

Is It Time To Take A Second Look At Pediatric Field Intubation?

R.J. Frascone, M.D. FACEP FAEMS
Medical Director, Regions Hospital EMS
Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine
University of Minnesota

Is it important to intubate kids?

- It is difficult to control airway pressures in children under 12 mos. Stomachs inflate (much higher in LAt BVM) and often we can't decompress them with SGA's.
 - Probably leads to less effective compressions and
 - Increased aspiration risk (no difference in LAt)
- And what about the kids who are not in CA?

Method

- We looked at pediatric intubation pre and post deployment of VL.
- The primary aim of the study was to compare the first pass success rate (FPS) between the two methodologies (DL vs VL).

Results

- 28 DL, 27 VL
- **There was no statistical difference in FPS, or final attempt success between DL and VL.**
- But there was an interesting finding (signal)...

Method

- In the study, difficult airways were defined a priori.
- Airways which were associated with facial trauma, secretions and/or laryngeal edema from any cause were considered difficult.

Results

- The crews attempted significantly more difficult airways with VL than with DL (10 vs 2, $p=.0095$).
- Success rates trended higher with VL even though, there were significantly more VL than DL difficult airways. 1/2 DL vs 5/10 VL (not statistically significant).

Discussion

- Almost certainly there is a better view with VL
- It is may be that VL is more important in the less skilled intubator* than the more skilled i.e.,
 - It makes easy tubes easier and difficult tubes possible for the less skilled.
- Personal lab experience.

* Jarvis, J.L., McClure, S.F. and Johns, D., 2015. EMS intubation improves with king vision video laryngoscopy. *Prehospital Emergency Care*, 19(4), pp.482-489.

Discussion

- VL probably has its greatest impact on difficult airways.
- Almost by definition, all young pediatric pts have difficult airways, especially for the relatively inexperienced provider.

Finally

- 15th anniversary of the landmark LAt.
- With the advent of VL (and the routine use of ETCO_2), I posit the following question:

Finally

Is it time to repeat the
LAt, but this time
including VL and
ETCO₂?

A close-up photograph of a baby's face, looking slightly to the right with a questioning or skeptical expression. The baby has light skin and dark hair. The background is dark and out of focus.

**HOW IS POTTY-
TRAINING**

**AN IMPROVEMENT ON OUR
CURRENT ARRANGEMENT?**

QUESTIONS

Abbreviated Bibliography

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