Author's response to reviews

Title: The Role of Rigid Indirect Videolaryngoscopy in the Successful Orotracheal Intubation of Adults: A Systematic Review of Randomized and Non-Randomized Trials.

Authors:

David W Healy (dhealy@med.umich.edu)
Oana Maties (omaties@gmail.com)
David Hovord (d_hovord@hotmail.com)
Sachin Kheterpal (sachinkh@med.umich.edu)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
05/24/2012

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please find enclosed our manuscript, “An Evidence Based Review of Rigid Indirect Videolaryngoscopy in the Successful Ootracheal Intubation of Adults” by David W Healy et al., which we would like to submit for consideration for publication as a review article in BMC Anesthesiology.

We would like to think this topic holds great interest to your readership, due to the recent expansion of production and clinical utilization the various videolaryngoscopic devices. There are very few articles describing this recent change in anesthetic practice.

Previous studies have attempted metanalysis of outcomes associated with the use of videolaryngoscopy, but have failed due to extreme outcome heterogeneity. This review is not a metanalysis of outcomes. Instead, we have applied a pragmatic approach to the problem and made some reasonable (limited) conclusions and recommendations based on the quality of the data. The review was limited to relatively modern devices and used a methodology recommended by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to assess the quality of the articles returned by our search.

We feel clinicians should have some guidance regarding logical use of these devices based on the evidence, with an appreciation of the challenges inherent in this branch of investigation and the weakness of the current evidence base. We feel we have accomplished this task, and are keen to share our findings with your readership.

We confirm that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not under consideration by another journal. I have detailed the level of contribution of each author in the manuscript. I confirm that the PRISMA guidelines were reviewed and help guide the development of the review, and reporting in the manuscript. It complies with the PRISMA guidelines. All permissions for the device photographs were sought and approved. I can confirm there are no competing interests, financial or otherwise. All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission to BMC Anesthesiology.

Thank you for your consideration,
Yours Sincerely,
David

David Healy MD MRCP FRCA
Assistant Professor
Director, Head and Neck Anesthesia
Department of Anesthesia, University of Michigan