Advanced Airway Management – New Tricks and Devices

The Emergency Airway Management Course is a session designed for emergency physicians seeking advanced training in the management of the difficult airway in the emergency medicine environment. A combination of didactic and hands-on instruction will be offered to maximize the learning experience.

The didactic overview will include an in-depth review of airway anatomy, a review of commercially available difficult airway tools, and a demonstration of various airway management techniques. The focus is on practical interventions and devices that work in the ED setting and can be readily incorporated into an overall emergency airway algorithm. The didactic presentation is visually oriented using video images of airway anatomy and management projected on a large screen. Following a short break, the course will then resume in a small group, hands-on format, offering participants practical instruction and experimentation with a wide variety of devices and techniques. Representatives from medical equipment companies will assist the instructors to provide hands-on practice and product information.

The course will review patient positioning and laryngeal manipulation, standard and new laryngoscope blade designs, paraglossal straight blade technique, lighted stylets, gum elastic bougie, laryngeal mask airway, intubating laryngeal mask, esophageal-tracheal Combitube®, and surgical techniques, such as open and percutaneous cricothyrotomy and retrograde intubation. Intubation manikins and animal models (pig tracheas) will be used to demonstrate and practice the procedures.

In order to increase the individualized nature of the instruction, the course is limited to no more than 40 participants.

Credit Designation
AAEM designates this live activity for a maximum of 3.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Learning Objectives
At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:
1. Describe various techniques which can be utilized to manage the difficult airway.
2. Compare and contrast the utilization of airway devices including flexible fiberoptic, optical lighted and rigid fiberoptic devices, and video laryngoscopy.
3. Demonstrate the practical utilization of specialty devices using low fidelity simulation models.
4. Develop a difficult airway algorithm that can be utilized in the ED setting.

Course Schedule
Sunday, February 27, 2011
1:00pm – 5:00pm

Course Director
Ken Butler, MD