

Interprofessional Training of Surgical Airways for the Acute Care Clinician

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Introduction

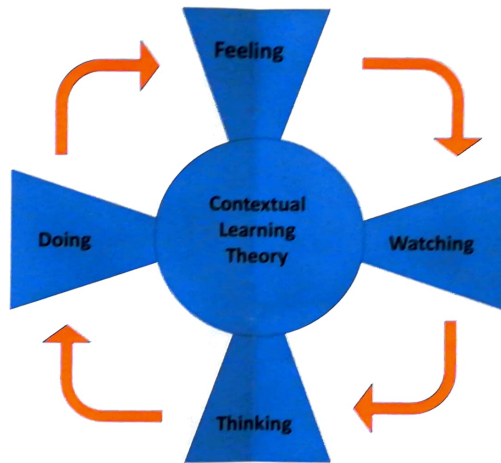
- Advanced practice clinicians may be the only provider in rural hospitals
- Training in life-saving advanced techniques is critical
- High-risk/low frequency procedure training becomes essential
- Surgical airway training is crucial to assure patient safety
- Fresh tissue training is superior to simulation training
- Surgical airway is not commonly taught in acute care nurse practitioner curriculum

Aims

- Develop an interprofessional surgical airway training experience
- Expand surgical cricothyrotomy training to acute care nurse practitioners

Methods

- Preparatory readings on difficult airway algorithm, failed rapid sequence intubation strategies, management of difficult airway, practice guidelines for management of difficult airway
- Live lecture
- Proctored fresh tissue skills lab



Contextual Learning Theory

- Application oriented and learner centered
- Linked learning goals to application of interest to the learner
- Context to the AG-ACNP role increased meaning and relevancy



Supplies

- Suture
- 5mL syringe
- 16g angiocath
- 21g needle
- Scalpel
- Hemostats
- Guide wire
- 6.0 ETT
- Tracheostomy tube
- Fresh tissue porcine larynx



Results

- Correctly identified key anatomical structures
- Demonstrated key airway maintenance concepts
- Properly identified need for emergent surgical airway
- Correctly demonstrated the steps for emergent surgical cricothyrotomy

Conclusion

- Highly successful interprofessional experience
- Combination of didactic preparation with live lecture and proctored hands-on training
- Effective teaching of high risk/low frequency event to nurse practitioners using pig larynxes

