

To Tube or Not to Tube?

Ben Lawner DO, MS, EMT-P and Frank Guyette MD, MPH

Objectives

- Examine the evidence for alternative airways
- Explore indications for alternative airway management
- Integrate evidence into clinical practice

Acknowledge the Problem

- Intubation is difficult
- Requires initial and ongoing practice
- Requires vigilant QA/QI
- Success rates have historically lagged behind those of physicians/flight crews



Lolwot.com

What's the State of the Art of Intubation ?

Crewdson et al. *Critical Care* (2017) 21:31
DOI 10.1186/s13054-017-1603-7

Critical Care

RESEARCH

Open Access



The success of pre-hospital tracheal intubation by different pre-hospital providers: a systematic literature review and meta-analysis

K. Crewdson^{1,2*}, D. J. Lockey^{1,2,3}, J. Røislien⁴, H. M. Lossius^{3,4} and M. Rehn^{1,3,4}

RESEARCH

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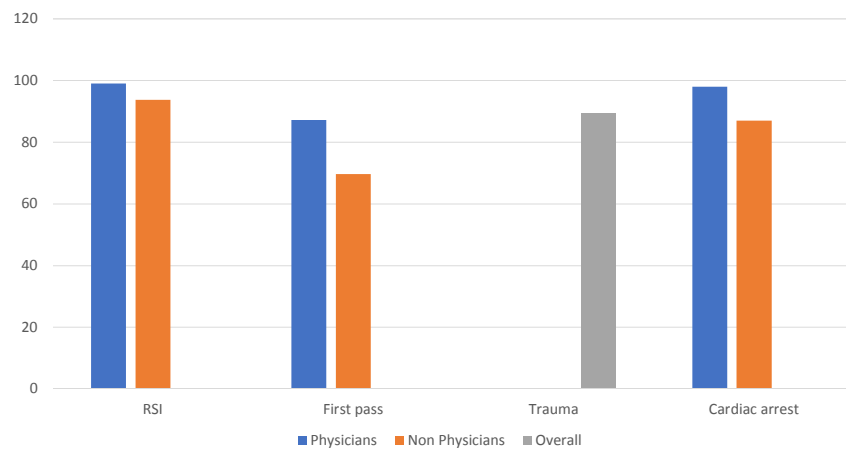


The success of pre-hospital tracheal intubation by different pre-hospital providers: a systematic literature review and meta-analysis

K. Crowdson^{1,2*}, D. J. Lockey^{1,2,3}, J. Røislien⁴, H. M. Lossius^{3,4} and M. Rehn^{1,3,4}

- Reviewed articles from 2006-2016
- 125,177 total ETI attempts, 23,738 by physicians
- Significant heterogeneity
- Included different populations / different drug protocols

Intubation Success Rates %



Study Summary

- Crude success rate for physicians higher
- Expert skill level (experienced anesthetists) overall success at 99.4%
- Intermediate skill level (emergency medicine + anesthesiology experience) 98.6 %
- Basic skill mix (non physicians or physicians with little experience) 91.7%
- Skill mix arbitrarily defined but experience proportional to success



Basic skill mix for non physicians?!?!?
Intermediate skill level for EM?!?!?

History and Background: ETI

- Original description of Paramedic Intubation
- 90% overall success
- 58% 1st pass success
- Complication Rate ~10%
 - Unrecognized esophageal intubations 3/779 (0.4%)
 - Aspiration and Mainstem common



Chest

Volume 85, Issue 3, March 1984, Pages 341-345

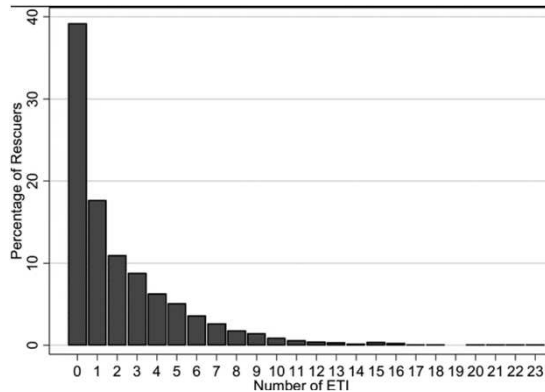


Field Endotracheal Intubation by Paramedical Personnel: Success Rates and Complications

Ronald D. Stewart M.D. (Assistant Professor of Medicine) [†] [⊗] [ⓐ], Paul M. Paris M.D. (Assistant Professor of Medicine) [ⓐ], Peter M. Winter M.D. (Professor and Chairman) [§] [ⓐ], Gregory H. Pelton B.S. [¶] [ⓐ], Glenn M. Cannon B.A. (Ed) [#] [ⓐ]

History and Background: ETI

- ETI requires significant investment in time and training
- Initial and ongoing practice
- Lack of opportunity
 - CPAP
 - Change in emphasis for trauma and cardiac arrest from definitive airway to “airway management”



Wang et al CCM 2005

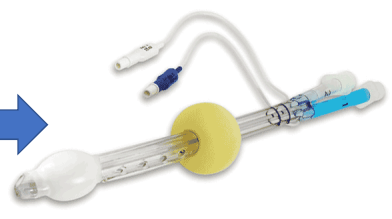
History and Background: Supraglottics

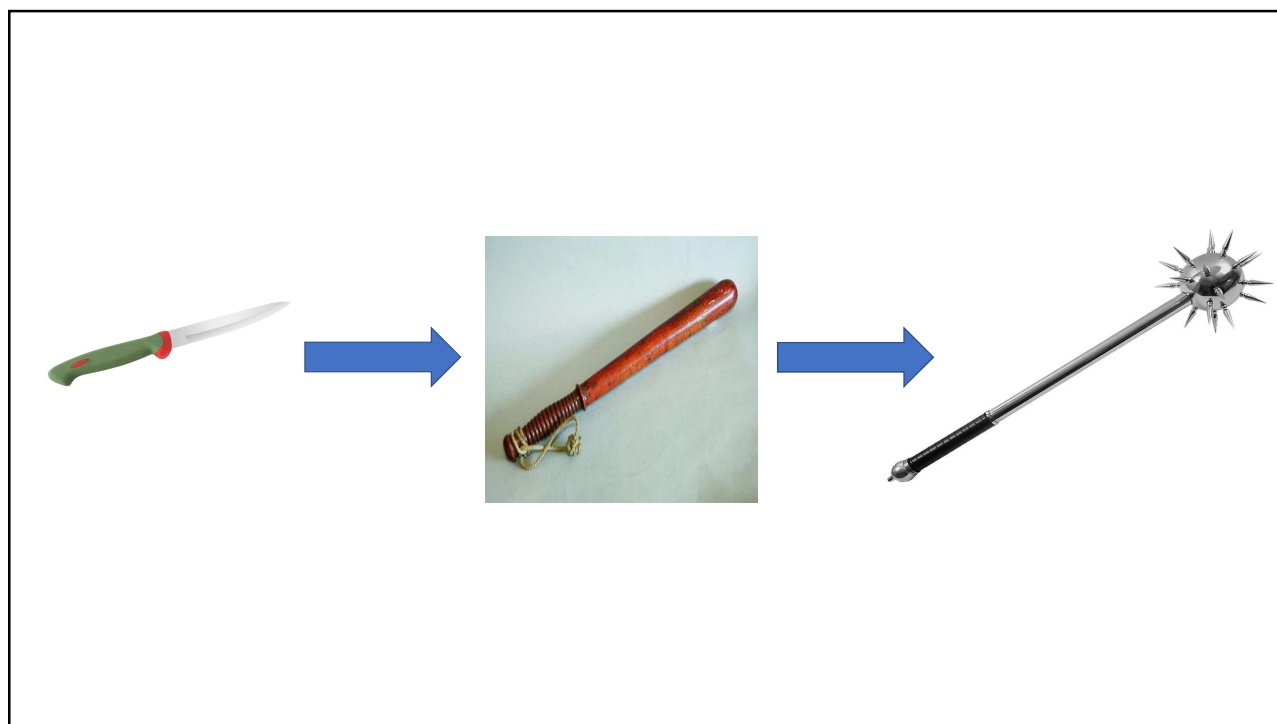
- Initially offered as “Rescue Airways”
- Widespread availability of supraglottic devices
- Decreased cost with supraglottic airways

The “OG” supraglottic



History of Alternative Airways



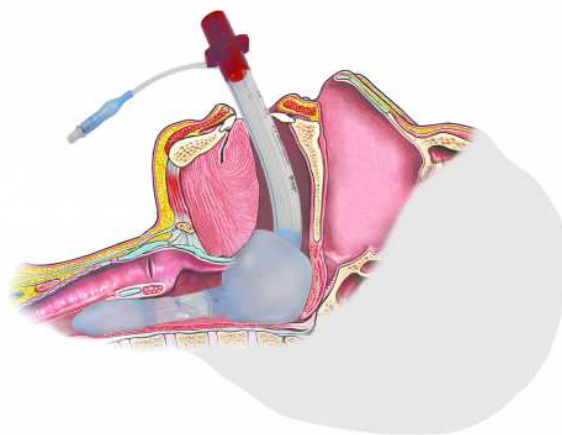


How did we get here ?

- Studies show faster placement
- Success with less training
- Decreased need for cadaveric/human practice
- Widespread adoption by EMS systems



Sir King of LT



The King

- Introduced in 1999
- Improved with a gastric suction port (LTSD)
- 'Impossible' to place in trachea
- Faster placement than ETC
- Little to no experience required



The Infallable King in 2016

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**Clinical
Communications: Adult**



**TRACHEAL MALPLACEMENT OF THE KING LT AIRWAY MAY BE AN IMPORTANT
CAUSE OF PREHOSPITAL DEVICE FAILURE**

Brian E. Driver, MD, David Plummer, MD, William Heegaard, MPH, MD, and Robert F. Reardon, MD

Department of Emergency Medicine, Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Mail Stop R2, Minneapolis, MN 55415



Figure 1. A cervical spine radiograph shows tracheal malplacement of the King LT airway (King Systems, Noblesville, IN). The device passes through the laryngeal inlet and is lodged against the wall of the anterior trachea. There is an acute kink in the distal tube between the two balloons.

The Fallible King

- Failure rates vary widely (~15%)
- Factors that Predict Failure
 - Gag reflex
 - Ground EMS*
 - Male



Resuscitation

Volume 86, January 2015, Pages 25-30



Clinical paper

Risk factors for unsuccessful prehospital laryngeal tube placement ☆

Christian Martin-Gill ^a, Heather A. Prunty ^a, Seth C. Ritter ^a, Justin N. Carlson ^b, Francis X. Guyette ^a

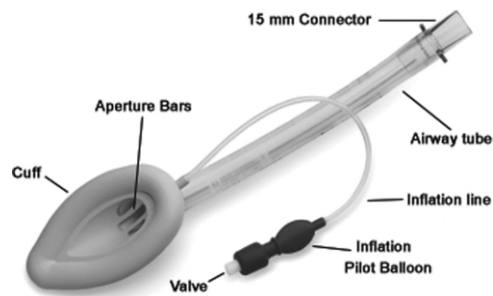
Other Problems in the Realm

Table 3 Complications associated with the King Laryngeal Tube

Complication	<i>n</i> (%)
Tongue engorgement	7 (15%)
Glottic edema	2 (4%)
Subcutaneous emphysema	2 (4%)
Pulmonary aspiration	1 (2%)
Esophageal trauma	1 (2%)
Total	13 (27%)

The Intellectual Ruler: LMA

- Introduced in 1981 by Dr. Archie Brain
- Widely deployed in the hospital setting
- Blind insertion



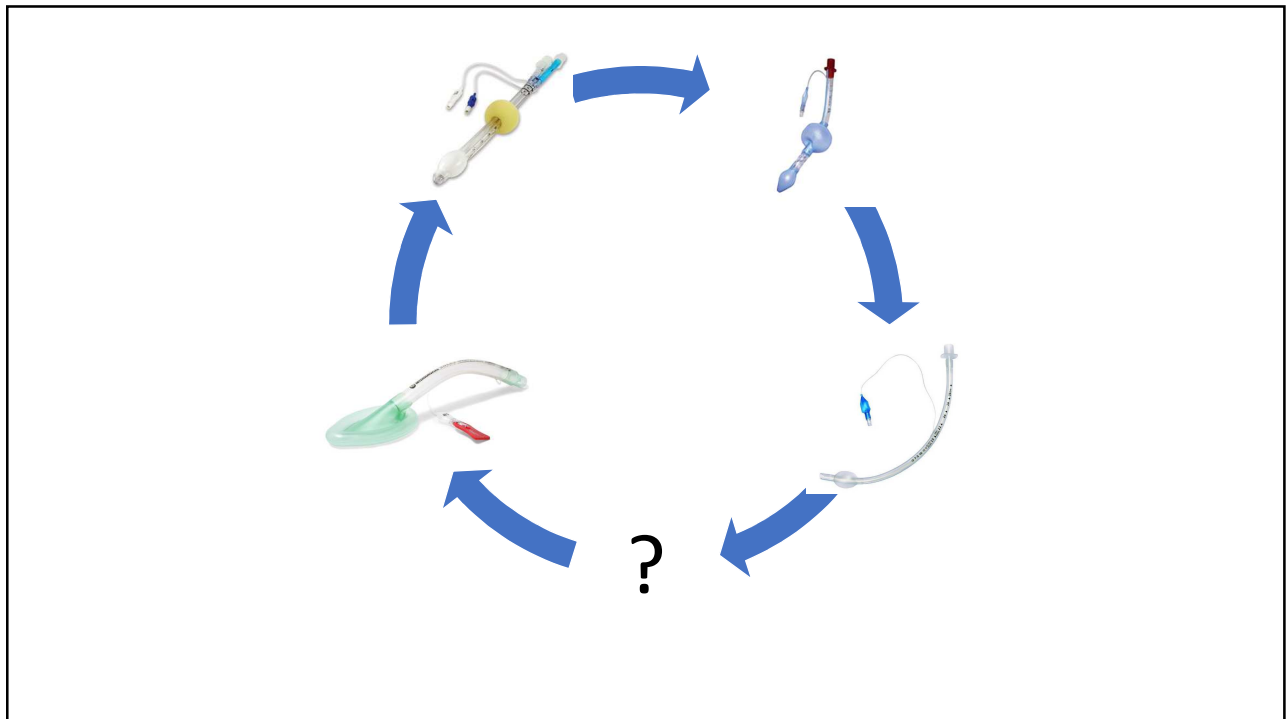
The Laryngeal Mask Airway

- Decreased time to insertion
- Faster placement speeds
- Significant “first pass success”
- Overall success rates >82% in one study

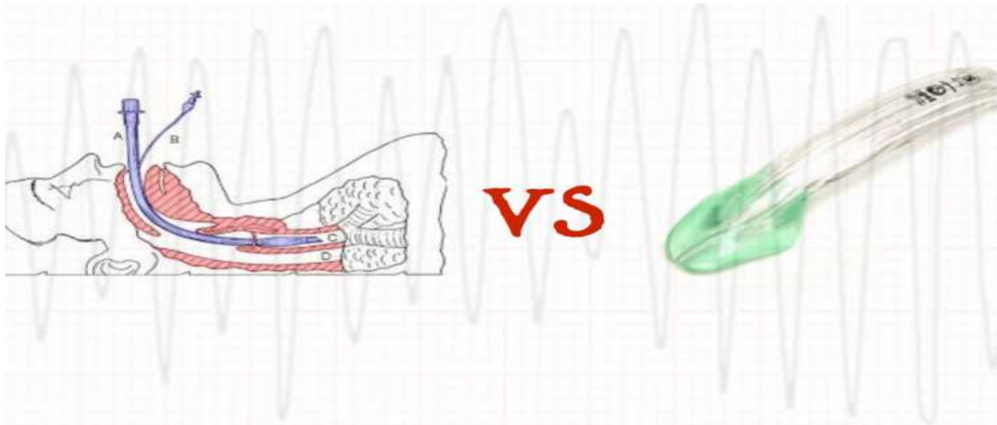
Hubble MW, Wilfong DA, Brown LH, Hertelendy A, Benner RW. A meta-analysis of prehospital airway control techniques, part II: alternative airway devices and cricothyrotomy success rates. *Prehosp Emerg Care.* 2010;14(4):515–30.

LMA Problems

- Aspiration risks
- Tongue edema
- Dislodgement
- Difficult to use in “high pressure” airways
- Not intuitive
 - Technique requires practice
 - Balloon may not seat in all circumstances



The Battle Royale



Round 1: Hasegawa (2013) JAMA

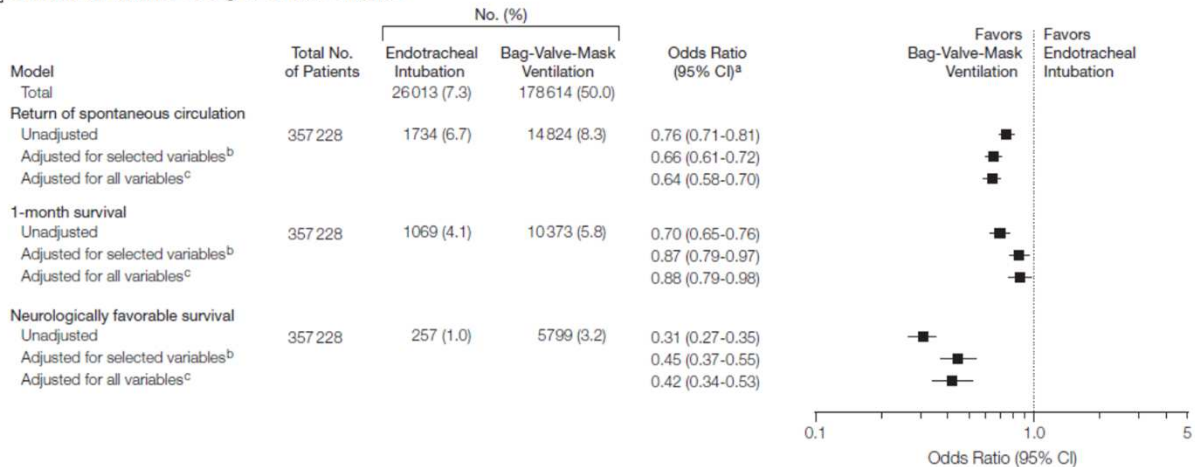
- Prospective nationwide population based study
- 650,000 patients
- January 2005-2010
- Compared neurological outcome in patients who underwent BVM vs SGA vs ETI

**CARING FOR THE
CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT**

Association of Prehospital Advanced Airway Management With Neurologic Outcome and Survival in Patients With Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest

Round 1: Hasegawa (2013) JAMA

A Endotracheal intubation vs bag-valve-mask ventilation



This large, nationwide, population-based cohort study showed that CPR with prehospital advanced airway management, whether endotracheal intubation or supraglottic airways, was independently associated with a decreased likelihood of favorable neurological outcome compared with conventional bag-valve-mask ventilation among adults with OHCA. Our observations contra-

Round 1: Hasegawa (2013) JAMA

- Results may not be generalizable
- Different process for ETI credentialing
- Subgroup analysis limited to patients achieving ROSC still linked intubation to worsened outcomes
- 18% of the cohort in this study experienced trauma, hanging, drowning, or asphyxia
- Inherent limitations of the study design

Why Might Advanced Airways be Harmful?

- Intra arrest
 - Interruptions in CPR are BAD!
- Post Arrest
 - Hypoxia
 - Hypotension
 - Hypercarbia
 - Hypocarbia



Round 2: The Meta-Analysis



Resuscitation 93 (2015) 20–26



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Resuscitation

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/resuscitation



Review article

Endotracheal intubation versus supraglottic airway placement in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest: A meta-analysis

Justin L. Benoit*, Ryan B. Gerecht, Michael T. Steuerwald, Jason T. McMullan

University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine, Department of Emergency Medicine, 231 Albert Sabin Way PO Box 670769, Cincinnati, OH, 45267-0769, USA



Benoit (2015) et al

- Structured review of pub-med, Cochrane, other db's
- Examines advanced airway methods in OHCA
- Outcomes includes: ROSC, survival to hospital admission, survival to discharge
- Pediatrics, physician/RN intubators excluded

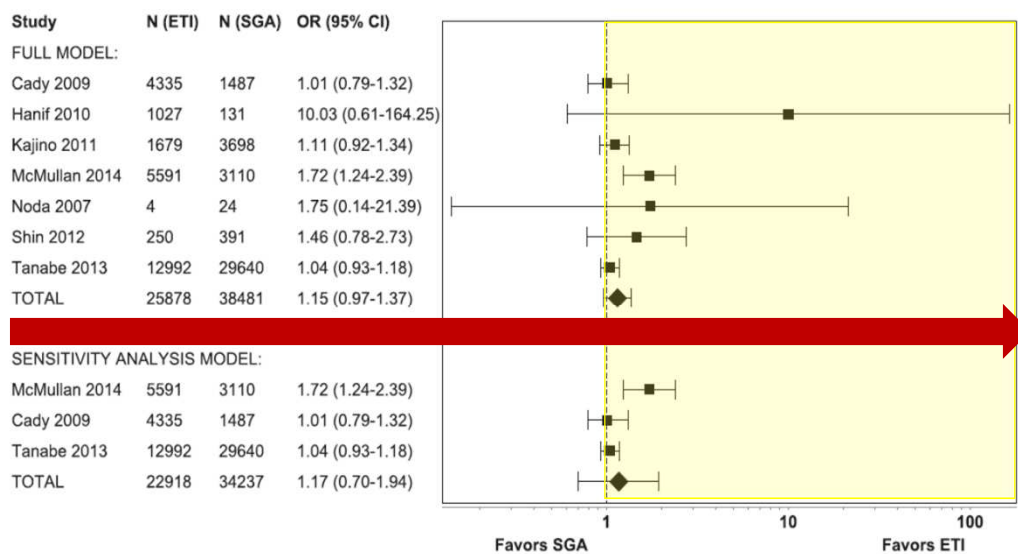


Fig. 4. Forest plot for survival to hospital discharge. ETI= Endotracheal intubation; SGA= Supraglottic airway; OR=Odds ratio; CI= Confidence interval; Full Model= Random effects model with all studies included; Sensitivity Analysis Model= Random effects model excluding studies of "very low" quality.

BOTTOM LINE

- In this meta analysis of relatively low quality evidence, OHCA patients receiving intubation experienced improved survival when compared to those who received management via SGA

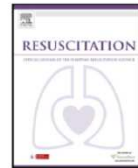
Resuscitation 85 (2014) 617–622



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Resuscitation

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/resuscitation



Clinical paper

Airway management and out-of-hospital cardiac arrest outcome in the CARES registry[☆]



Jason McMullan^{a,*}, Ryan Gerecht^a, Jordan Bonomo^a, Rachel Robb^b, Bryan McNally^b, John Donnelly^c, Henry E. Wang^c, On behalf of the CARES Surveillance Group

^a Department of Emergency Medicine, University of Cincinnati, United States

^b Department of Emergency Medicine, Emory University, United States

^c Department of Emergency Medicine, University of Alabama School of Medicine, United States

Round 3: The Wang Study and CARES

- CARES database queries, 10691 patients
- 3110 SGA
- 5591 ETI
- 1929 No advanced airway
- Outcomes: Survival to admission, discharge, and neurologically intact survival

Table 1

Airway management technique used on adult out-of-hospital cardiac arrests treated by EMS agencies in the CARES network. Supraglottic airway and endotracheal tube groups include successful advanced airway insertions only; failed insertion efforts were included in the subgroup "no successful advanced airway intervention".

Advanced management technique	N (%)
Supraglottic airway	3110 (29.3%)
Esophageal-tracheal combitube	309 (2.9%)
Laryngeal mask airway	55 (0.5%)
King laryngeal tube	2746 (25.8%)
Endotracheal intubation	5591 (52.6%)
No successful advanced airway intervention	1929 (18.2%)
Other ^a	61 (0.5%)

Unadjusted outcomes

OUTCOME	BVM	Supraglottic	ETI
ROSC	36.5	25.5	33.8

Unadjusted outcomes

OUTCOME	BVM	Supraglottic	ETI
ROSC	36.5	25.5	33.8
Survival, admission	33.4	21.4	26.6

Unadjusted outcomes

OUTCOME	BVM	Supraglottic	ETI
ROSC	36.5	25.5	33.8
Survival, admission	33.4	21.4	26.6
Survival, discharge	21.9	6.7	8.3

Unadjusted outcomes

OUTCOME	BVM	Supraglottic	ETI
ROSC	36.5	25.5	33.8
Survival, admission	33.4	21.4	26.6
Survival, discharge	21.9	6.7	8.3
Survival, good neuro	18.6	5.2	5.4

Results

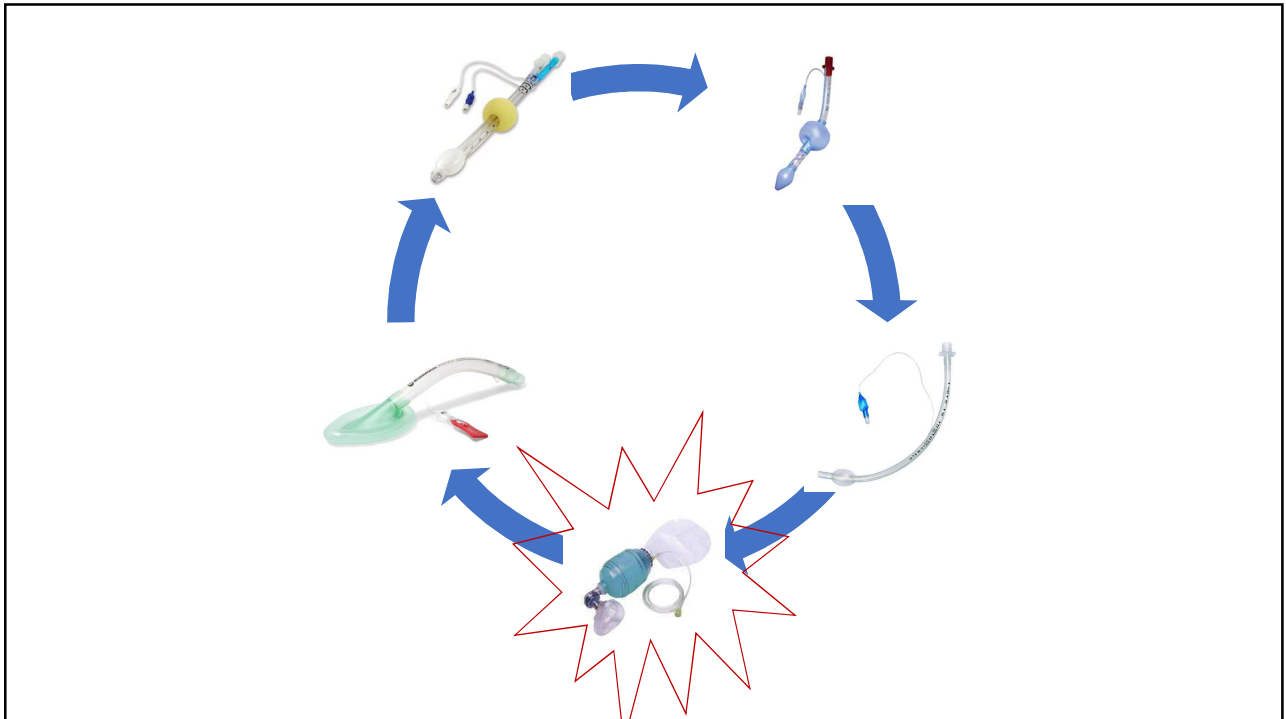
- Adjusted data confirmed association between superior outcomes of ETI over SGA
- Hospital processes not captured
- Airway processes not captured

5. Conclusion

In the CARES network, survival was higher among OHCA receiving ETI than those receiving SGA. Survival was markedly higher among patients who received no advanced airway than those receiving endotracheal intubation or supraglottic airway placement.

Putting it all together

- Studies are low-quality
- Randomized studies lacking
- Associations between worsened outcomes and SGA devices
- Applications for clinical practice ?



The Next Generation



Research

JAMA | Original Investigation

Effect of a Strategy of Initial Laryngeal Tube Insertion vs Endotracheal Intubation on 72-Hour Survival in Adults With Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest A Randomized Clinical Trial

Henry E. Wang, MD, MS; Robert H. Schmicker, MS; Mohamud R. Daya, MD, MS; Shannon W. Stephens, EMT-P; Ahamed H. Idris, MD; Justin N. Carlson, MD, MS; M. Riccardo Colella, DO, MPH; Heather Herren, MPH, RN; Matthew Hansen, MD, MCR; Neal J. Richmond, MD; Juan Carlos J. Puyana, BA; Tom P. Aufderheide, MD, MS; Randal E. Gray, MEd, NREMT-P; Pamela C. Gray, NREMT-P; Mike Verkest, AAS, EMT-P; Pamela C. Owens; Ashley M. Brienza, BS; Kenneth J. Sternig, MS-EHS, BSN, NRP; Susanne J. May, PhD; George R. Sopko, MD, MPH; Myron L. Weisfeldt, MD; Graham Nichol, MD, MPH



**PRAGMATIC AIRWAY
RESUSCITATION TRIAL**



Table 3. Out-of-Hospital and In-Hospital Adverse Events^a

Characteristic	Laryngeal Tube (n = 1505)	Endotracheal Intubation (n = 1499)	Difference, % (95% CI)	P Value
Out-of-Hospital Adverse Events				
Multiple (≥ 3) insertion attempts ^b				
Initial airway	6/1353 (0.4)	18/1299 (1.4)	-0.9 (-1.7 to -0.2)	.01
Across all airways	61/1353 (4.5)	245/1299 (18.9)	-14.4 (-17.0 to -11.7)	<.001
Unsuccessful insertion ^b				
First airway technique	159/1353 (11.8)	573/1299 (44.1)	-32.4 (-35.6 to -29.1)	<.001
All airway techniques	78/1353 (5.8)	111/1299 (8.5)	-2.8 (-4.8 to -0.8)	.01
Unrecognized airway misplacement or airway dislodgement	10/1353 (0.7)	24/1299 (1.8)	-1.1 (-2.0 to -0.3)	.01
Inadequate ventilation	25/1353 (1.8)	8/1299 (0.6)	1.2 (0.3 to 2.1)	.01
In-Hospital Adverse Events				
Pneumothorax (first chest x-ray) ^c	17/485 (3.5)	30/428 (7.0)	-3.6 (-6.5 to -0.7)	.02
Rib fractures (first chest x-ray) ^c	16/485 (3.3)	30/428 (7.0)	-3.8 (-6.9 to -0.7)	.01
Oropharyngeal or hypopharyngeal injury (first 24 h) ^d	1/460 (0.2)	1/400 (0.3)	0 (-0.7 to 0.6)	.92
Airway swelling or edema (first 24 h) ^d	5/460 (1.1)	4/400 (1.0)	0.1 (-1.3 to 1.4)	.90
Pneumonia or aspiration pneumonitis (first 72 h) ^d	120/460 (26.1)	89/400 (22.3)	3.7 (-2.1 to 9.6)	.21

Table 2. Outcomes of Patients Included in the Primary and Secondary Analyses

Characteristic	No. (%)		Difference, % (95% CI) ^a	P Value
	Laryngeal Tube (n = 1505)	Endotracheal Intubation (n = 1499)		
Primary Outcome				
Survival to 72 h (intention-to-treat population)	275 (18.3)	230/1495 (15.4)	2.9 (0.2 to 5.6)	.04
Secondary Outcomes				
Return of spontaneous circulation on emergency department arrival	420 (27.9)	365 (24.3)	3.6 (0.3 to 6.8)	.03
Survival to hospital discharge	163/1504 (10.8)	121/1495 (8.1)	2.7 (0.6 to 4.8)	.01
Favorable neurologic status at discharge (Modified Rankin Scale score ≤ 3)	107/1500 (7.1)	75/1495 (5.0)	2.1 (0.3 to 3.8)	.02

PART Results Summary

- Increased survival with LT
- Increased neuro recovery with LT
- Decreased complication with LT
- **Success rate of ETI → 50%**

The Next Generation

AIRWAYS-2

- 9296 patients enrolled (4886 SGA, 4410 ETI)
- No video laryngoscopy
- National health service paramedics
- BLS first airway management style, intubation w/bougie
- No video laryngoscopy

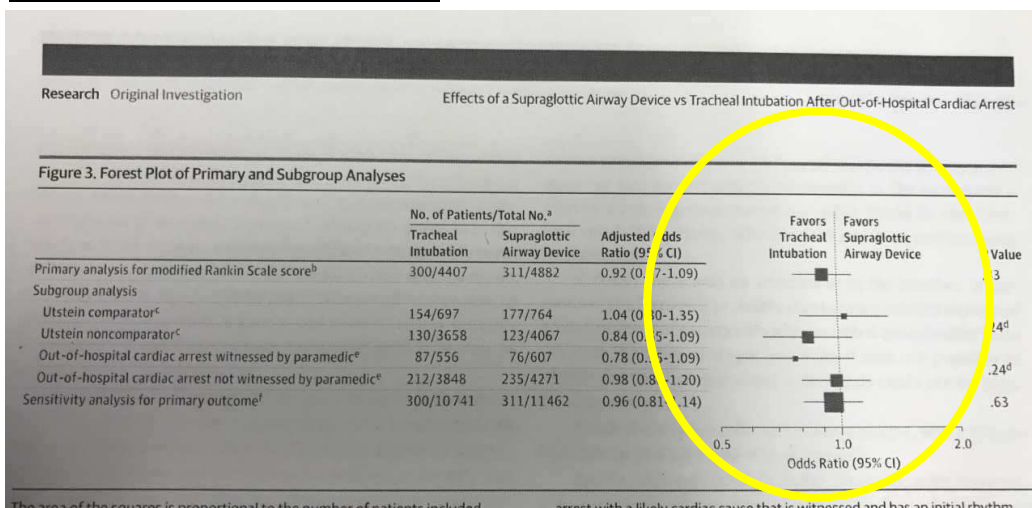


Outcomes of interest

- Survival
- Modified Rankin score at 30 days
- Regurgitation
- Aspiration
- Loss of airway



AIRWAYS-2 Results



AIRWAYS-2 Results

- For primary outcome, no statistical increase in survival with use of SGA
- Patients with short duration of arrest less likely to receive advanced airway mgmt.
- Supraglottic device more successful in achieving ventilation after 2 attempts
- Aspiration / regurgitation not different between groups

	AAM	No AAM
Good Outcome	3.3% (251/7576)	21.1% (251/7576)

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Good Outcome	3.3% (251/7576)	21.1% (251/7576)

Discussion



Oops. Caught me. I was really going for a BVM.

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