

Laryngeal trauma – a case discussion on multidisciplinary airway management

Mr David Vokes

Head and Neck Surgeon, Auckland City Hospital, Te Toka Tumati

Laryngotracheal trauma (LTT) may be classified as either internal or external according to the mechanism of injury. While iatrogenic internal LTT is the most common type of LTT, however external LTT presents a challenging airway management scenario and is associated with a significant risk of mortality. Certain airway interventions such as neck extension, bag mask ventilation and supraglottic airway devices are not recommended in the management LTT, while other interventions such as cricothyroidotomy may be contraindicated. The options for airway management in LTT will be discussed and cases will be presented to generate discussion.