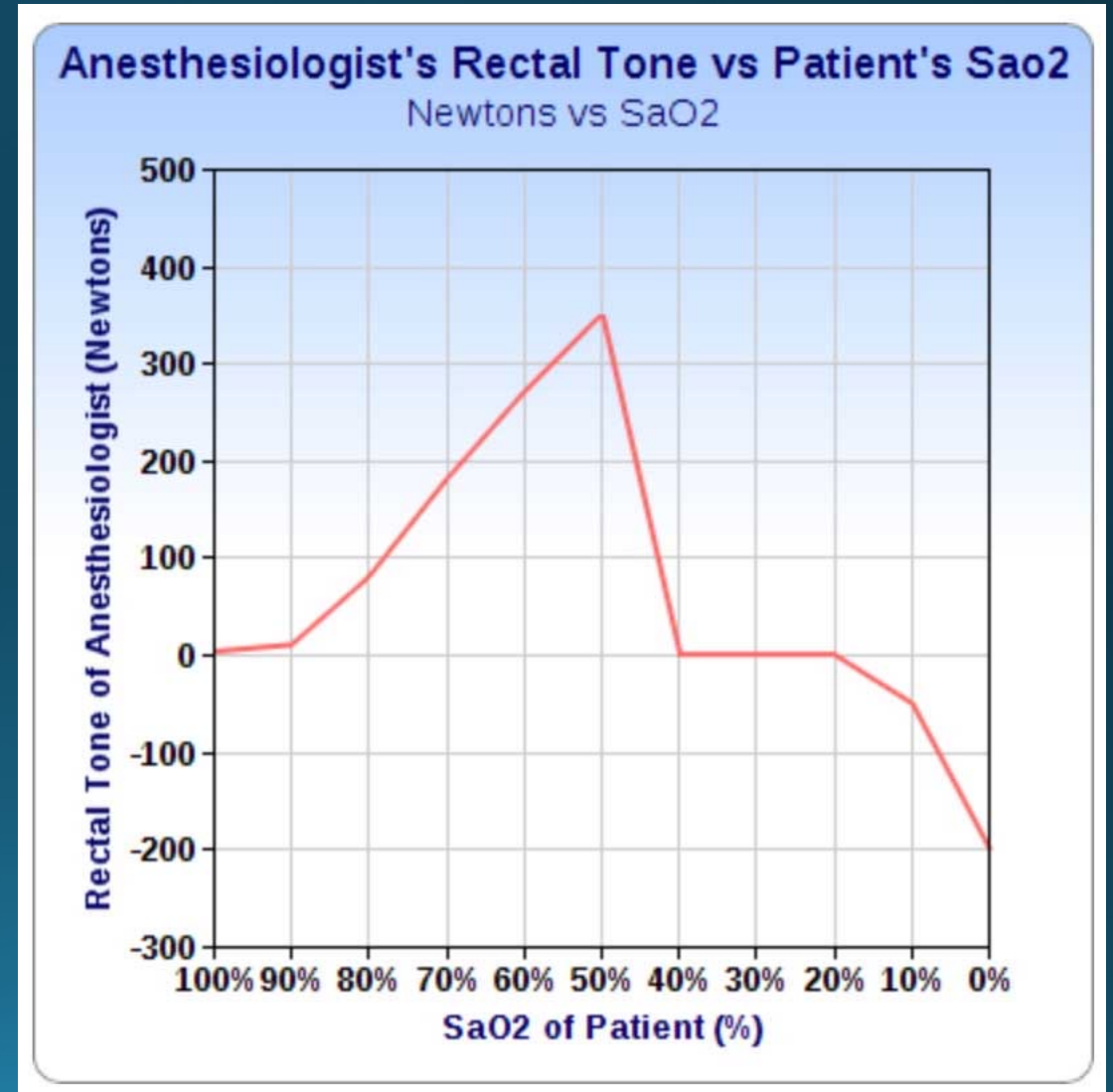


**TIME TO HEMOGLOBIN DESATURATION WITH INITIAL  $F_{AO_2} = 0.87$**

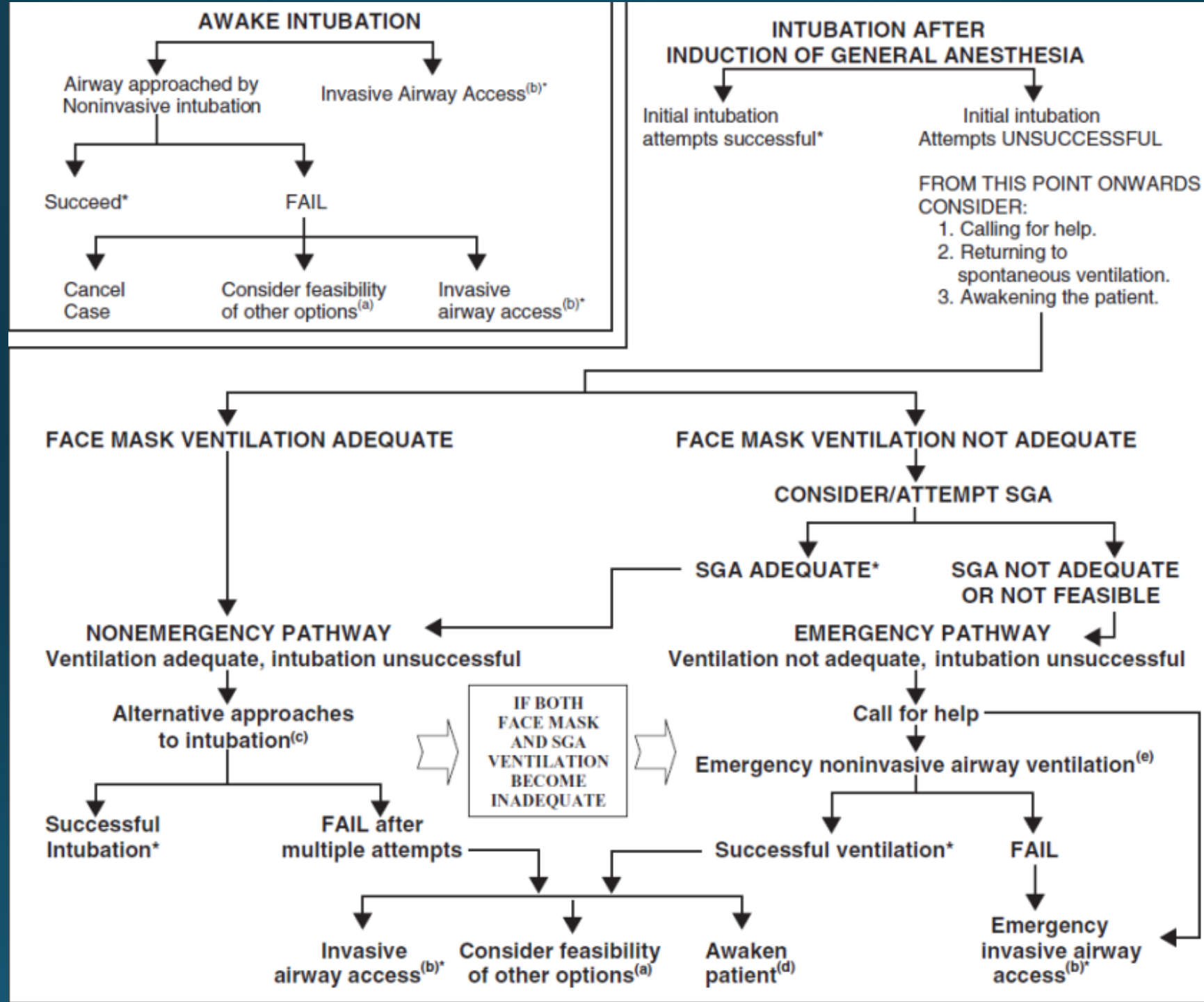


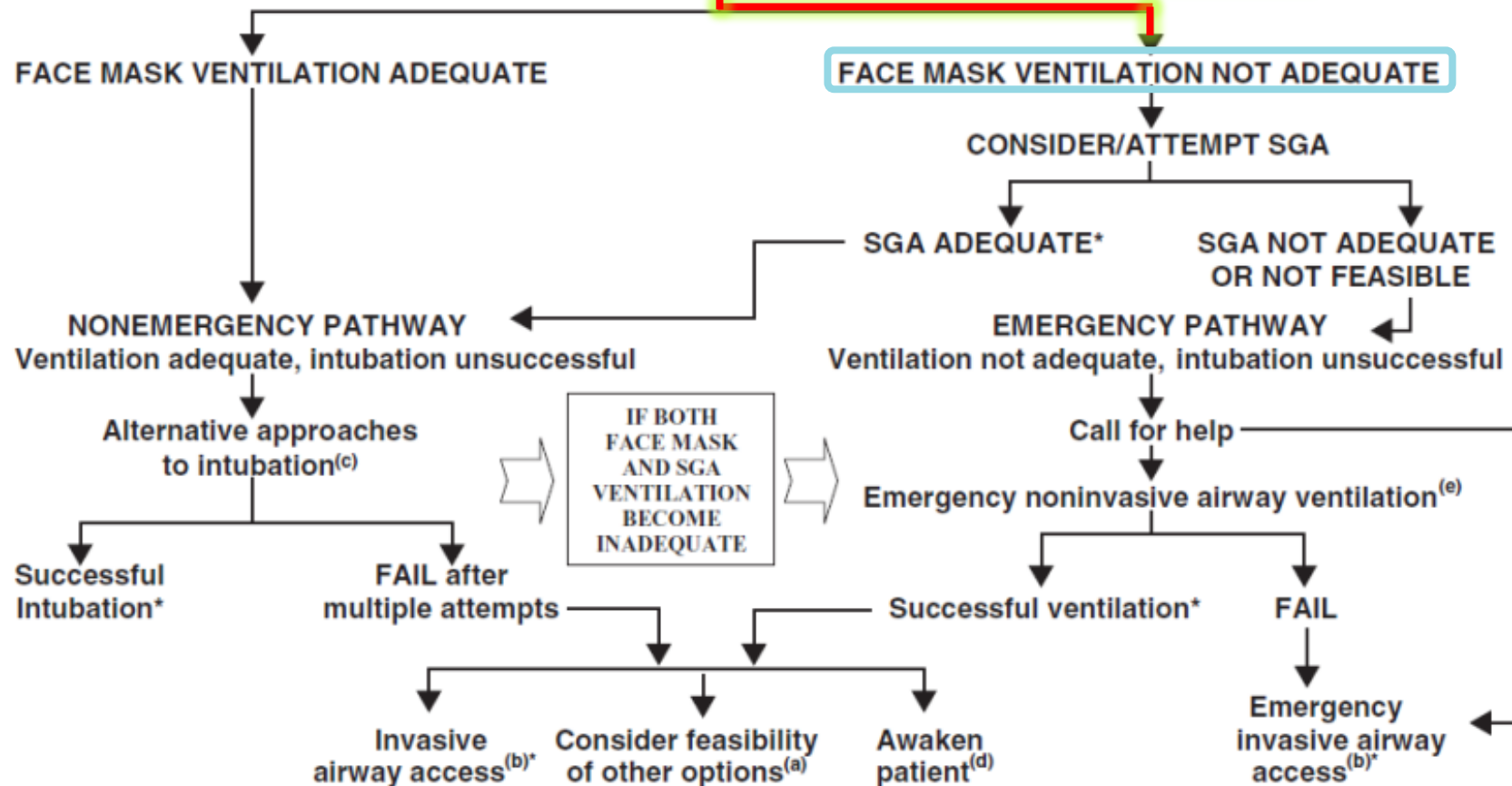
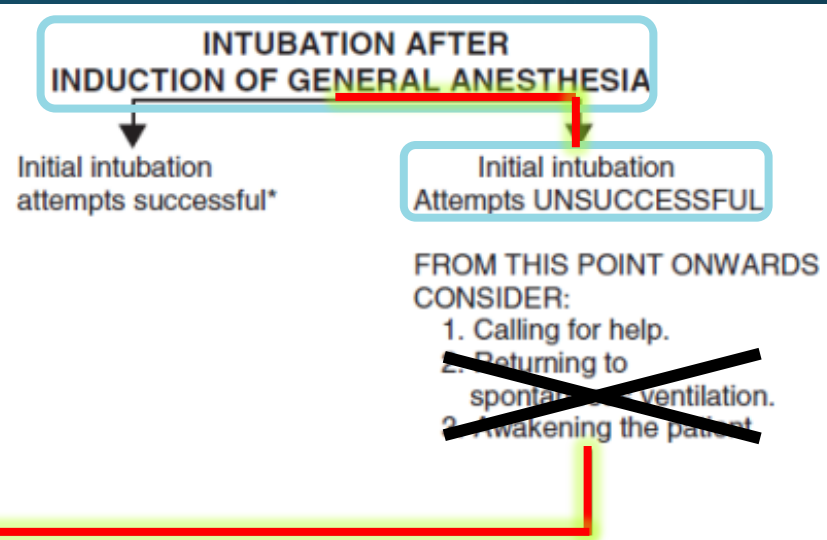
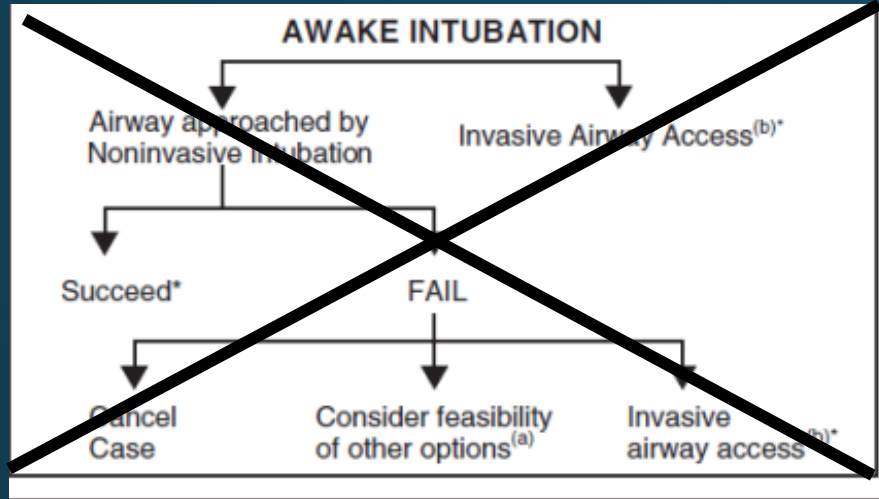
# Intubation: round 2

- Patient was paralyzed and sedated (RSI).
- Mac 3 blade: grade 3 view with edematous glottic structures.
- Blind attempt with gum-elastic bougie: esophageal intubation.
- Patient started desaturating.
- Unable to bag mask ventilate with two-provider ventilation.
- LMA 4.5 inserted and able to provide some ventilation to patient, with saturation improving from 40s to mid-90s.



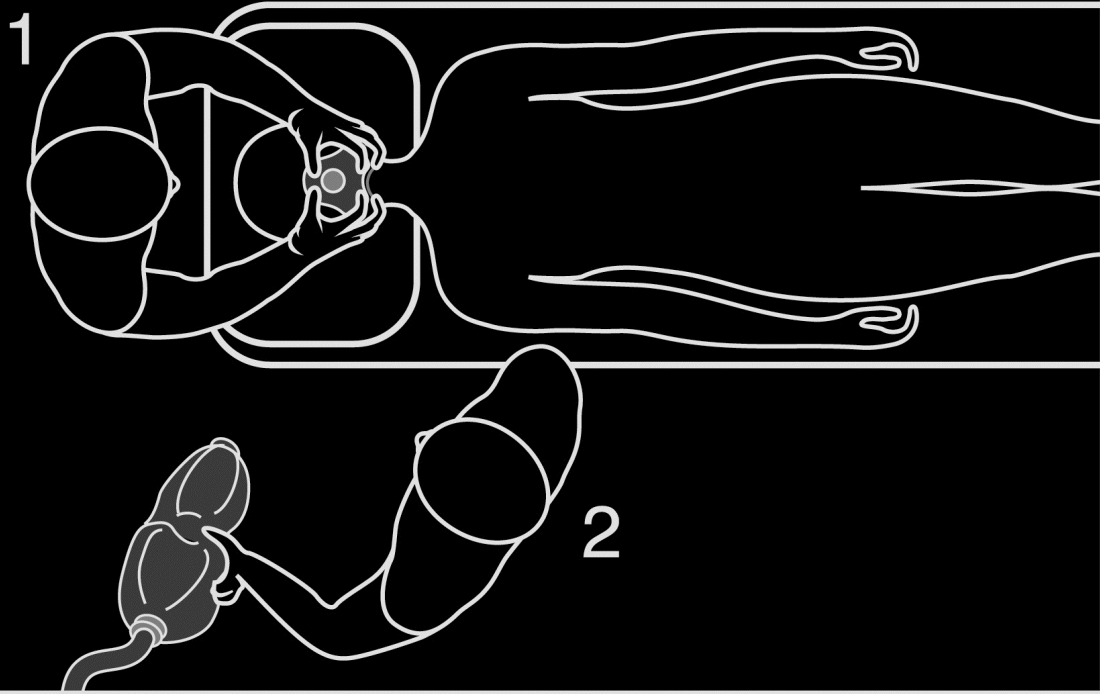




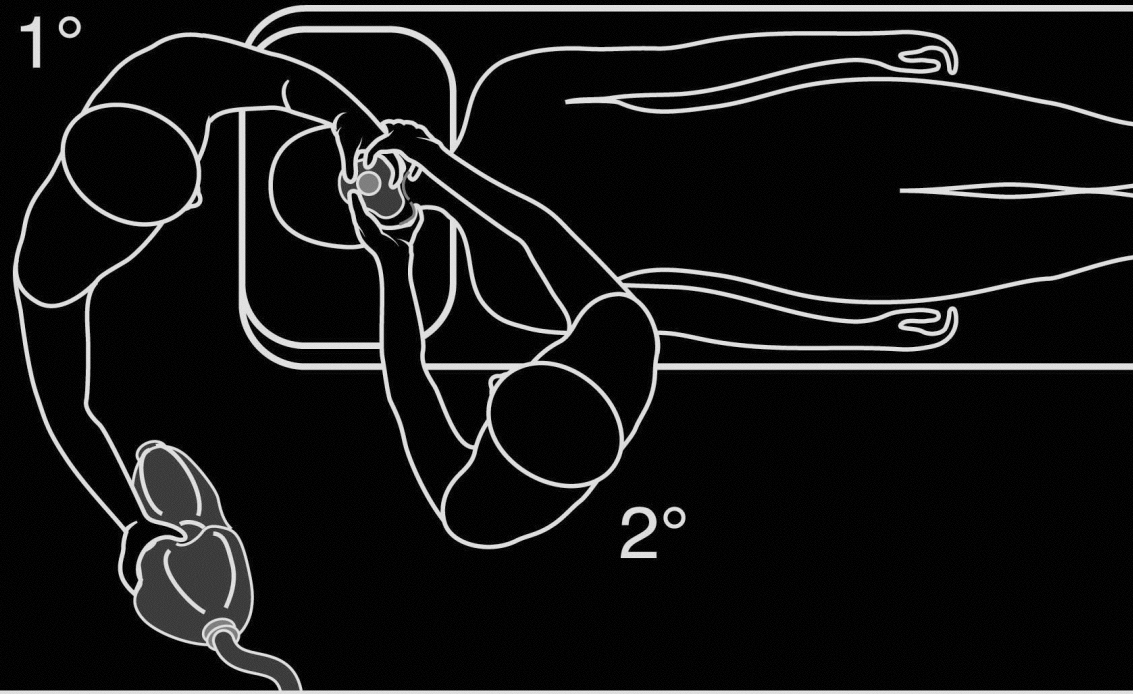


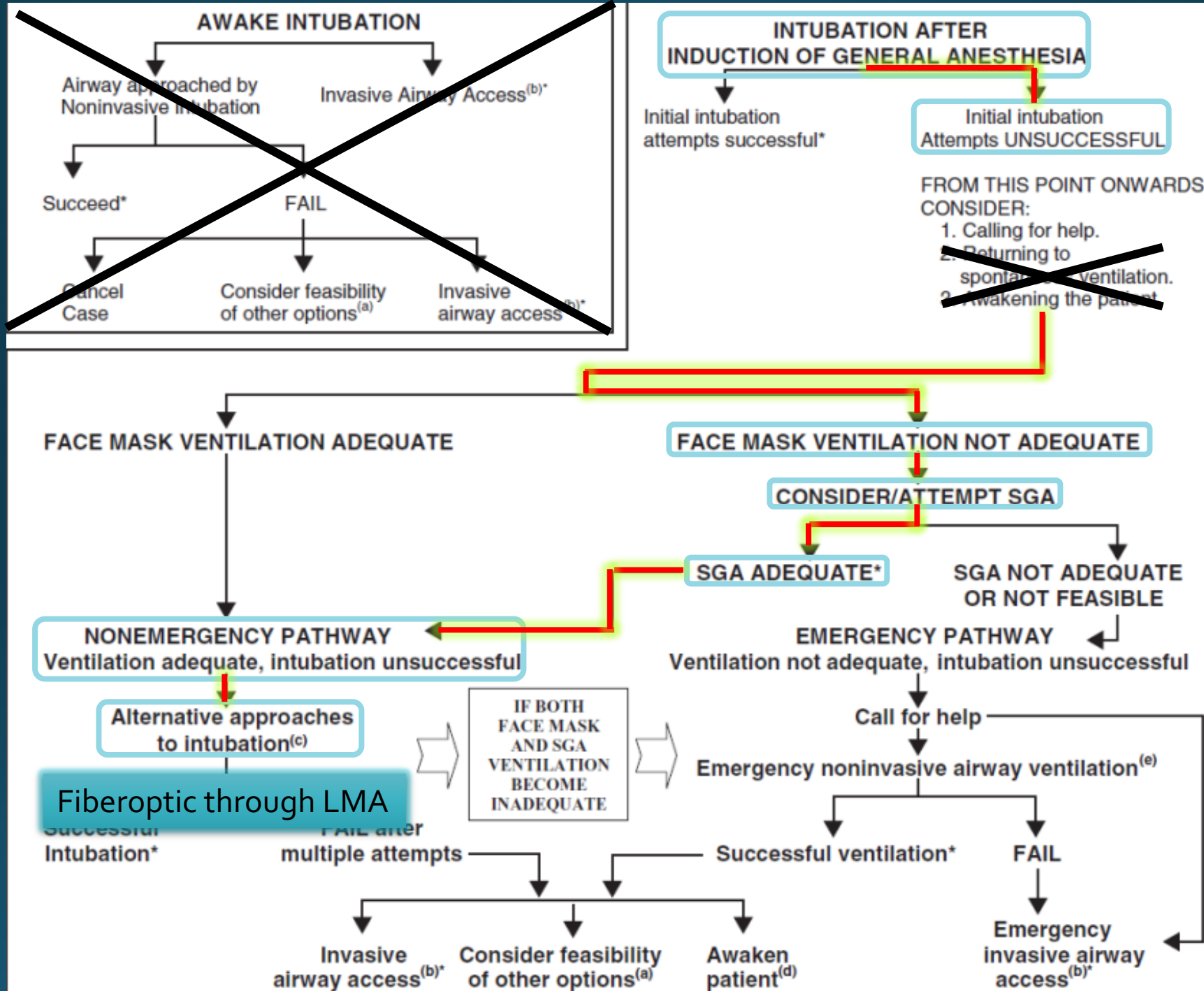
# Optimal mask ventilation

**2-Handed Bilateral Jaw Thrust/Mask Seal**



**3-Handed Bilateral Jaw Thrust/Mask Seal**

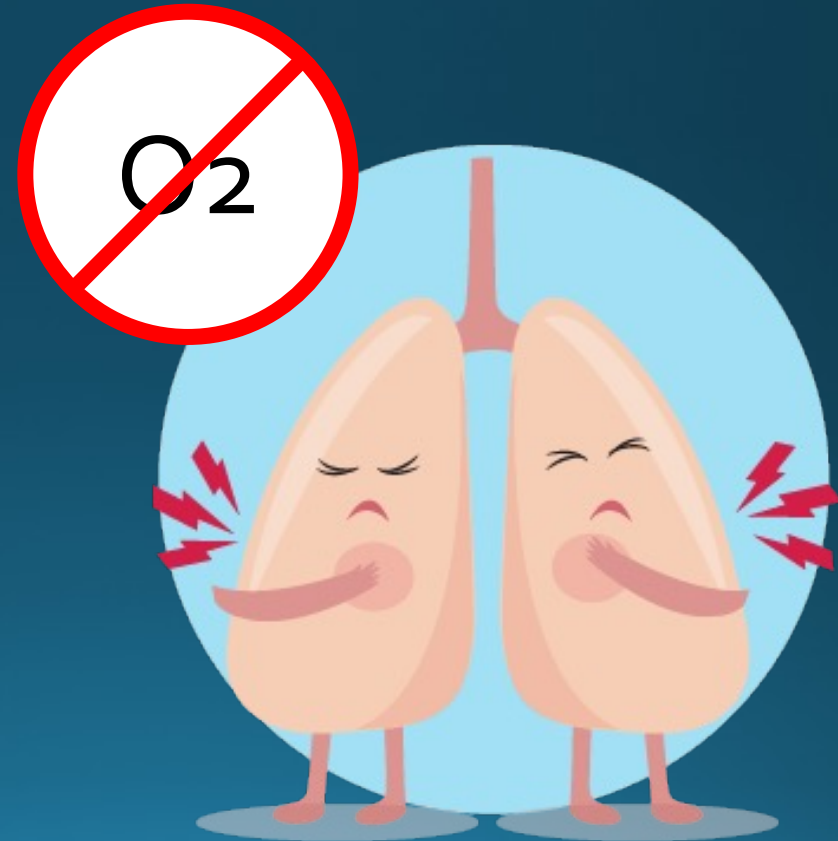
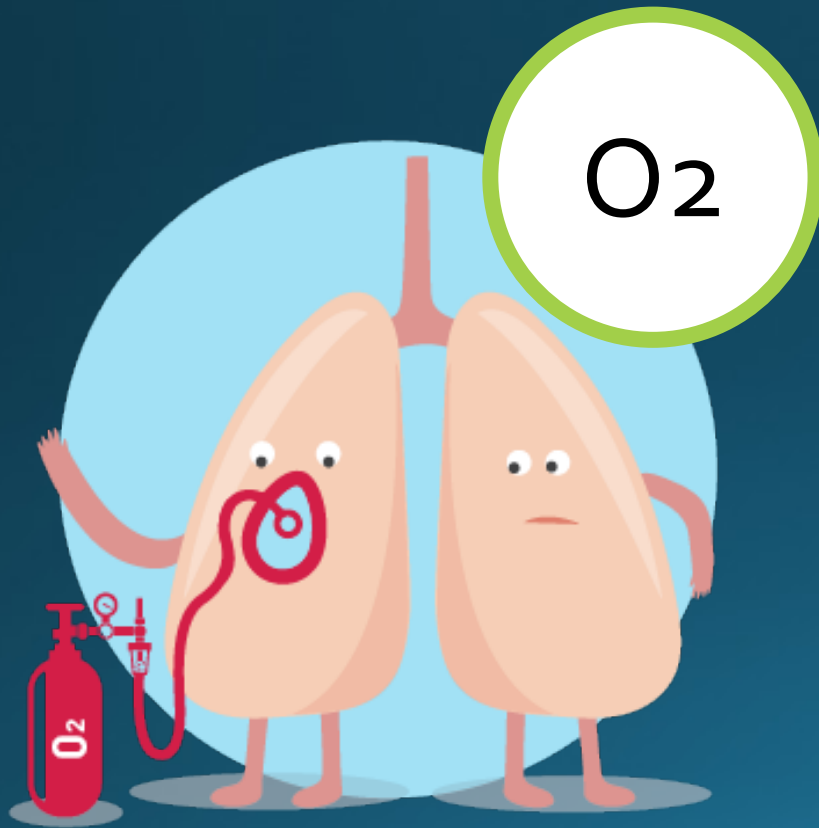






# Remember:

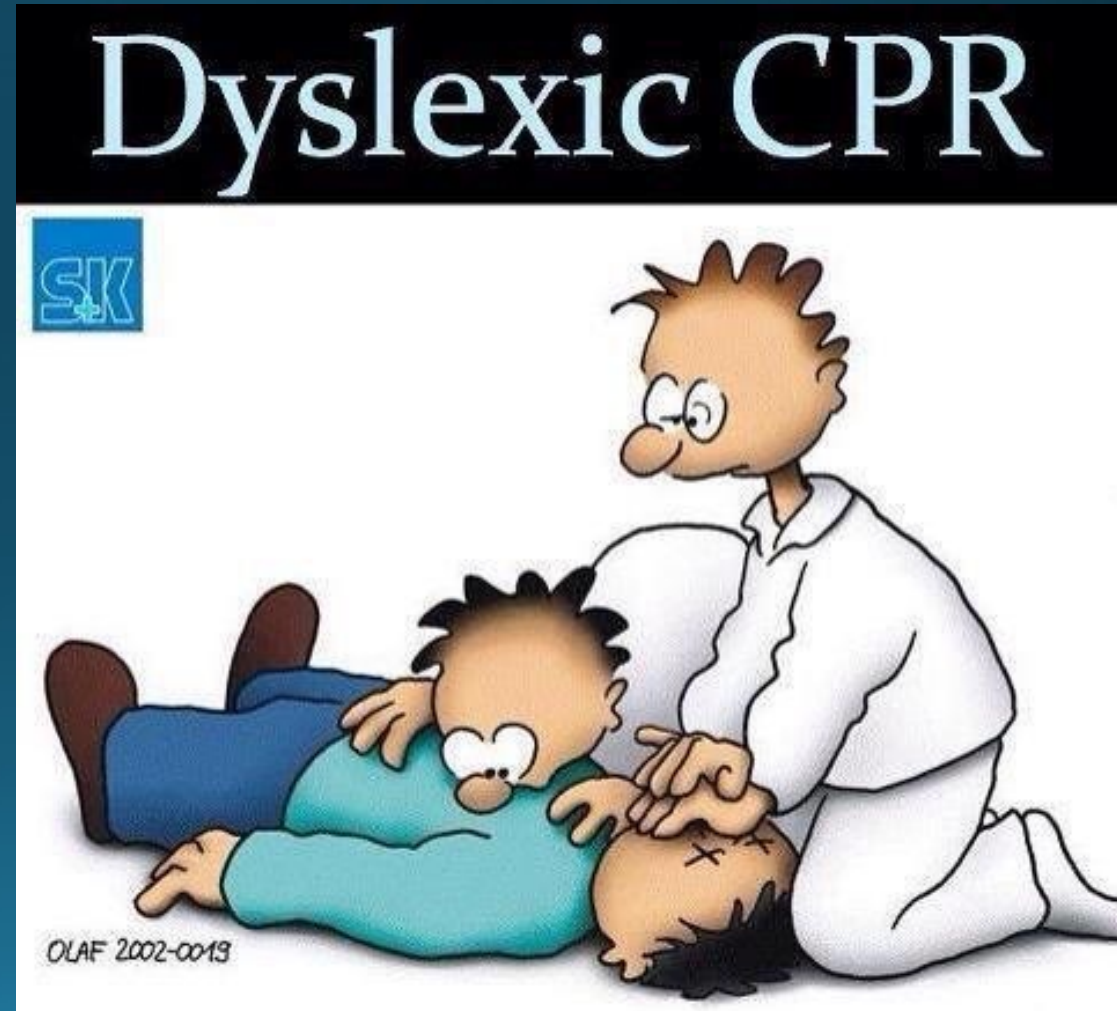
- Patients do not die from not being intubated.
- Patients do die from not being ventilated.



# Intubation: round 2.5...

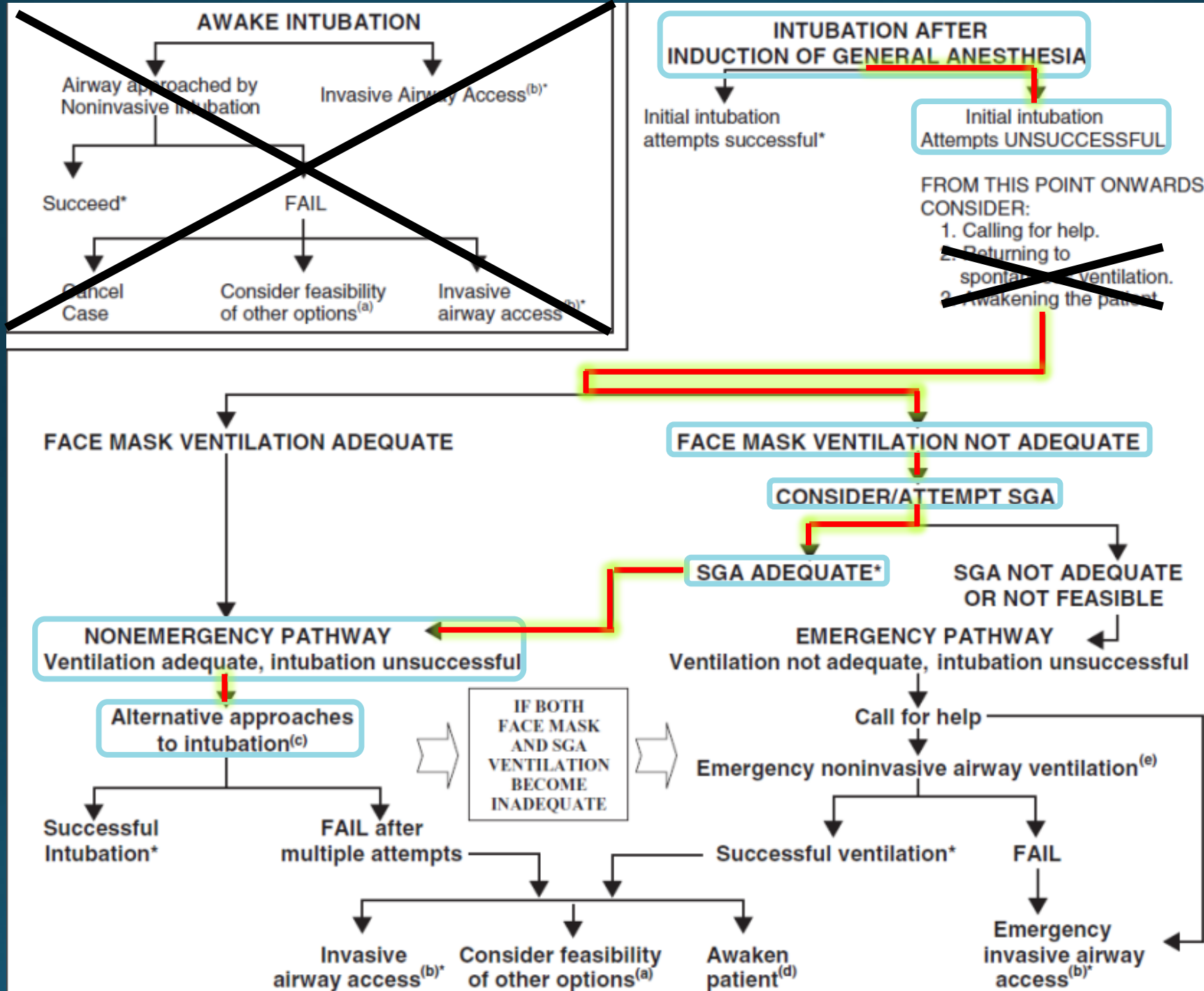
## Difficult airway algorithm?

- LMA in, ventilating adequately.
- Multiple specialties present at bedside
- Glidescope at bedside, but no fiberoptic scope.
- LMA removed. Separate provider direct laryngoscopy, remains grade 3 view.
- Desaturation, loss of pulses, CPR started.
- With glidescope, remains grade 3 view.
- Bicarbonate 1 amp, epinephrine 1mg given per code team.
- Trauma surgeons in position for emergency cricothyroidotomy, which was aborted after blind and successful insertion of ETT.

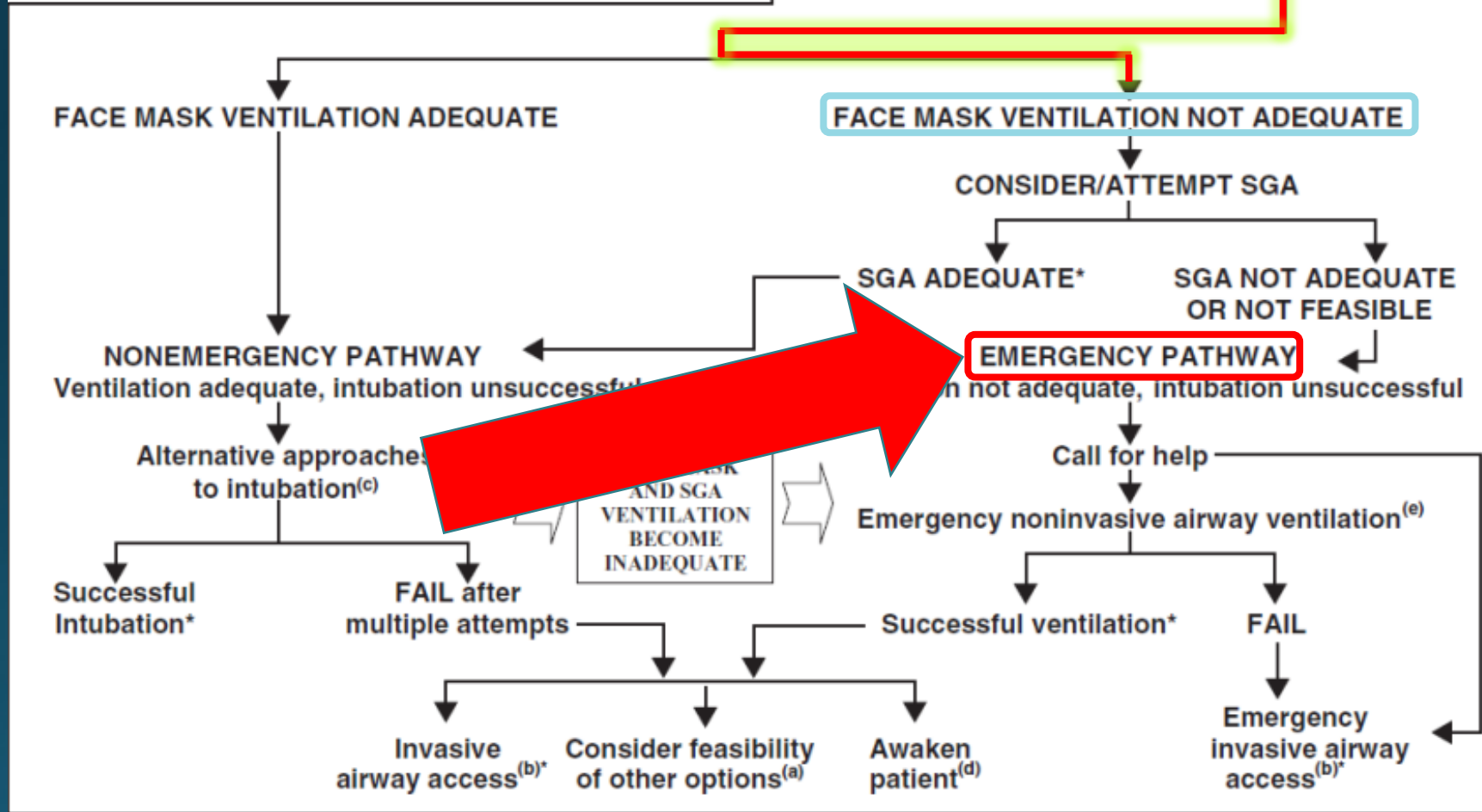
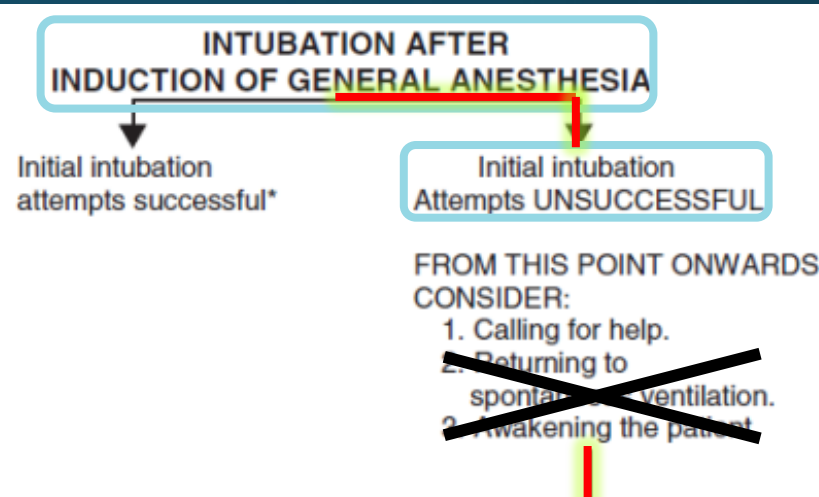
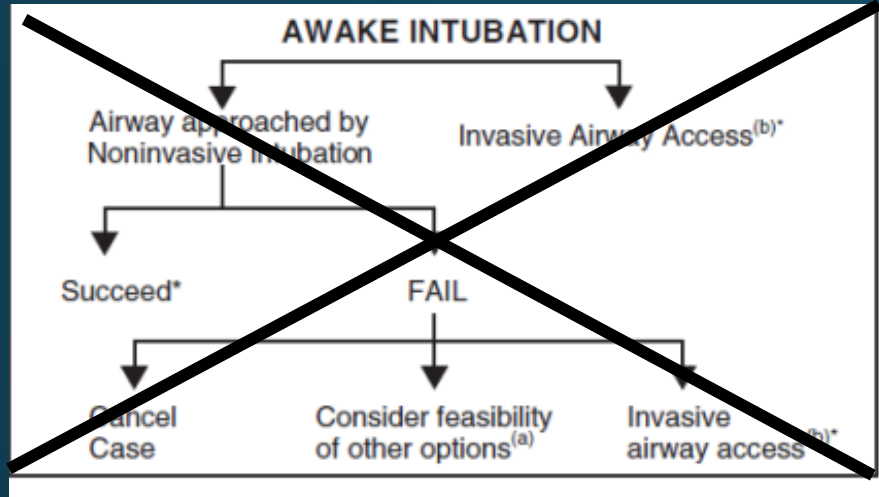


# Reintubation vitals

Time: ◀	1000	1025	1026	1045	1050	1053	1100	1104	1106	1107	1108	1109	1120
▼ Vitals													
Temp	37.4			37.4			37.5						
Temp Source													
Heart Rate	76	79		78	97	86	89	32	124	22	130	143	114
Rhythm								PEA	PEA	PEA	ST		
Resp Rate	9	18		21	17	12	15	20	14				20
BP (Cuff)	110/59			135/82		80/52	128/61	120/90		178/139	177/121	182/124	
MAP (Cuff)	71			92			73						
Observations											ROSC		
▼ Pain													
Pain Score	CPOT						CPOT						
▼ CPOT													
Facial Expression	0						0						
Body Movement	0						0						
Compliance with Ventilator	0						0						
Vocalization (Non-ventilated)	0						0						
Muscle Tension	0						0						
CPOT Total Behaviors Present	0						0						
▼ Pain/Sedation Drip													
Fentanyl													
▼ Oxygenation													
SpO2	100	100	100	99	100	83	81	7			99	95	100
O2 Device		ETT	NC		NC								ETT
O2 Flow Rate (L/min)			4		4								
FiO2 (%)	30	30						100		100			100

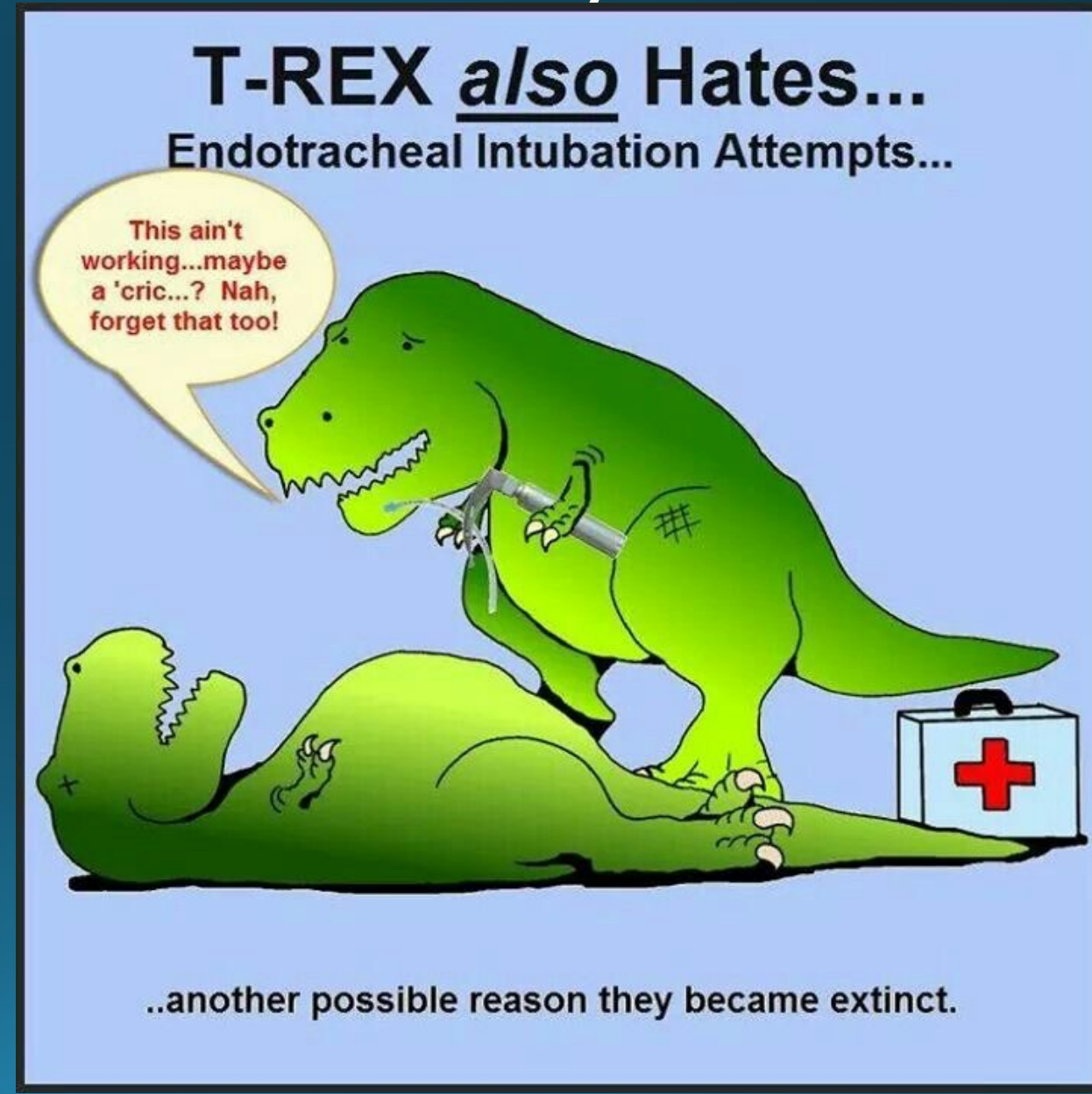






# Sometimes, it's better to be lucky than good...

- Patient had return of circulation after successful ventilation.
- Subsequent hospital course:
  - Open trach with ENT
  - IR-guided PEG tube
  - Transferred to LTAC on HD23
- Remained with depressed mental status (never followed commands, never tracked)



# Preparing for success

- Optimize your environment – “recreate the operating room environment”
- Make space for yourself
- Use a checklist!
  - M: machine (ventilator, appropriate IV pumps)
  - O: oxygen source for mapleson and ventilator
  - M: monitors (monitors on patient, with pulse ox sound on)
  - S: suction (make sure working, and may need a backup if high risk)
  - A: airway (know where all your airway supplies are)
  - I: IV / access
  - D: drugs (ensure that you have induction and post-induction drugs)
- **Prepare:** Preoxygenate and Position the Patient



# Positioning the obese patient



# Assume that nobody else knows anything

- In the out of OR environment, nobody is familiar with the things that YOU want or NEED in the case that something goes wrong
- Get organized and point out where things are to helpers
  - Suction (and backup suction)
  - Bag mask and adjuncts (oral or nasal airways)
  - Laryngoscopes and ETTs and stylets
  - Supraglottic airways of various sizes
  - Video laryngoscopes or bronchoscopes
  - Scalpel / surgical airway kits





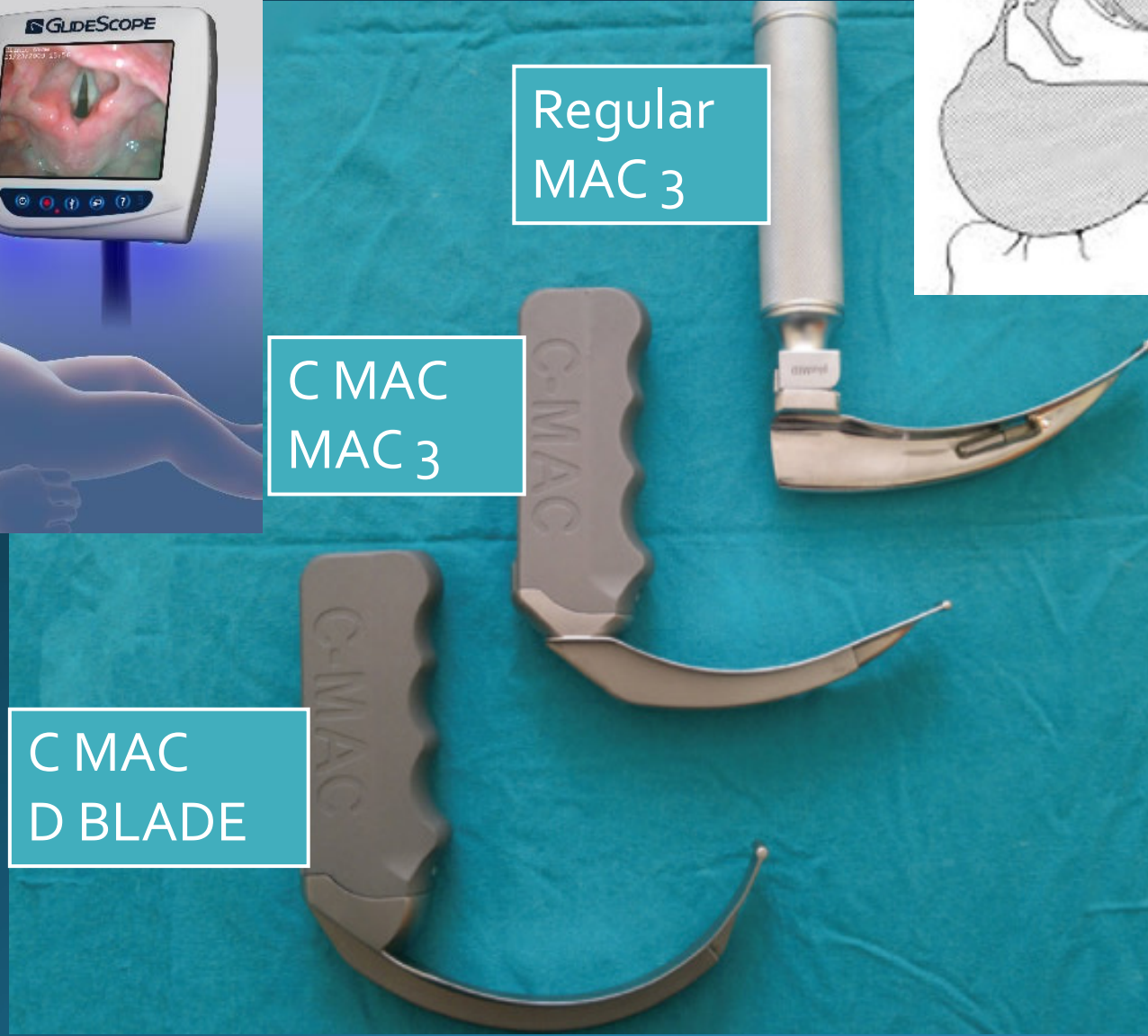
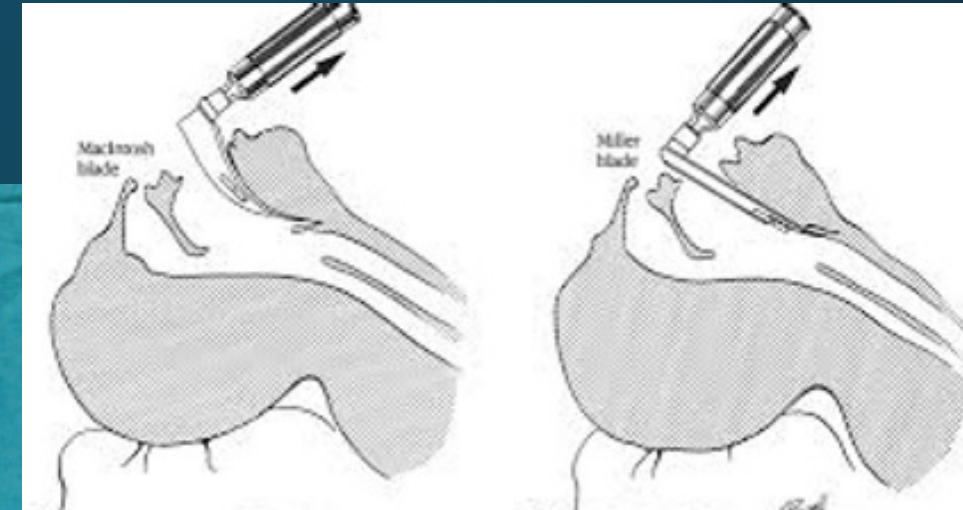
# Blade choice?



Regular  
MAC<sub>3</sub>

C MAC  
MAC<sub>3</sub>










C MAC  
D BLADE







# Impact of Macintosh blade size on endotracheal intubation success in intensive care units: a retrospective multicenter observational MacSize-ICU study

Thomas Godet<sup>1,2,6\*</sup> , Audrey De Jong<sup>2</sup> , Côme Garin<sup>1</sup>, Renaud Guérin<sup>1</sup>, Benjamin Rieu<sup>1</sup>, Lucile Borao<sup>1</sup>, Bruno Pereira<sup>3</sup> , Nicolas Molinari<sup>4</sup> , Jean-Etienne Bazin<sup>1</sup> , Matthieu Jabaudon<sup>1,5</sup> , Gérald Chanques<sup>2</sup> , Emmanuel Futier<sup>1,5</sup>  and Samir Jaber<sup>2</sup> 

**Results:** A total of 2139 intubations were collected, 629 with a Macintosh blade No3 and 1510 with a No4. Incidence of first-pass intubation after first DL was significantly higher with Macintosh blade No3 (79.5 vs 73.3%,  $p = 0.0025$ ), despite equivalent Cormack–Lehane scores ( $p = 0.48$ ). Complications rates were equivalent between groups. Multi-variate analysis concluded to a significant impact of Macintosh blade size on first DL success in favor of blade No3 (OR 1.44 [95% CI 1.14–1.84];  $p = 0.0025$ ) without any significant center effect on the primary outcome ( $p = 0.18$ ). Propensity scores and adjustment analyses concluded to equivalent results.

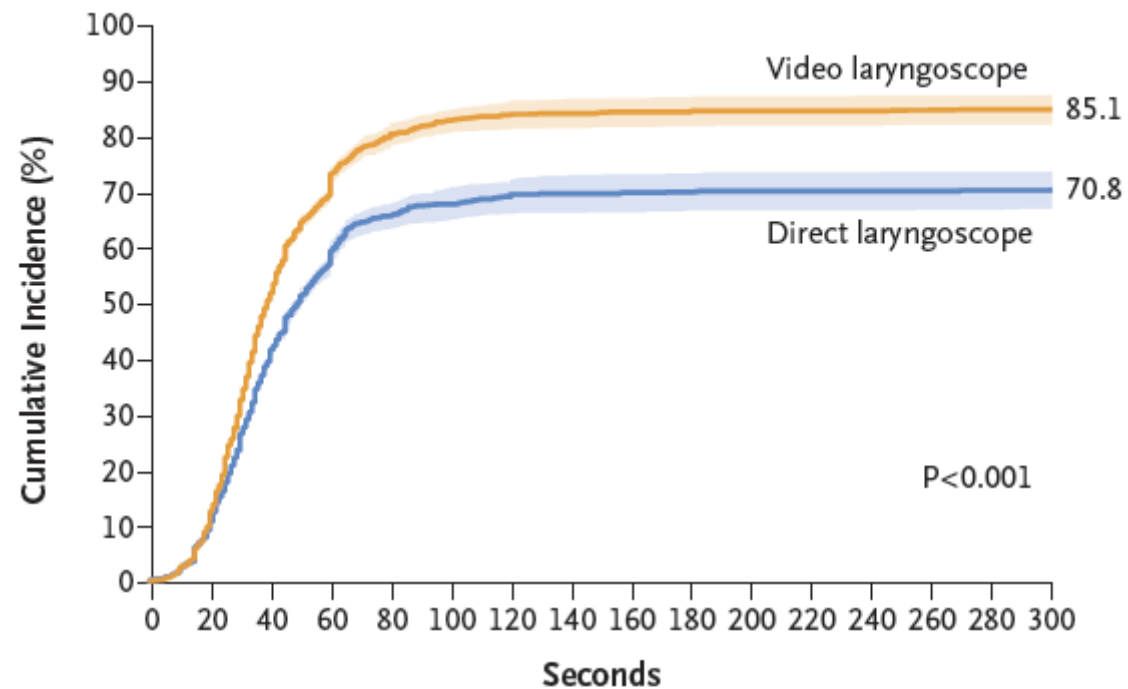
**Conclusion:** In the present study, Macintosh blade No3 was associated with improved first-passed DL in French ICUs. However, study design requires the conduct of a nationwide prospective multicenter randomized trial in different settings to confirm these results.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Video versus Direct Laryngoscopy for Tracheal Intubation of Critically Ill Adults

M.E. Prekker, B.E. Driver, S.A. Trent, D. Resnick-Ault, K.P. Seitz, D.W. Russell, J.P. Gaillard, A.J. Latimer, S.A. Ghamande, K.W. Gibbs, D.J. Vonderhaar, M.R. Whitson, C.R. Barnes, J.P. Walco, I.S. Douglas, V. Krishnamoorthy, A. Dagan, J.J. Bastman, B.D. Lloyd, S. Gandotra, J.K. Goranson, S.H. Mitchell, H.D. White, J.A. Palakshappa, A. Espinera, D.B. Page, A. Joffe, S.J. Hansen, C.G. Hughes, T. George, J.T. Herbert, N.I. Shapiro, S.G. Schauer, B.J. Long, B. Imhoff, L. Wang, J.P. Rhoads, K.N. Womack, D.R. Janz, W.H. Self, T.W. Rice, A.A. Ginde, J.D. Casey, and M.W. Semler, for the DEVICE Investigators and the Pragmatic Critical Care Research Group\*





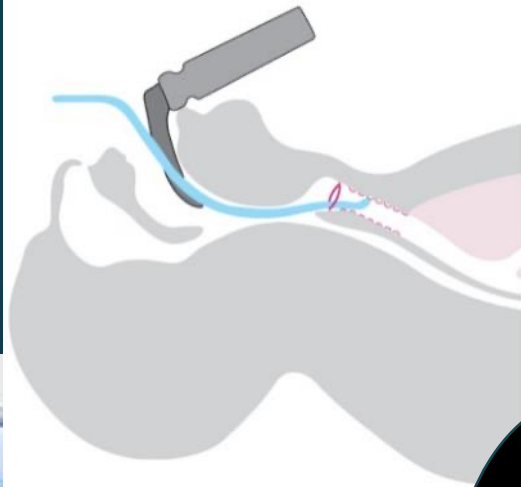
**Figure 1. Cumulative Incidence of Successful Intubation on the First Attempt.**

Shown are the cumulative incidence and 95% confidence intervals (shaded areas) for successful intubation on the first attempt among patients in each trial group relative to the time since the initial insertion of a laryngoscope blade into the mouth. Successful intubation on the first attempt occurred in 600 of 705 patients in the video-laryngoscope group and in 504 of 712 patients in the direct-laryngoscope group (absolute risk difference, 14.3 percentage points; 95% CI, 9.9 to 18.7;  $P<0.001$  by the chi-square test).

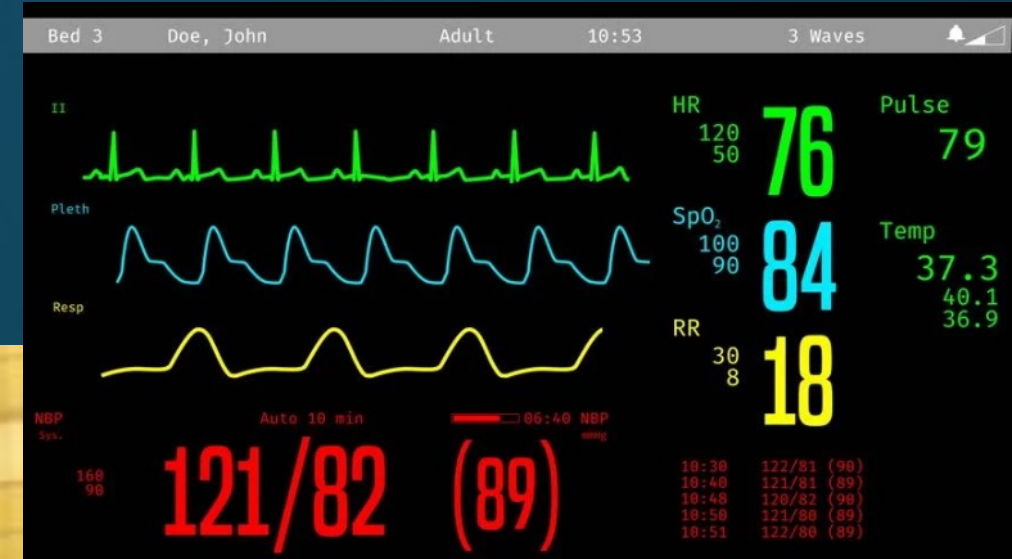
Operator*		
Clinical specialty — no. (%)		
Emergency medicine	496 (70.4)	497 (69.8)
Critical care medicine	177 (25.1)	182 (25.6)
Anesthesiology	18 (2.6)	25 (3.5)
Other†	14 (2.0)	8 (1.1)
Level of training — no. (%)		
Resident physician	513 (72.8)	502 (70.5)
Fellow physician	164 (23.3)	173 (24.3)
Attending physician	9 (1.3)	18 (2.5)
Other clinician‡	19 (2.7)	19 (2.7)
Median no. of previous intubations performed (IQR)	50 (25–90)	50 (26–99)
Proportion of previous intubations performed with a video laryngoscope — no./total no. (%)§		
<0.25	44/704 (6.2)	34/711 (4.8)
0.25 to 0.75	398/704 (56.5)	429/711 (60.3)
>0.75	262/704 (37.2)	248/711 (34.9)

# Airway Time Out

- Before you proceed with any airway, have a plan A, B, C, and D
- For example...
- “Hi before we proceed, I’d like to perform an airway timeout”
- Plan A: Direct laryngoscopy with a mac 3 blade
  - Identify where a mac4 blade is to the room
- Plan B: Bag mask ventilation
  - Identify the oral and nasal airways that you might need
- Plan C: Video laryngoscopy and / or bougie
  - Identify where these are located (or if someone needs to call for them)
- Plan D: LMA
  - Identify which size you intend to use
- Plan E: front of the neck airway



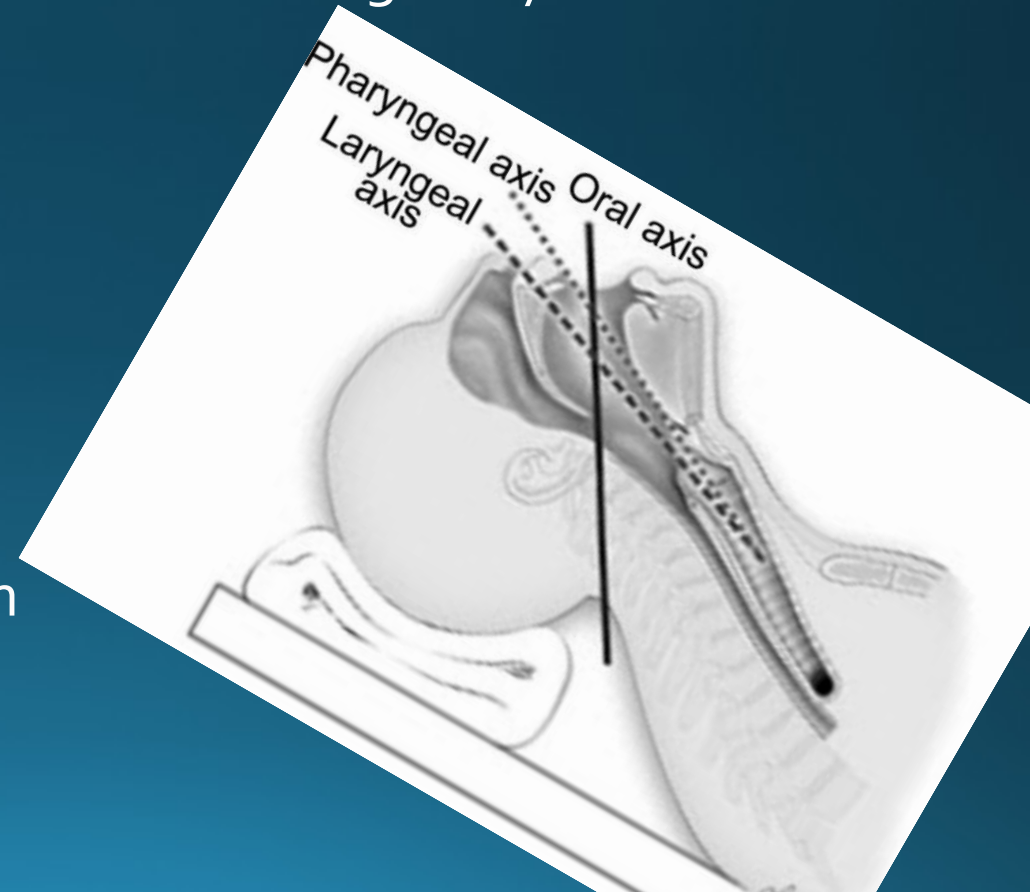
# My setup





# Advantages of Elevated Head of Bed

- Decreased aspiration risk
  - Pressure gradient from lower esophageal sphincter from gravity
- Increased oxygen reserve
  - Increased functional reserve capacity
  - More time until desaturation
- Oftentimes easier alignment of laryngotracheal axes
  - May be easier to extend the neck
  - Less gravity-related pharyngeal obstruction
  - Downside: can hurt your back



# S/p cardiothoracic surgery...





### Part 3: Airway Management with Induction of Anesthesia

Deliver oxygen / optimize oxygenation<sup>i</sup>

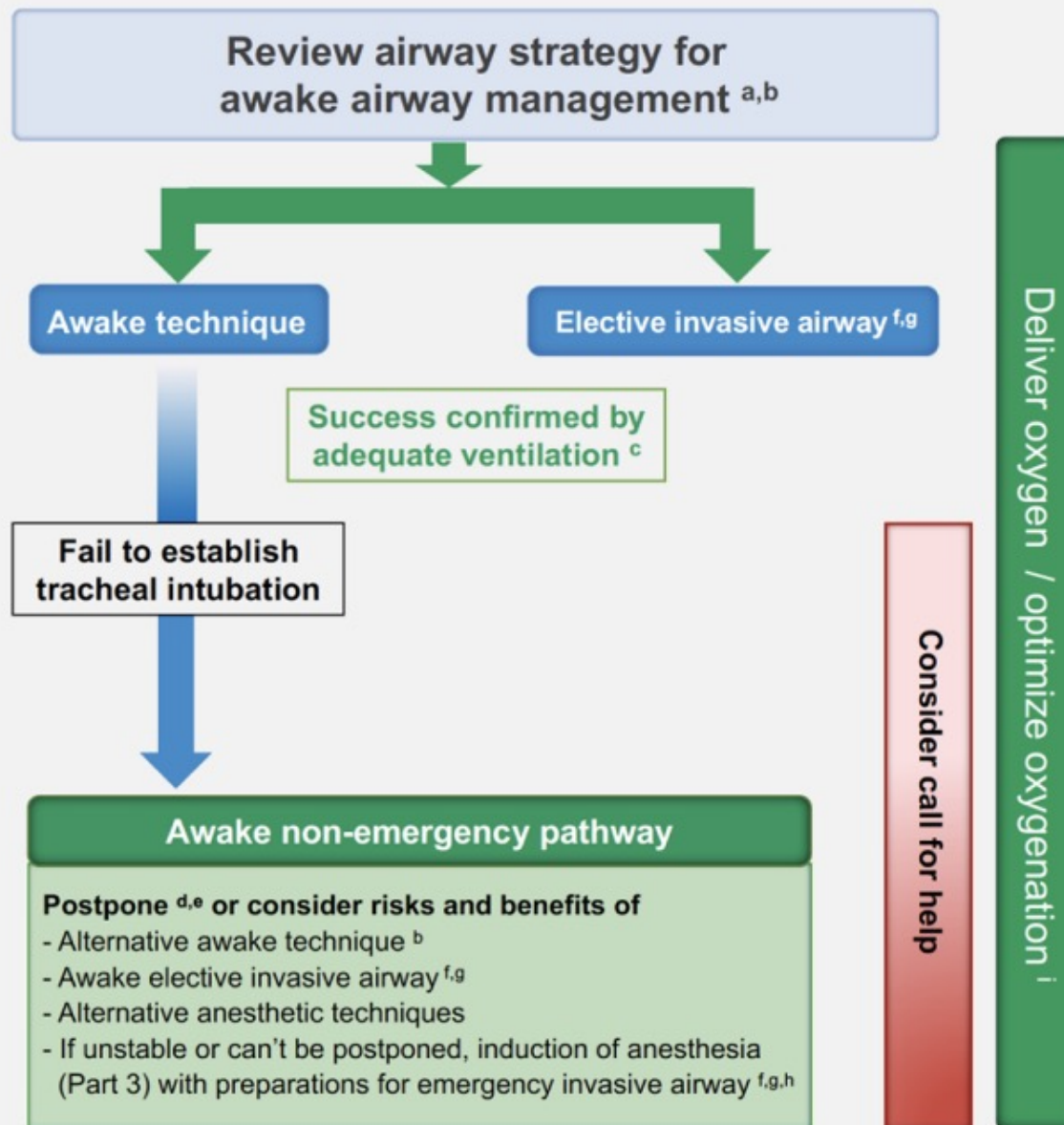


<sup>†</sup> Limit attempts<sup>j</sup>, alternate & optimize<sup>k</sup> techniques, avoid task fixation

\* Alternative device examples: supraglottic airway, direct laryngoscope, videolaryngoscope, flexible intubation scope

**Emergency invasive airway<sup>f,g,d</sup>**  
**Rigid bronchoscopy, ECMO**

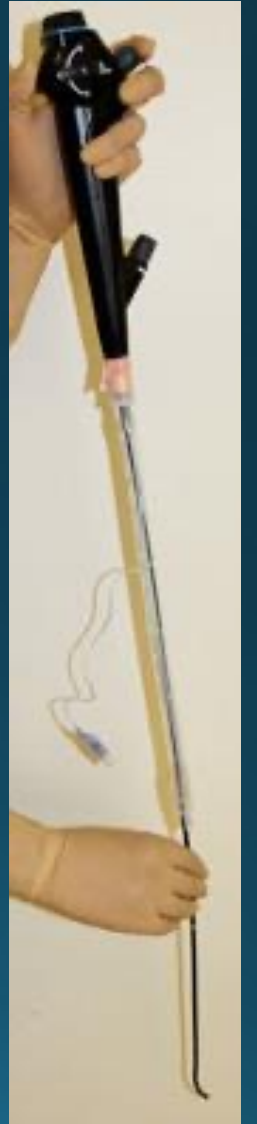
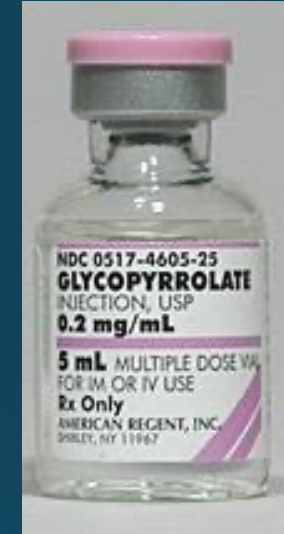
## Part 2: Awake Airway Management





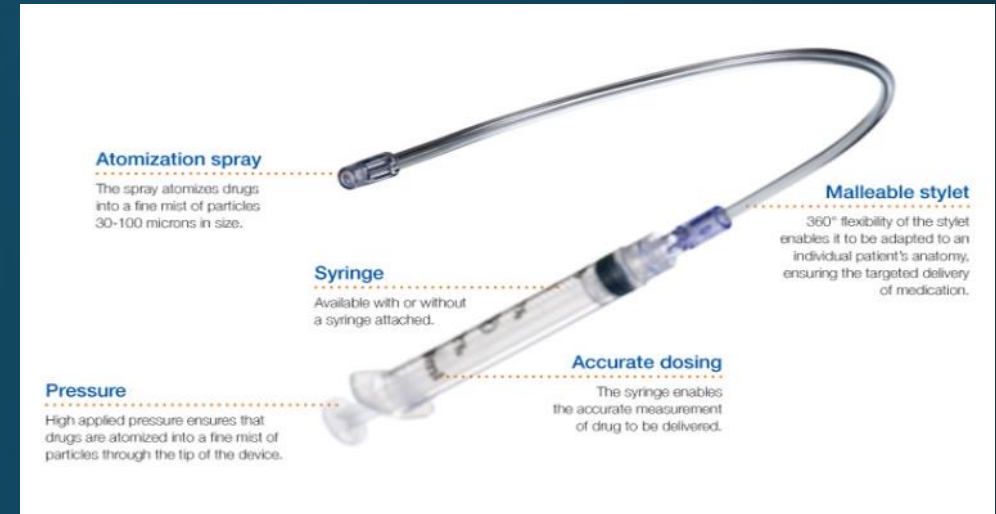
# Awake fiberoptic intubation

1. Psychological buy in
2. Glycopyrrolate
3. Lidocaine topicalization
4. +/- minimal sedation
5. Fiberoptic through vocal cords
6. Endotracheal tube into trachea



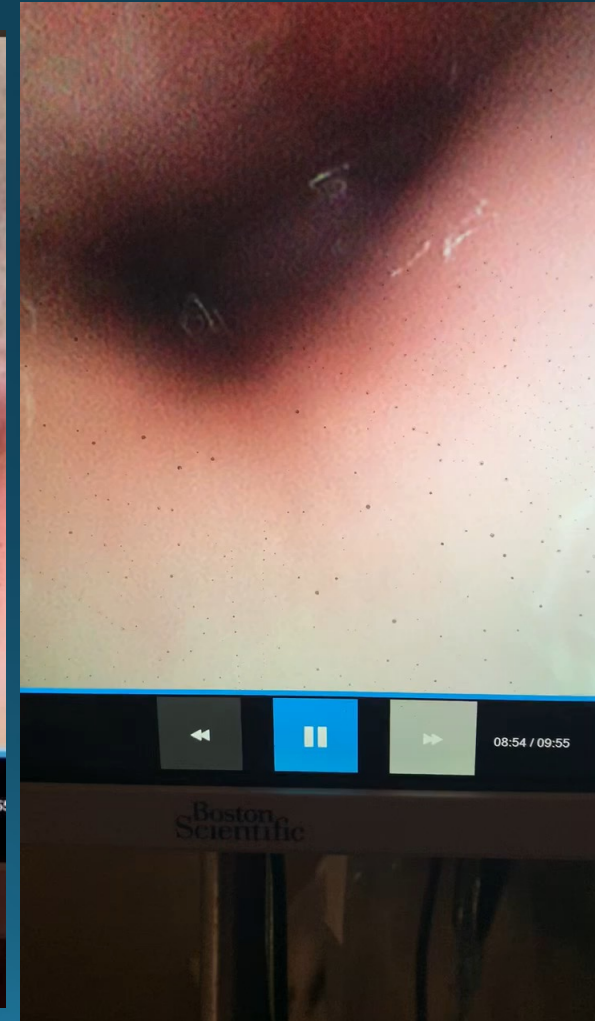
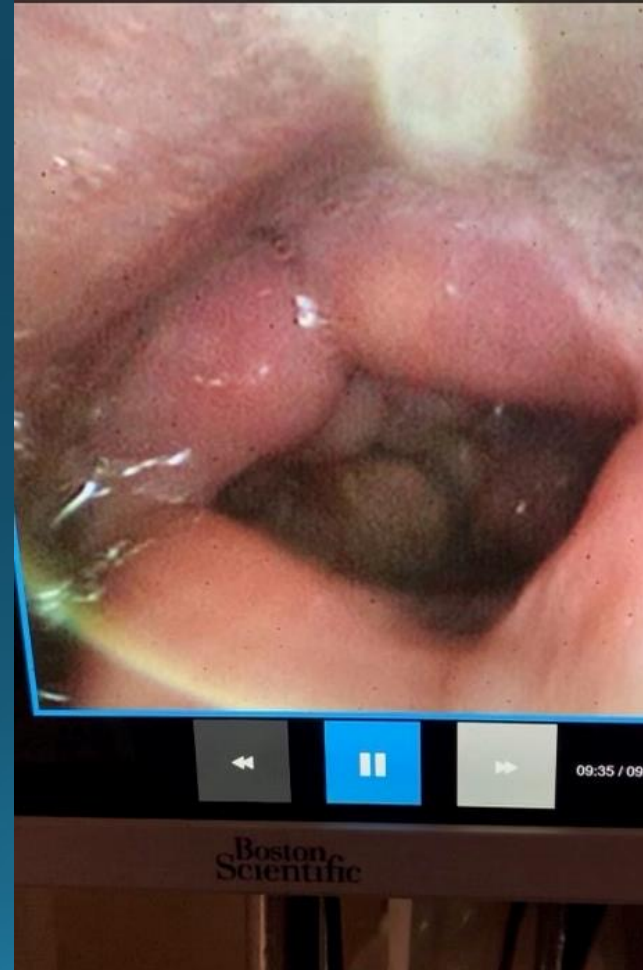
# Topicalization

- Lidocaine atomizer (LTA or Madgic)
- Lidocaine ointment lollipops
- Nebulized lidocaine inhaler
- Direct nerve blocks
- Lidocaine sprayed through bronchoscope



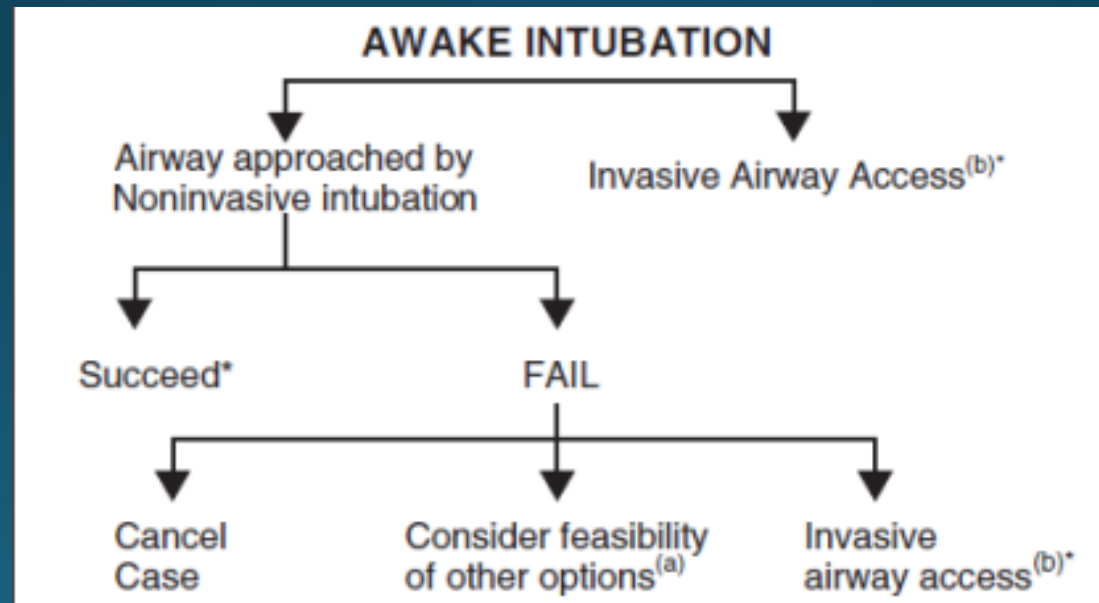
# Bonus case

- 27-year-old male with Down syndrome with productive cough, stridor, and hoarse voice for five months
- Associated night sweats and fever
- Imaging significant for right cavitory lung lesion and epiglottitis...



# Management?

- Awake tracheostomy in the operating room
- Only topicalization and coaching throughout procedure
- Diagnosis of likely laryngeal tuberculosis

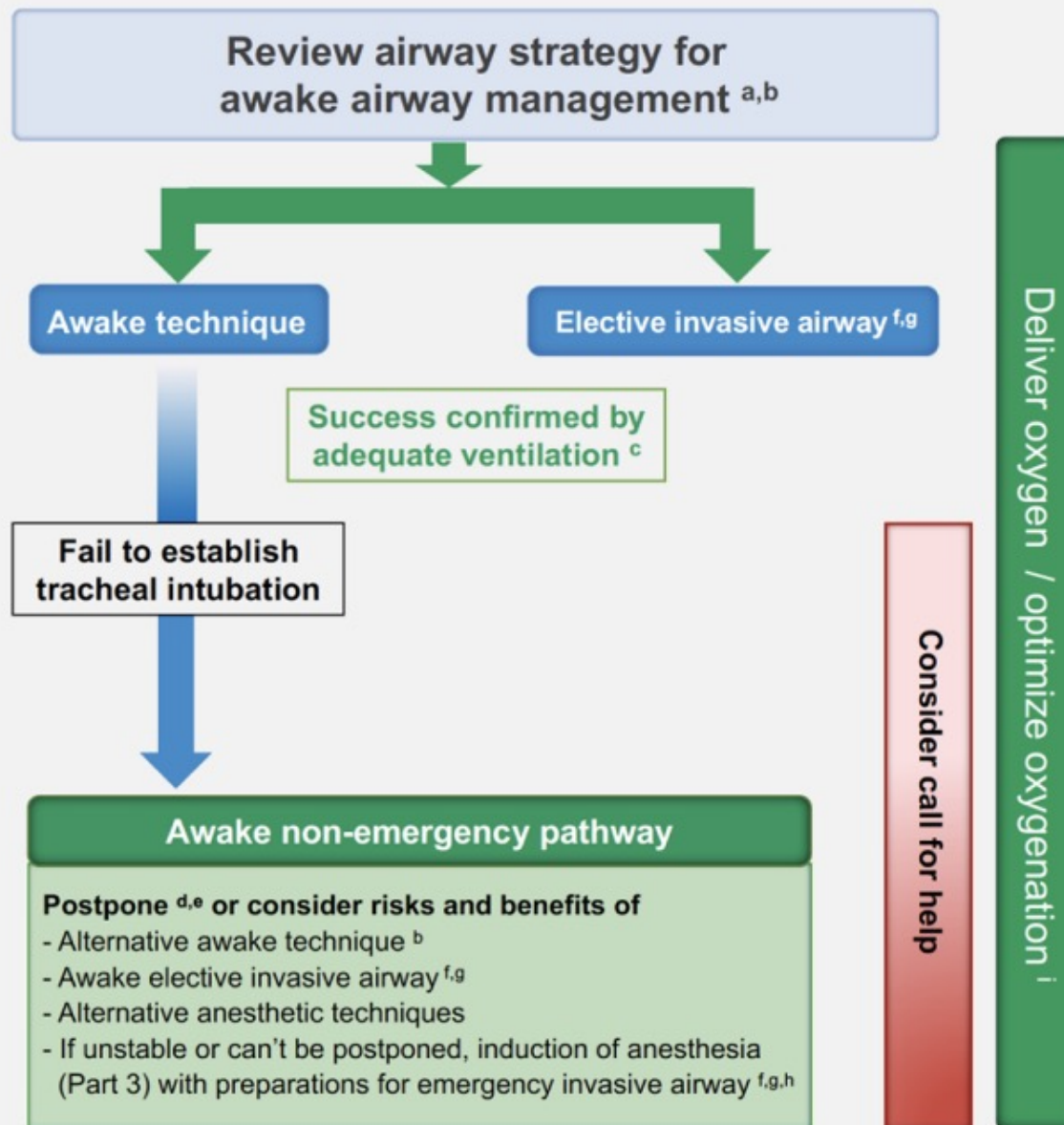




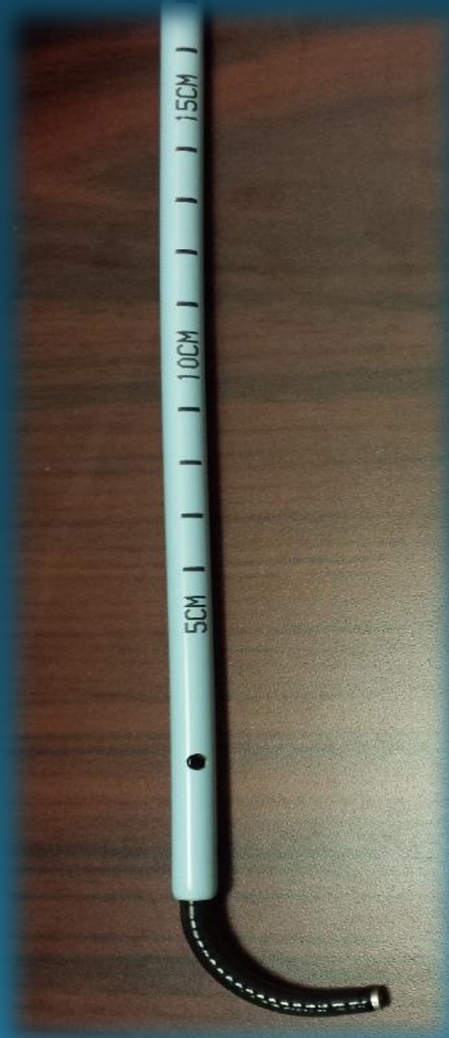
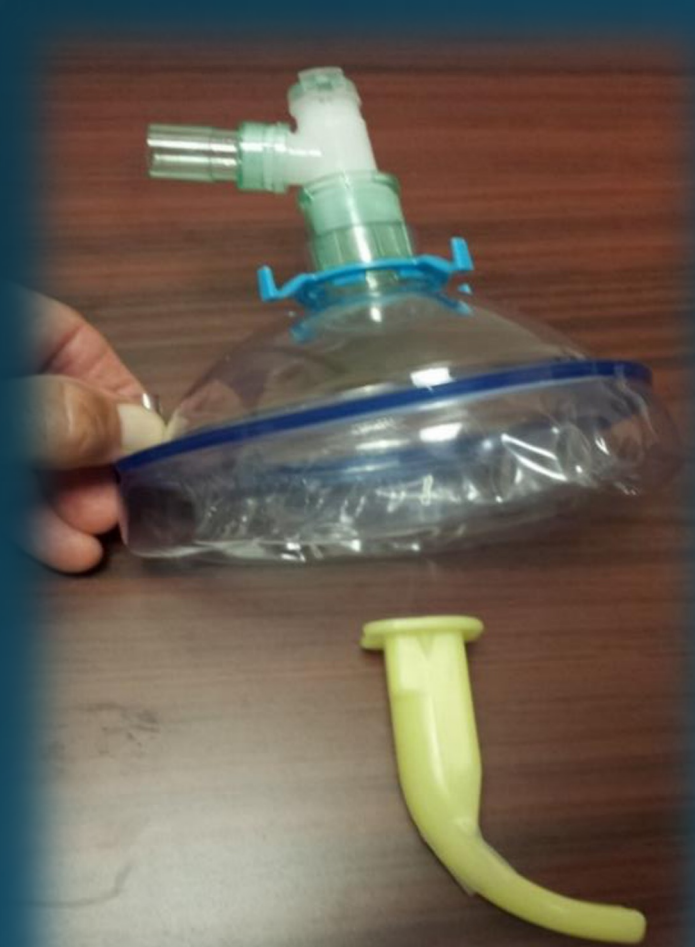
# Recap

- Ask the consulting physician directly what the problem is and what time frame is necessary.
- Optimize the location of intubation: if things are truly bad then you go to the operating room or ICU; otherwise recreate the operating room environment for yourself.
- Take adequate time to prepare for disaster / backup plans.
- Educate ancillary staff so they can be prepared to help you.
- Anticipate post-airway concerns and address them ahead of time for the primary team.
- Communicate with the primary team after successful intubation.

## Part 2: Awake Airway Management



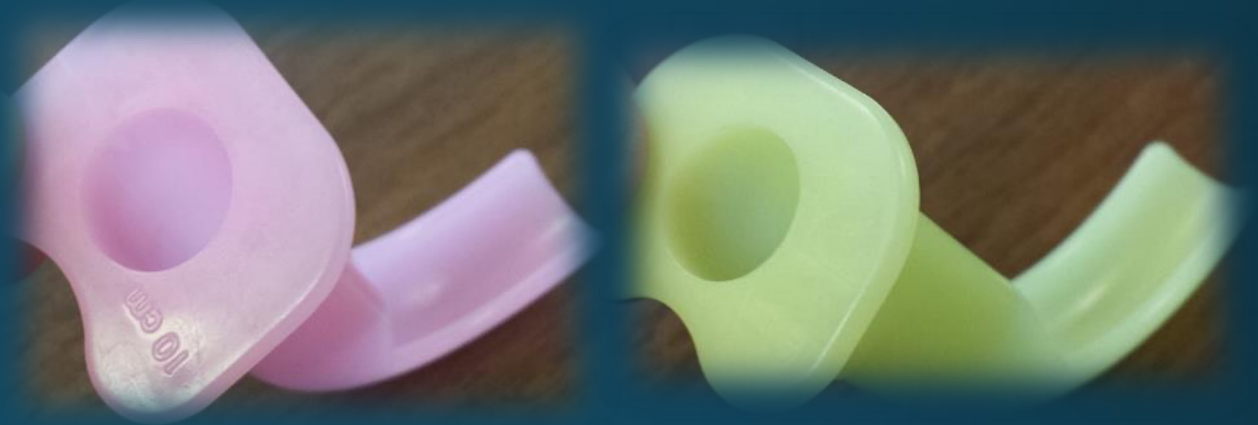
Can maintain high degree of oxygenation while  
securing airway





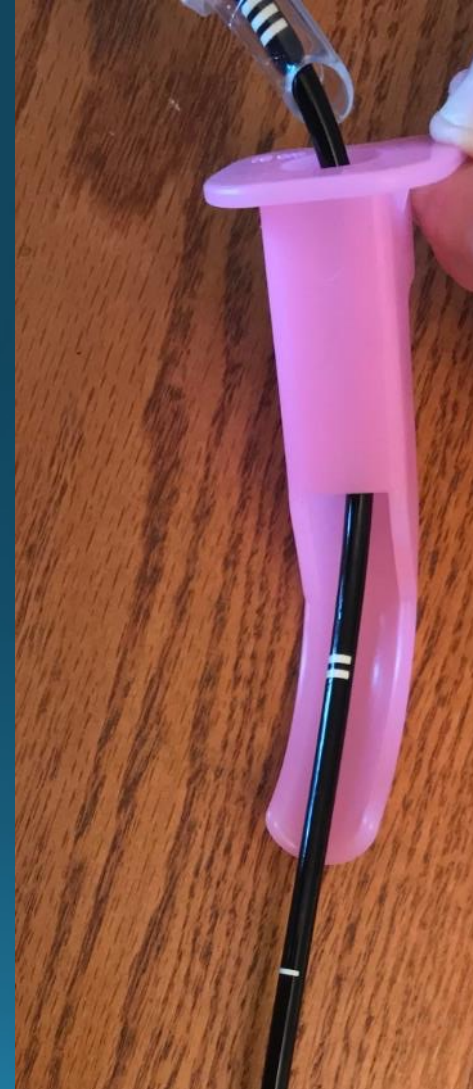
# Some reference numbers

- Pink airway: 10cm long, admits 8.0 ett
- Yellow airway: 9cm long, admits 7.0 ett
- Aintree: 4.9mm ID, 6.0mm OD, 56cm length
- Pediatric scope: 3.0 mm
- Intermediate scope: 4.0mm
- Large scope: 5.0 mm
- Circuit adaptor: 15 mm



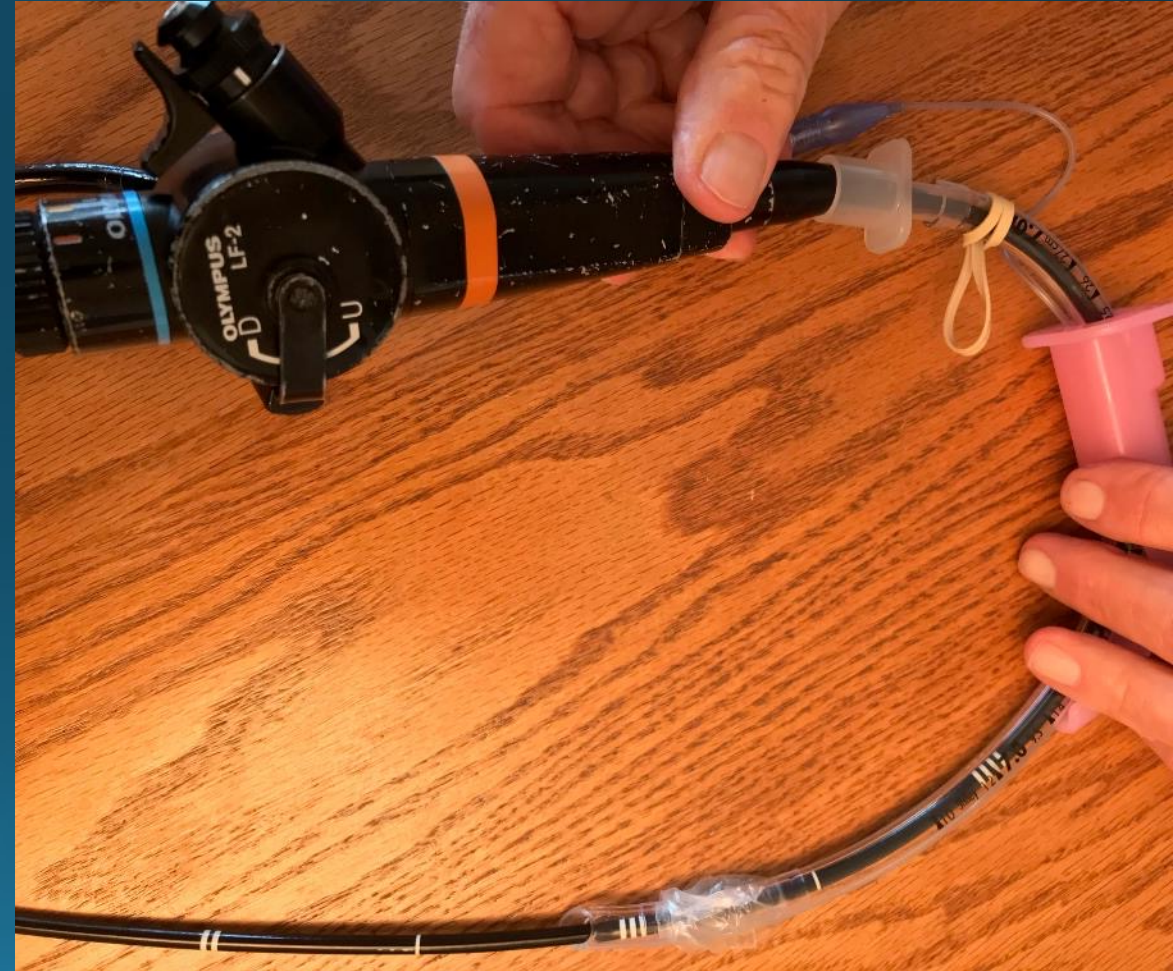


# FOB without an Aintree (+rubber band)



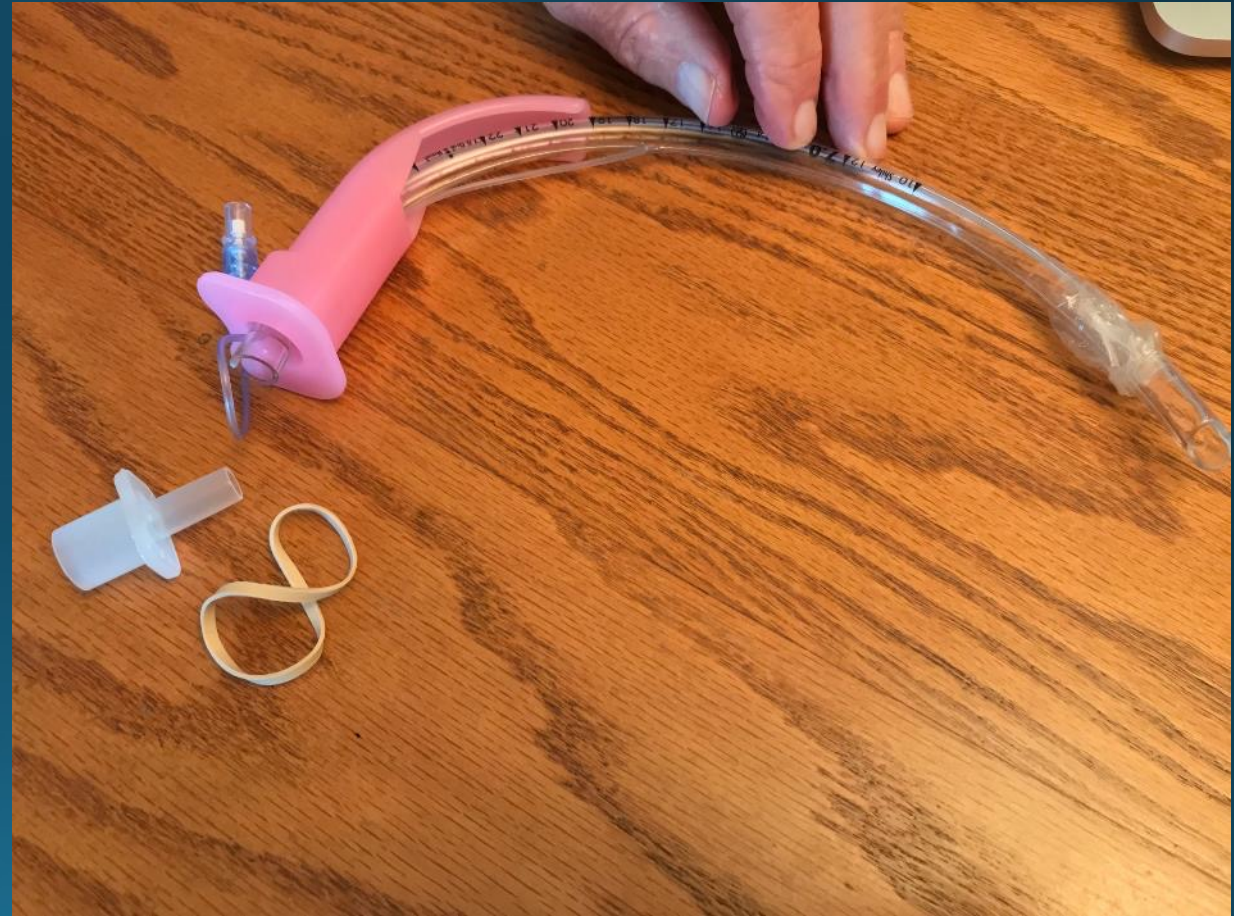
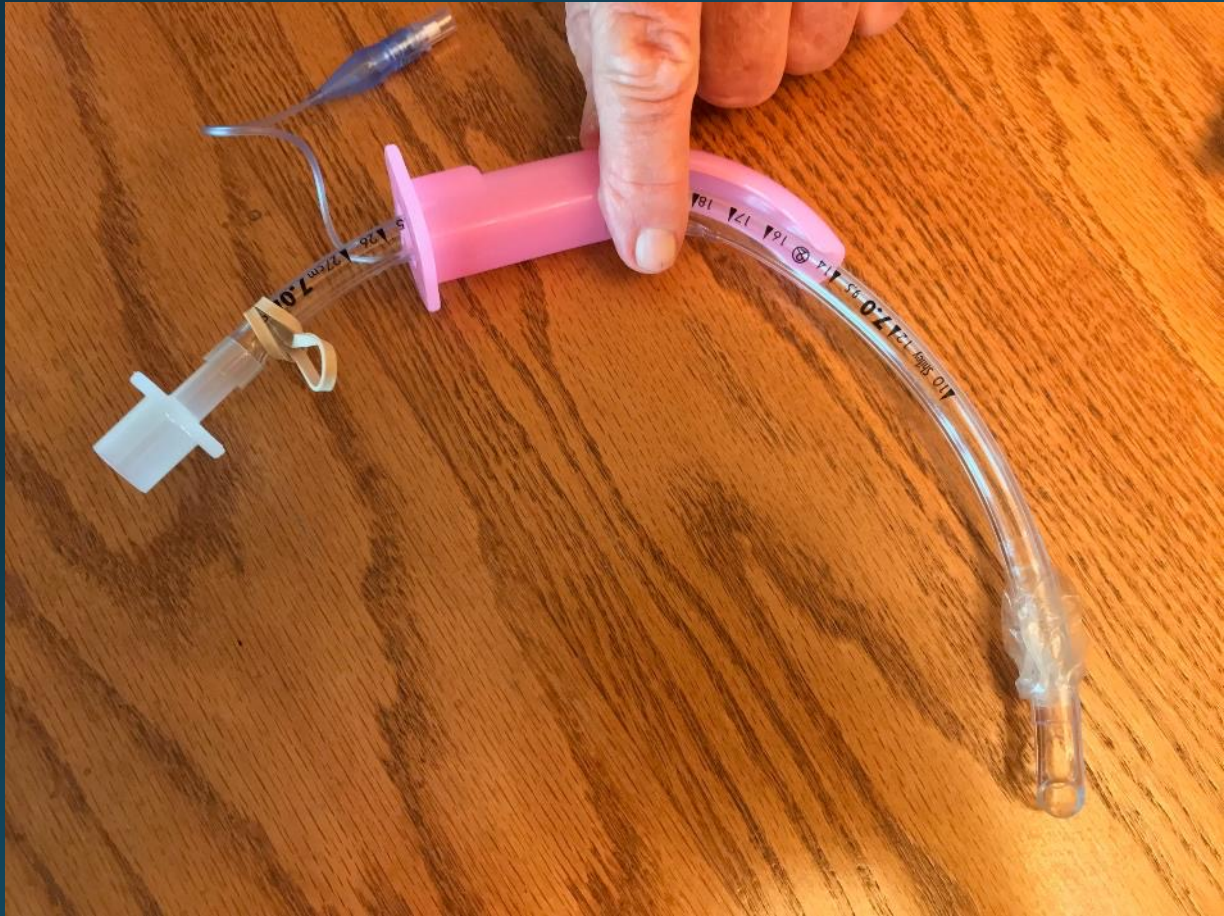


# FOB without an Aintree (+rubber band)

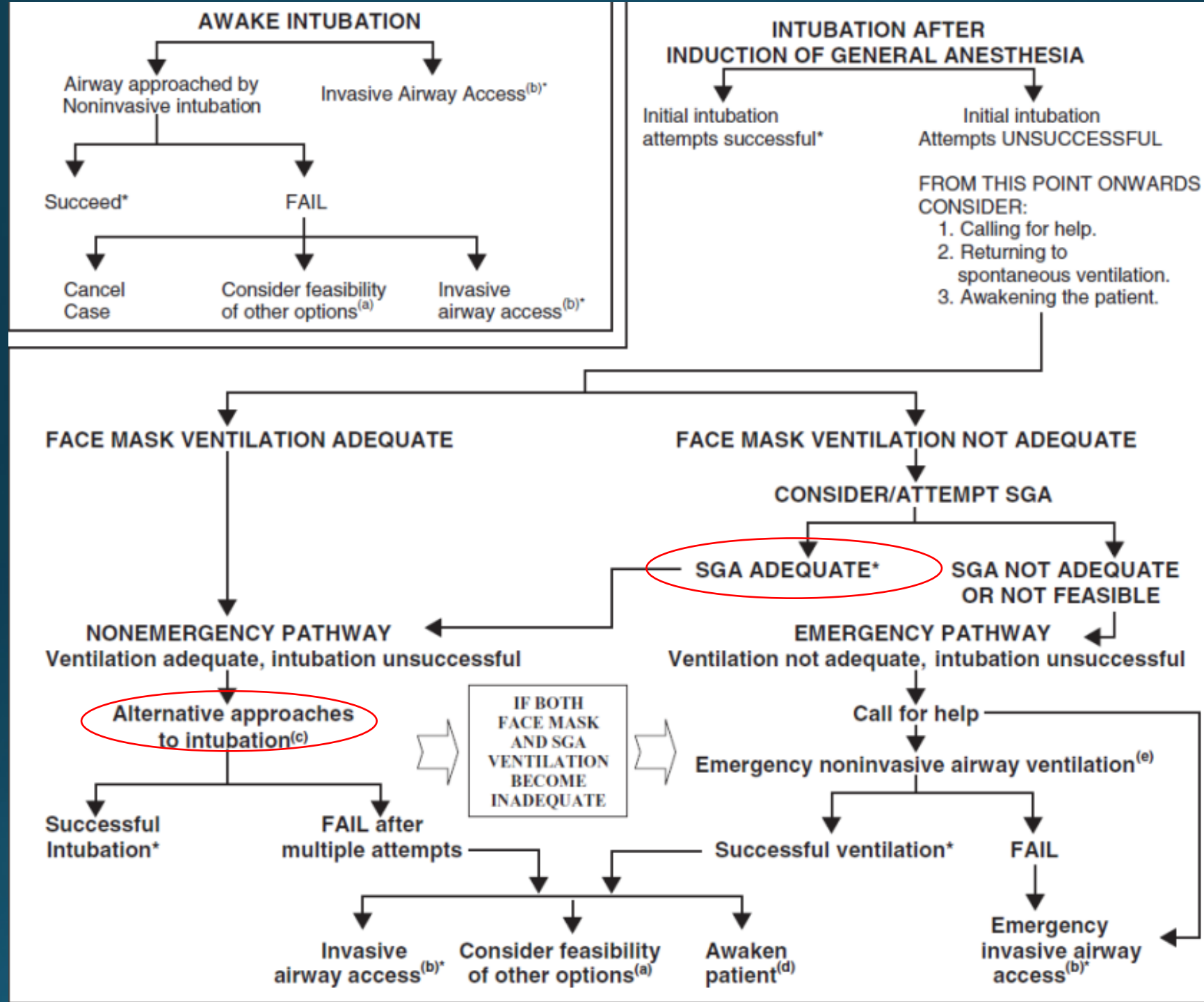




# FOB without an Aintree (+rubber band)

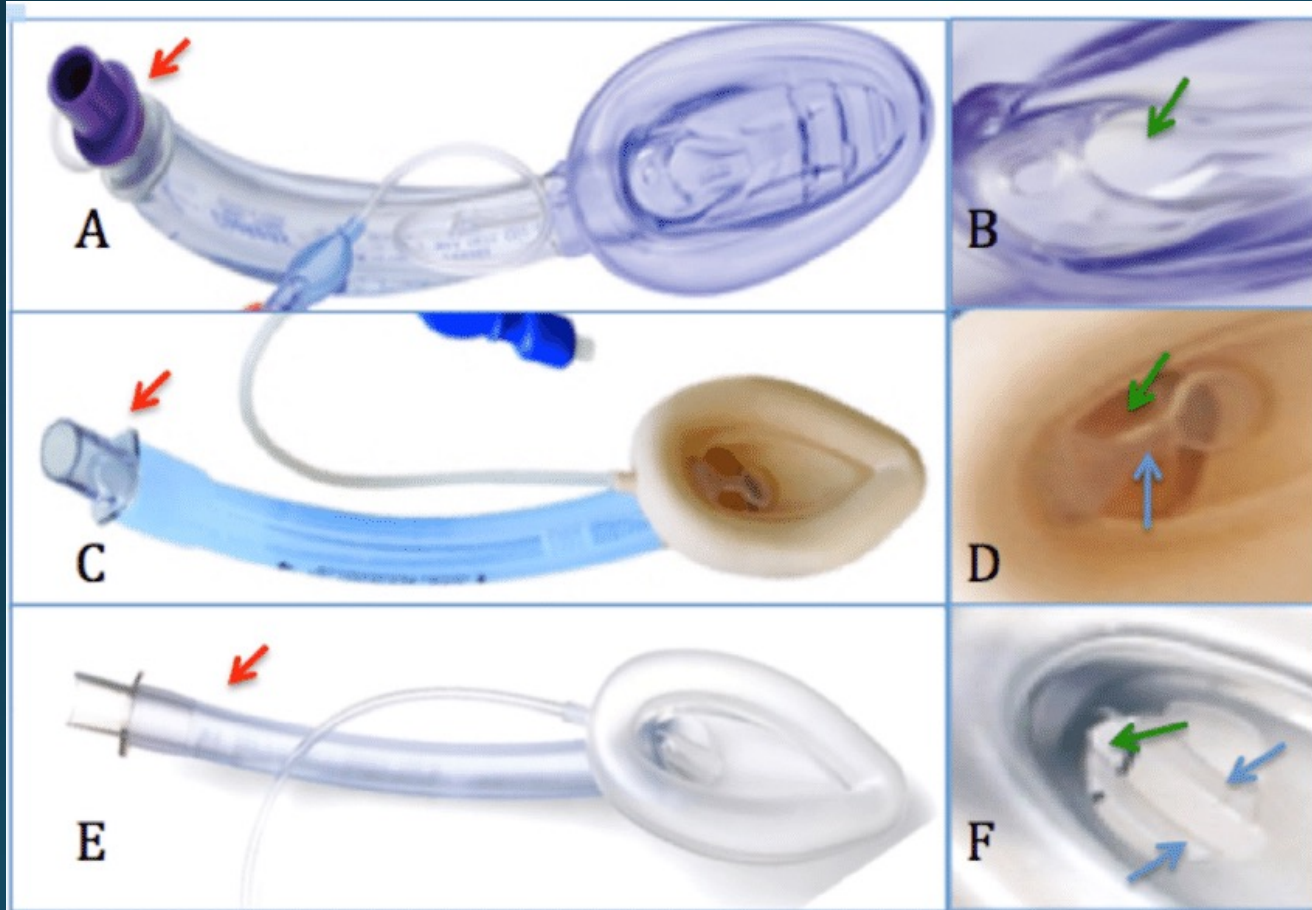






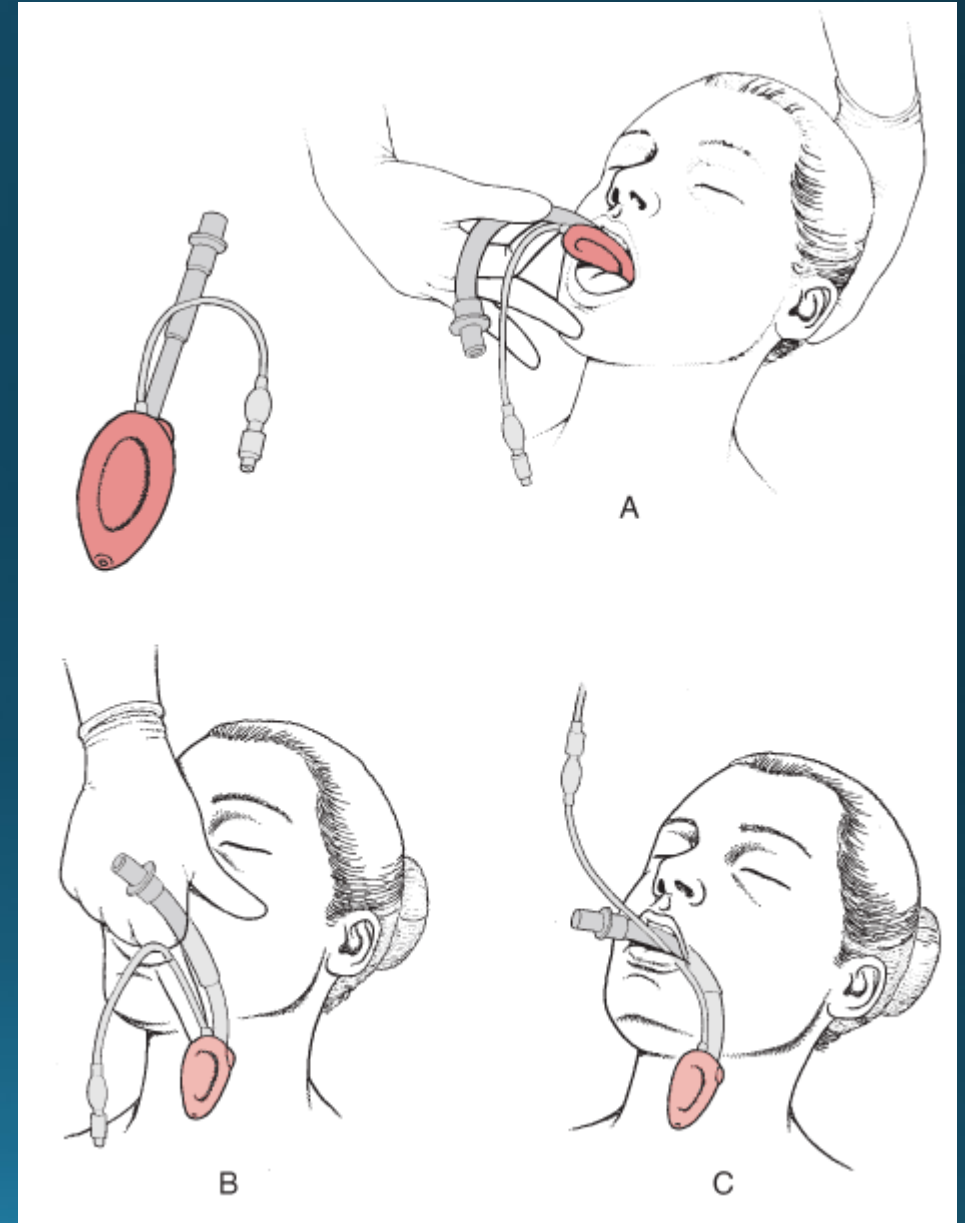


# Supraglottic airway (laryngeal mask airway aka lazy man's airway)



# How to insert an LMA

- Resist the urge to ram it blindly in
  - Tip can curl back or forward, leading to obstruction
  - Unnecessary trauma leading to more edema
- Size appropriately, deflate slightly, apply lubricant
- Scissor open with right hand
- Insert with left like laryngoscope
- Follow and guide the bowl with your right hand to ensure it does not bend
- Gently inflate cuff until no audible leak at 20 cm H<sub>2</sub>O



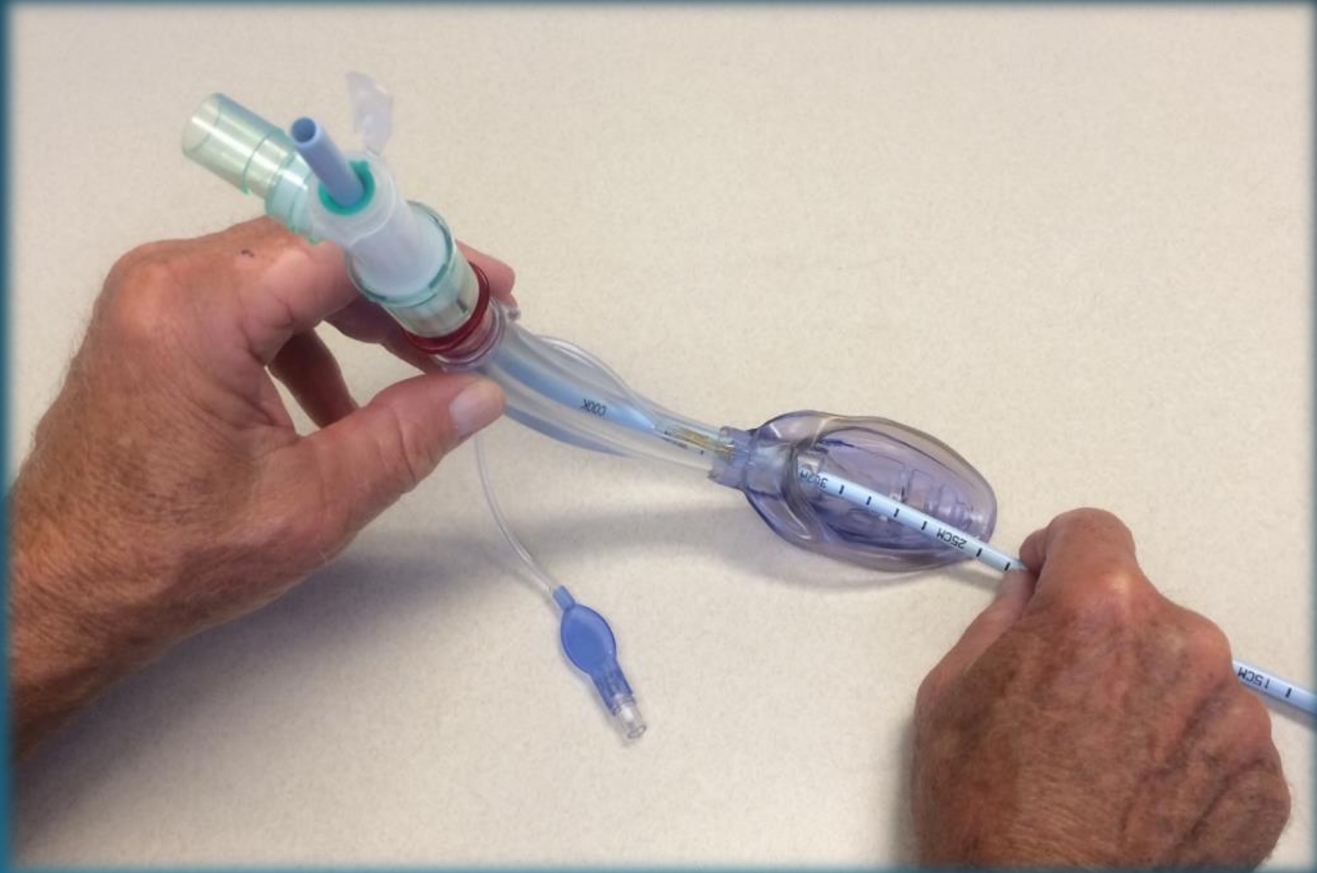
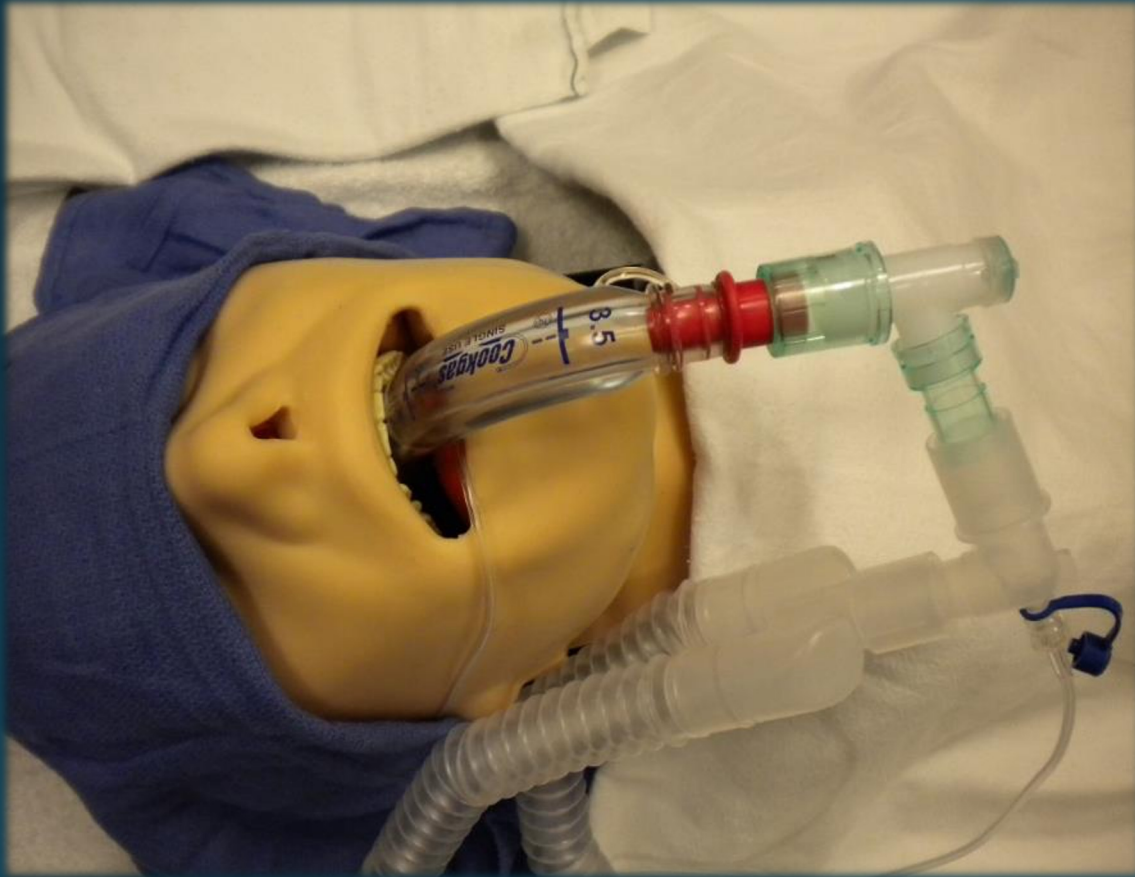
# Intubation through LMA

- Aintree vs. tube pusher (LMA Removal Stylet)
- Entirely possible to do either of these without giving up ventilation



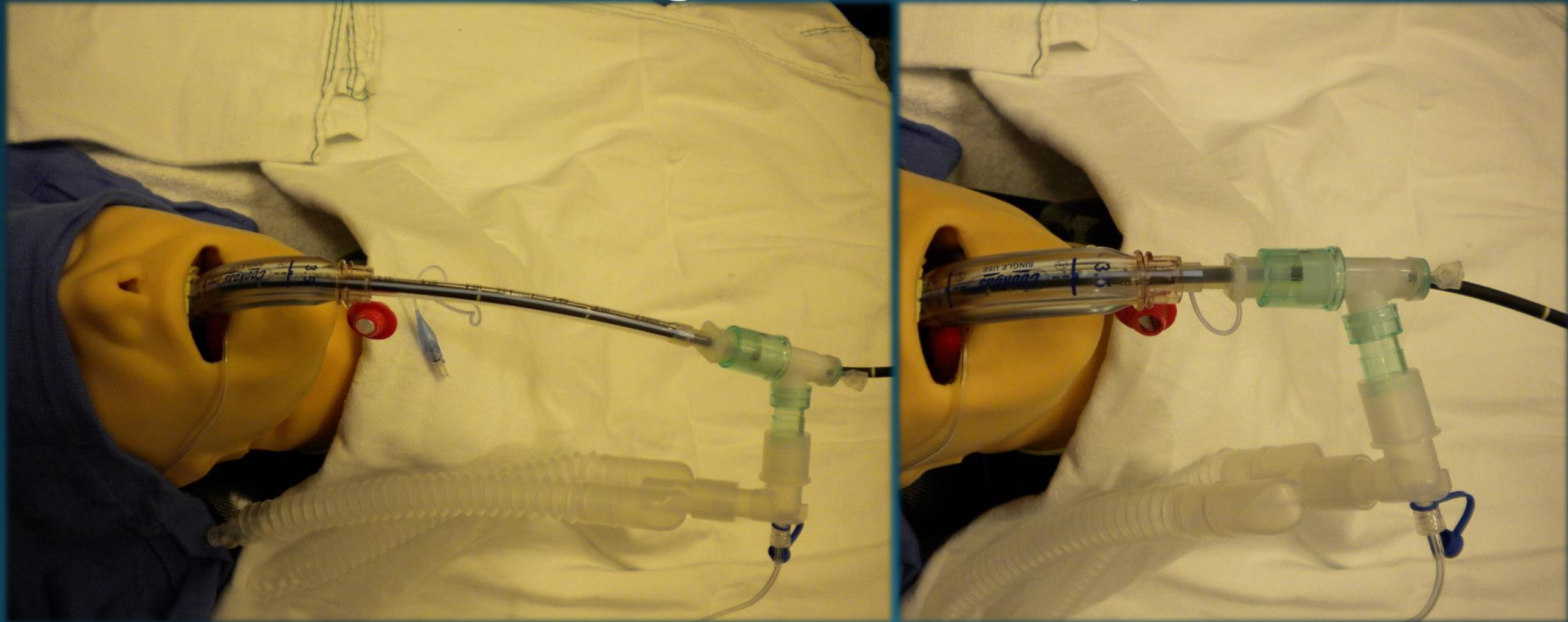


# Intubation through LMA: Aintree





# Intubation through LMA: tube pusher





# Intubation through LMA: tube pusher

