

Airway Rotation Objectives

Medical Expert:

Airway assessment

- Perform concise, accurate and efficient history taking and physical examination skills concerning the airway
- Selection of appropriate airway investigations

Airway anatomy:

- Cartilage and muscle function
- Innervation
- Landmarks for airway regional blocks

Knowledge of common disease states associated with airway complications/difficulties

Application of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and Canadian Airway Focus Group difficult airway algorithms

Optimization of mask ventilation and direct laryngoscopy

The laryngeal mask airway (LMA) and insertion techniques

Knowledge of indications, contraindications, complications, assembly (where applicable), use, and care of airway adjuncts listed below:

- Lighted stylet
- Rigid indirect fiberoptic laryngoscope (e.g. Bullard)
- Intubating laryngeal mask (e.g. Fastrach LMA)
- Fiberoptic bronchoscopes
- Straight and curved blades
- Glidescope
- Bonfils / retromolar laryngoscope

Intubation of patients with normal and simulated difficult airways using at least two of the following techniques

- Eschmann introducer
- Lighted stylet
- Rigid indirect fiberoptic laryngoscope (eg. Bullard)
- LMA-facilitated FOB examination
- Fastrach insertion and intubation
- Straight blade laryngoscopy
- Glidescope / Bonfils / retromolar laryngoscope

Flexible fiberoptic bronchoscope (FOB) facilitated intubation

Awake intubation

Preoperative preparation, sedation, and monitoring
Topicalization technique
Superior laryngeal nerve block
Cricothyroid puncture for topicalization
Acceptable dose of local anesthetic

Nasal intubation (with and without adjuncts)

TIVA techniques for airway procedures

Anesthetic management for laser procedures of the airway

Management of tracheostomy under local anesthesia

Trans-tracheal jet ventilation theory and technique (mannequin)

Cricothyroidotomy theory and techniques (mannequin)

Retrograde intubation theory and techniques (mannequin)

Optional competencies:

inhalation induction and LMA insertion
inhalation induction and endotracheal intubation

Communicator:

- Communication with patients in an understandable manner concerning procedures, consent, complications, risks and benefits
- Communication characterized by trust, respect, empathy, and confidentiality
- Demonstrate clear communication skills during challenging situations such as an emergency, or when faced with cultural and language differences
- Effectively communicate with OR team regarding equipment and assistance required
- Provide thorough documentation on anesthetic record of peri-operative events specifically related to airway management

Collaborator:

Collaborate with OR team members to ensure optimal management of patients (e.g. ENT shared airway procedures)

Develop airway management plans in collaboration with the OR team

Manager:

Demonstrate proper care and maintenance of airway equipment

Understand the purchase planning and evaluation of new equipment purchases

Health Advocate:

Appropriately inform patients with unexpected difficult airways (post-op visit, formal letter)

Scholar:

Use all learning aids available (textbooks, web-based resources, mannequins, simulator)

Teaching of airway management principles, techniques and decision making processes to medical students, and junior residents

Participation in airway workshops as available

Critical appraisal of airway literature and equipment

Professional:

Demonstrate a sense of responsibility, integrity, honesty and compassion when caring for patients

Demonstrate respect for patients and colleagues