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CRICOTHYROIDOTOMY WORKSHOP

The purpose of the Cricothyroidotomy Workshop is to expose medical students to an important and common procedure in emergency medicine. Airway management is one of the foundations of emergency medicine. Annually, rescue cricothyroidotomies are performed in 0.7% of adult patients¹ and <1% of pediatric patients². First and second year medical students often do not have opportunities to practice this airway management technique prior to starting rotations. The main goal of this workshop is for pre-clinical students to practice and be familiarized with this procedure. In this workshop, we will teach the anatomy of the thyroid, and discuss the three cricothyroidotomy techniques: needle, percutaneous (using the Seldinger technique), and surgical. Following a faculty demonstration of the surgical technique, students will have the opportunity to practice using a validated homemade trainer model³.

References:

1. Sagarin MJ, Barton ED, Chng YM, Walls RM. Airway management by US and Canadian emergency medicine residents: a multicenter analysis of more than 6,000 endotracheal intubation attempts. *Ann Emerg Med.* Oct 2005;46(4):328-36.
2. Sagarin MJ, Chiang V, Sakles JC, Barton ED, Wolfe RE, Vissers RJ, et al. Rapid sequence intubation for pediatric emergency airway management. *Pediatr Emerg Care.* Dec 2002;18(6):417-23.
3. Varaday SS, Yentis SM, Clarke S. A homemade model for training in cricothyrotomy. *Anaesthesia.* 2004; 59: 1012-1015