

Protective Device for Oral Injury During Tracheal Intubation

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The incidence of oral injury during endotracheal intubation reporting from Anesthesia Department, Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University in the two-year period (2001-2002) was 0.46%. As small the number is, the injury has been involved in most closed claims. Therefore, the protective device for oral injury was invented and tested for its efficiency in 50 elective surgical patients who had no difficult airway. After demonstration, the medical personnels - nurse anesthetist students, nurse anesthetists, the 5th year medical students, residents and anesthesia staffs, could intubate the patients successfully with the device. Almost all but one showed no injuries. Since it is easy to use and affordable in comparison to the dental repair cost, it should be promoted in anesthesia practice.