

Misplaced Endotracheal Tubes in an EMS System

- q 108 Intubated patients
- q 27/108 (25%) misplaced tubes
- q 18/27 esophageal intubation
 - 56% ED mortality
- q 9/27 in hypopharynx
 - 33% ED mortality



Katz SH, Falk JL. Ann Emerg Med 2001; 37:32-7

Rates of misplaced endotracheal tubes by EMS

The studies

q Jenkins	2/39	5.1%
q Bozeman	1/100	1%
q Stewart	3/779	0.4%
q Sayre	3/103	2.9%
q Pointer	5/383	1.3%

Adapted from:
Katz SH, Falk JL. Ann Emerg Med 2001; 37:32-7

Misplaced Endotracheal Tubes in an EMS System *POST implementation of capnography*

- q Follow up study
- q 153 Intubated patients
- q 0 Misplaced tubes with use of capnography



Sylvestri. Annals of Emergency Med. 2005

Pediatric intubation in the field

- 820 pediatric patients (94-97)
- Odd / even randomization to BVM or ETI
- Survival
 - BVM 30%
 - ETI 26%
- Good neuro outcome
 - BVM 23%
 - ETI 20%

Gausche, et.al. JAMA 283(6):783, 2000

San Diego RSI study

- 31 (57%) of 54 pts demonstrated desaturation during RSI
 - 26 (84%) occurred in pts with SPO₂ > 90% with BLS airway skills
 - Median duration of desaturation was 160 seconds
 - Median decrease in SPO₂ was 22%
 - 19% experienced marked bradycardia

Dunford. Ann Emerg Med 2003;42(6):729-30

San Diego RSI study

- RSI described as “easy” in 84% of 31 patients with desaturation
- Hypoxic episodes identified after the call

Dunford. Ann Emerg Med 2003;42(6):729-30

FOCUS ON TRAUMA

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUT-OF-HOSPITAL AIRWAY MANAGEMENT AND OUTCOME AMONG TRAUMA PATIENTS WITH GLASGOW COMA SCALE SCORES OF 8 OR LESS

Daniel P. Davis, MD, Kent M. Koprowicz, MS, Craig D. Newgard, MD, MPH, Mohamud Daya, MD, MS, Eileen M. Bulger, MD, Ian Stiell, MD, Graham Nichol, MD, Shannon Stephens, EMT P, Jonathan Dreyer, MD, Joseph Minici, MD, Jeffrey D. Kerby, and the ROC Investigators

Abstract

Background. Airway management remains a fundamental component of optimal care of the severely injured

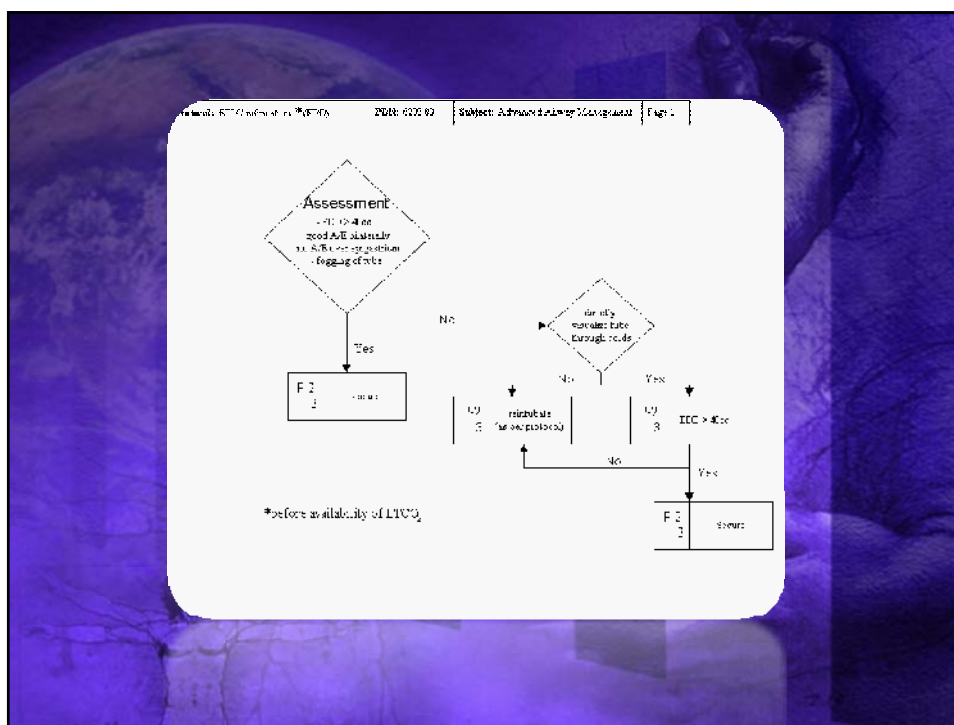
patient, with endotracheal intubation representing the definitive strategy for airway control. However, multiple studies document an association between out-of-hospital intubation and increased mortality for severe traumatic brain injury. **Objectives.** To explore the relationship between out-of-hospital intubation attempts and outcome among trauma patients with Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) scores ≤ 8 across sites participating in the Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium (ROC). **Methods.** The ROC, Estiv-1trauma, an




Received February 18, 2010, from the Department of Emergency Medicine (D.P.D.), UCSD Center for Resuscitation Science, San Diego

PREHOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE 2011;15:184-192

CONCLUSIONS

Our results from a major trauma registry with protocol-driven data collection demonstrate an association between attempted intubation and increased mortality among individual trauma patients with a GCS ≤ 8 but lower overall mortality in EMS systems with higher intubation rates. Thus, intubation may be a marker of increased injury severity for the individual trauma patient but may also improve outcomes across the entire cohort of patients with GCS ≤ 8 . While causation cannot be inferred these data support a more aggressive approach to prehospital airway management. Randomized trials are needed to better define the role of prehospital intubation for patients with severe traumatic injuries.





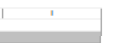




ETI Confirmation

Interventions

[Dalhousie EHS](#)
 [EHS](#)
 [EHS](#)
 [Dalhousie EHS](#)

Intervention	A	B	C	D	E	F
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HW22

Recommendation: This is an excellent amount of evidence available to determine if this prescription should be recommended.

Reference:

#	Winkler, David G., Norman G. L., & Klemm, J. (2005). A survey of all published scientific studies of individual subject by gender and racial/ethnic groups. <i>Walden University, CA</i> , 11, 222-31. Link
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Online Modules

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3,000,000 Patient encounters
a year

38 States

12,742 Medics

89 Medical Directors


Approx 27,300 Cardiac
Arrests / year

10,422,356 Patient records

1 Harley-Davidson Test Track


1 Harley-Davidson Test Track

EMS Epidemiology Disclaimer



The Relationship between Airway Confirmation Methods and Ultimate Placement Success

Scott Bourn PhD, Edward M. Racht MD
American Medical Response



Purpose
Considerable debate exists regarding the optimal tools for prehospital airway management, and the most appropriate methods for placement confirmation. Contemporary patient safety standards and training for endotracheal intubation (ETI) or supraglottic airways (SA) have emphasized the importance of both manual confirmation techniques (i.e. breath sounds assessment, chest rise) and end-tidal CO₂ (ETCO₂) evaluation. Limited data exist to validate the impact of these techniques on successful airway management.

Objective
To evaluate the relationship between various airway confirmation techniques and ultimately successful airway placement.

Methods
Retrospective analysis of a clinical database from a large national EMS provider (58 operations in 22 states, January 2006 through August 2010). All records for advanced airway attempts were included in the study. The following variables were evaluated:

- Patient age and gender
- Patient primary impression
- Cardiac arrest vs. non-arrest
- Method(s) of airway placement confirmation
- Use of ETCO₂
- Paramedic assessment of airway placement success

Results
During the study period there were 2,540,723 total patient encounters, 11,800 (0.46%) records met inclusion criteria. 58.4% of patients were male. Average age was 59.2; age distribution can be seen in Figure 1. 7,178 (61.3%) patients were in cardiac arrest. Primary impressions were as follows:

- 66.7% Cardiorespiratory arrest
- 9.0% Breathing problems
- 8.0% Altered level of consciousness
- 5.1% Trauma
- 7.2% All other primary impressions

 Oral ETI was the most common airway method (81.9%), followed by nasal ETI (5.2%), and all SA's (4.2%). 1,020 patients (8.7%) received more than one type of airway attempt.
 Airway placement success was self-reported by paramedics, and was highest for patients in cardiac arrest (91% as compared to non-arrest, (81.7%). Successful placement varied among airway types: SA's (96.6%), oral ETI (88.4%), multiple airway types (87.6%), and nasal ETI (71.4%).

Figure 1: Age Distribution

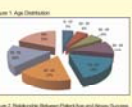


Table 1: Confirmation Techniques and Airway Success

Confirmation Technique	No.	All Airway	Success Rate	Difference
Alone Oral ETI	1,018	70%		
Alone Nasal ETI	1,275	96%	26%	
Alone SA	1,547	94%	18%	
SA with Manual	4,853	93%	52%	
SA with ETCO ₂	4,524	96%	17%	
SA with Manual and ETCO ₂	7,243	97%	1%	
ETCO ₂ alone	2,248	94%	100%	
ETCO ₂ with Manual	4,202	97%	3%	
ETCO ₂ with ETCO ₂	2,124	98%	1%	
ETCO ₂ with SA	5,124	95%	1%	
ETCO ₂ with SA and ETCO ₂	3,248	97%	1%	
ETCO ₂ with SA and Manual	51	95%	2%	
Any Method	6,247	95%	1%	
ETCO ₂ Method	6,247	95%	26%	

Figure 2: Relationship Between Patient Age and Airway Success

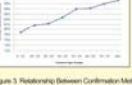
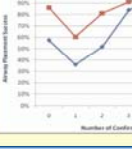


Figure 3: Relationship Between Confirmation Methods, ETCO₂ and Airway Success



Results (continued)
As shown in Figure 2, successful placement improved with increasing patient age. As can be seen in Table 1, the use of any confirmation technique improved success by 26% from 67% to 93%. Chest rise/and the presence/absence of lung sounds offered the greatest incremental improvement.

Figure 3 shows the relationship between ETCO₂ use, the number of confirmation methods, and airway success. The addition of ETCO₂ increased airway placement success by an average of 27% for patients who received 3-4 manual confirmation methods, but offered no significant improvement for cases where four or more manual confirmation methods were used. Individual analysis of nasal intubations was performed due to their low success rate (71.4%). No manual confirmation technique was documented in 47% of cases, and success was reported at 39%. The addition of airway confirmation method improved nasal intubation success to 91%.

Limitations
This was a retrospective study and was dependent upon data gathered from patient care records. It also depended upon paramedic self-assessment of airway placement success. Future studies that can utilize confirmation techniques with advanced airway placement confirmed by receiving facilities will add to our knowledge on this subject. Additional study is necessary to better understand the relationship between various confirmation methods and successful airway management. Future studies will hopefully provide more clarity on the influence of patient age on successful airway management.

Summary of Conclusions
In this very large series of advanced airway cases from multiple communities, successful advanced airway placement was associated with the use of multiple manual confirmation techniques and ETCO₂. In 60% of the patients, four or more manual methods were used in combination with ETCO₂, and airway placement success exceeded 90%. Nasal ETI success rates were far below those for other airway devices but significantly improved with the use of confirmation techniques.

These results pose additional questions: Are paramedics who use multiple confirmation methods more successful because they have developed better clinical habits? Or are improved success rates related to a reduction in "juled" tubes by clinicians who are uncertain about their position? Alternatively, do clinicians actually tend to NOT attempt confirmation of any kind when they believe for other reasons (such as difficulty in insertion) that the airway was NOT correctly placed, thus reducing the documentation of confirmation in unsuccessful airway placements?

Video Laryngoscopy

A Clinician's Guide to Video Laryngoscopy: Tips and Techniques

from the publisher of **EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

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