Flexible Awake Intubation

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Why intubate awake?

- Awake intubation is a very safe technique
- Spontaneous breathing is maintained
- Protective reflexes are maintained
- Fibreoptic intubation in an awake patient may be easier
- Neurological symptoms may be monitored in an awake patient

EVERY advanced airway practitioner should be able to perform an awake intubation







SEDATION

None

Midazolam 20 - 40μg/kg iv repeat 5min intervals up to 0.1-0.2mg/kg, provides anxiolysis, sedation and amnesia.

Onset 1-5mins, peak 5-7mins, duration 20-30mins.

Fentanyl 1µg/kg iv onset 2-3mins, duration 0.5-1 hour, for sedation, analgesia, depression of cough and airway reflexes.

Propofol 0.25mg/kg, 1-3 mg/kg/hr

Remifentanil 0.05-0.5µg/kg/min iv for rapid onset of 1min, short duration 5-10min

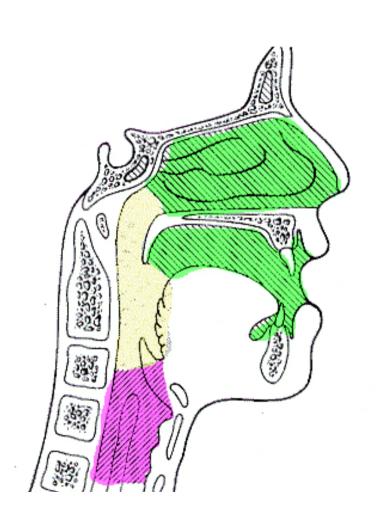
Ketamine 0.2-0.5mg/kg iv or 3mg/kg nasally,

Dexmedetomidine, a highly specific alpha2 adrenoreceptor agonist with sedative, analgesic and anaesthetic sparing effects that cause sedation without a change in ventilatory status.

Formulation 2ml = 200 μ g. Loading dose 0.5-1 μ g/kg. Give by infusion. Make up to 50ml with 48ml NSaline + 2ml Dexmedetomidine. Infuse over 10 minutes at 0.2-0.7 μ g/kg/hr for comfort and sedation.

Beware of mixing drugs
Amnesia is not necessary
Do not use sedation to substitute for poor topicalisation

Topicalizing the airway - a Three Step Programme



Lignocaine

Onset 1-2mins

Peak 2-5 mins

Duration 15-40 mins

Dose 5-9 mg.Kg⁻¹

TOPICALISATION ATOMISER





EZ100c Atomiser and Power Sprayer Single use

DeVilbiss Atomizer. Re-usable

TOPICALISATION



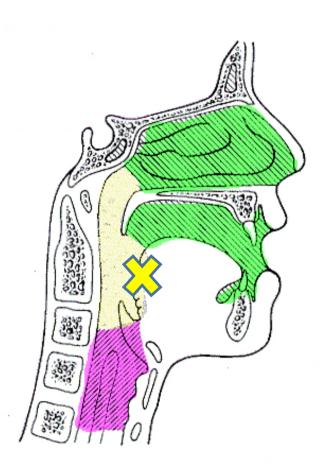




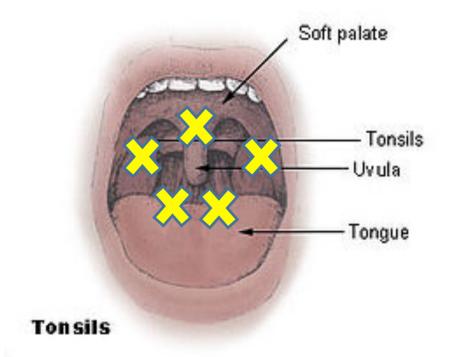


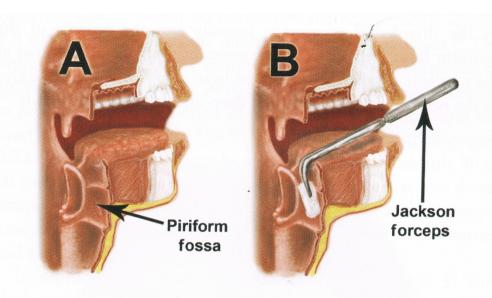


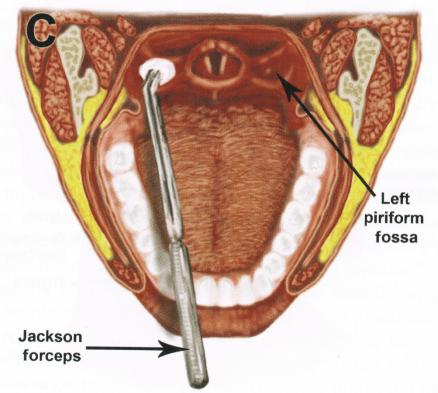
2. Get rid of oropharyngeal gag



 Uvula, tonsillar pillars, drizzle down back of tongue









Picture from Hung O et al. The Difficult and Failed Airway. 2nd edition. McGraw-Hill Medical 2011.

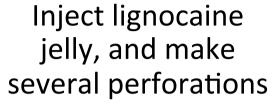
3. Anaesthetise below the cords

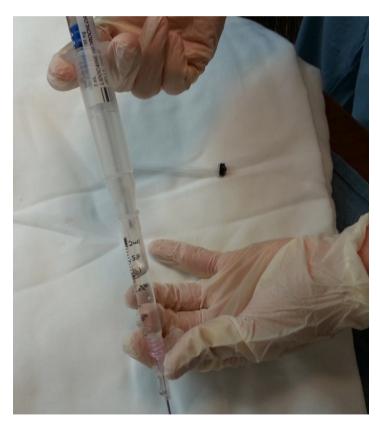
Choose from....

- 1. Devilbiss atomiser from above
- 2. "Spray-as-you-go" down epidural catheter (inserted in suction port of flexible bronchoscope)
- 3. Cricothyroid puncture

FOR INFANTS TOPICALIZATION WITH A PACIFIER

Remove plunger from syringe and fill with lignocaine jelly





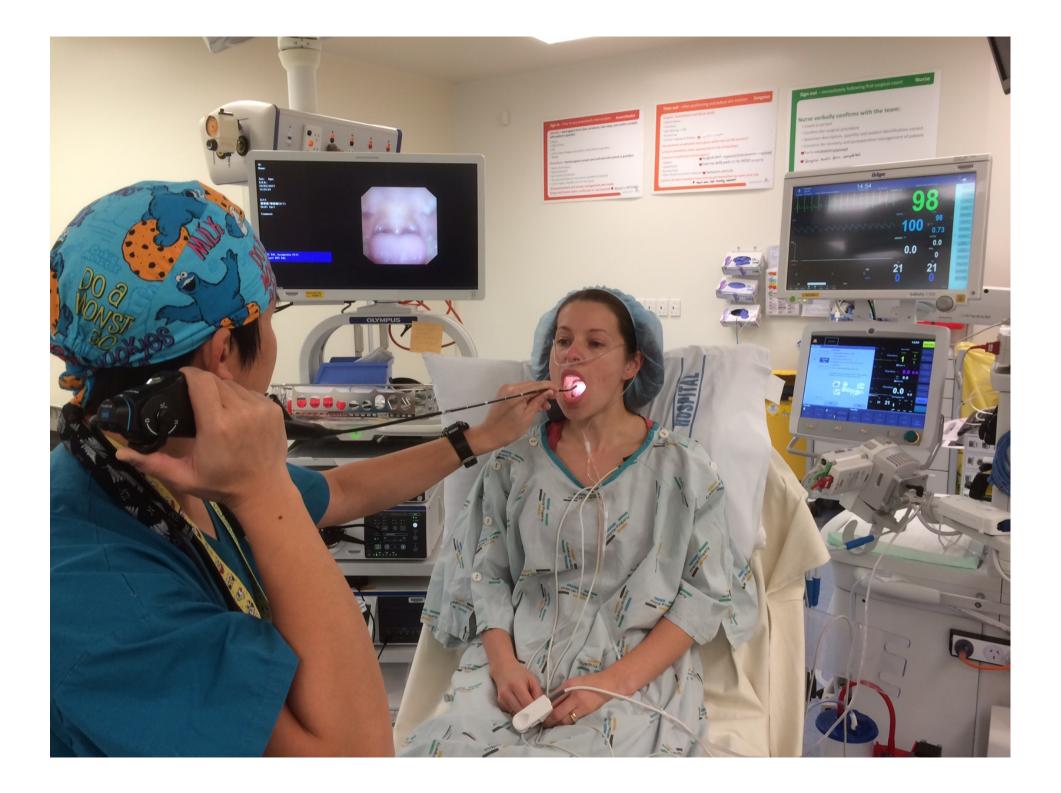


Jagannathan N, Truong C. Can J Anesth 2010

SECURE VENTILATION AWAKE









SECURE THE TUBE





