

Abstract

Background

Thyroid swelling has been considered a risk factor for difficult direct laryngoscopy and intubation. Airway management in thyroid swelling patients poses Unique challenges and one should be thoroughly prepared for any anticipated or unpredicted difficult airway. Airway management in general population has been widely studied. But very few studies have been done on airway management in thyroid swelling patients. Thus it will be useful to find the incidence of difficult endotracheal intubation in thyroid surgeries .

Objectives

A prospective study to evaluate the incidence of difficult endotracheal intubation in thyroid surgery.

Selection criteria

Elective adult thyroid surgery patients requiring general endotracheal

Anaesthesia.

Males and Females.whose

ASA physical status 1-II

Age 18 years of age and older.

Who have given valid informed consent.

Data analysis

It is a prospective study conducted in the department of anaesthesiology, Madras Medical college, Chennai..100 adult patients satisfying inclusion criteria were enrolled in this study. Body mass index, thyromental distance, interincisor distance , Retrognathia , neck mobility, tracheal deviation and compression were evaluated for all thyroid swelling patients who satisfy the inclusion criteria and the incidence of difficult endotracheal intubation was analysed using Intubation Difficulty Scale. Duration of intubation and trauma during intubation were also noted.

Main results

It is concluded that the incidence of difficult endotracheal intubation in thyroid surgery is less. In this study population ,no specific predictive factors were found to be associated with difficult endotracheal intubation in thyroid swelling.

Authors conclusion

The incidence of difficult endotracheal intubation in thyroid surgery is less.This correlates with the results of previous studies done on difficult endotracheal intubation in thyroid surgeries.