

Laryngeal Mask Airway Insertion by Unskilled Performer : Standard Deflated Versus Fully Inflated Cuff Technic

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We compared two technics of the laryngeal mask airway (LMA) insertion by unskilled performer : the standard deflated cuff technic and the fully inflated cuff technic. The study was conducted in forty-eight ASA I-II patients undergoing general anesthesia. We recorded the time to complete LMA insertion the number of attempts before successful placement, the presence of blood after LMA removal and sore throat.

We found that insertion technics made no difference with regard to first attempt success, the time to complete insertion and the occurrence of sore throat. However, the presence of blood after LMA removal was less frequent in the inflated cuff group ($p = 0.039$).

We conclude that the inflated cuff insertion technic is an acceptable alternative to the standard deflated cuff technic in unskilled performer.

Key words : Technic, equipment, airway, mask, laryngeal