

Novel LMA Gastro-Airway: A Multi-Benefit Airway!

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Abstract

Temperature monitoring is an important modality of monitoring and is included in minimum monitoring standards. LMA Gastro Airway has wide diameter gastric channel that allows entrance of endoscope during endoscopy. We have added an innovative thought to the functioning of this airway where gastric tube and temperature probe are passed through the gastric channel during the surgical procedure. This will provide core body temperature throughout the duration of surgery in operation theatre and during endoscopic procedure under general anaesthesia. When smaller diameter endoscope is entered through gastric channel, temperature probe can also be introduced in that tube to measure temperature continuously.

Keywords: Temperature Monitoring • LMA Gastro Airway • Endoscopy

Introduction

American Society of Anaesthesiologists (ASA) minimum monitoring standards includes temperature monitoring as one of most essential monitoring parameter in anaesthesiology. Intraoperative hypothermia and hyperthermia can both be detrimental for patients. Majority of Gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopies are performed under conscious sedation by non-anaesthesia personnel but recently in increased medicolegal environment, there is a shift towards deep sedation or general anaesthesia for advanced procedures and interventions [1]. Each patient under deep sedation or general anaesthesia has to be mandatorily monitored for minimum standards of monitoring. This introduced the supraglottic airways in GI endoscopies. Proseal Laryngeal Mask Airway (PLMA) comprising

of gastric channel has been used in the surgeries and the temperature probe can be inserted in gastric channel for measuring patient core body temperatures and evaluation of temperature dynamics [2].

We innovated the use of LMA® Gastro™ Airway (Teleflex, US) in routine surgical procedures where gastric tube and temperature probe can be introduced in the gastric channel of Gastro LMA during whole surgical duration. The temperature probe will pass through the distal end of Gastro LMA and will be placed in mid oesophagus. This will provide the core body temperature that is most accurate. The internal diameter of LMA® Gastro™ Airway gastric channel is wider enough to accommodate both temperature probe and gastric tube together (Figure1). This innovative thought can be very useful when LMA® Gastro™ Airway is used for surgical procedures in operation theatre. Also in outside operation theatre scenarios where

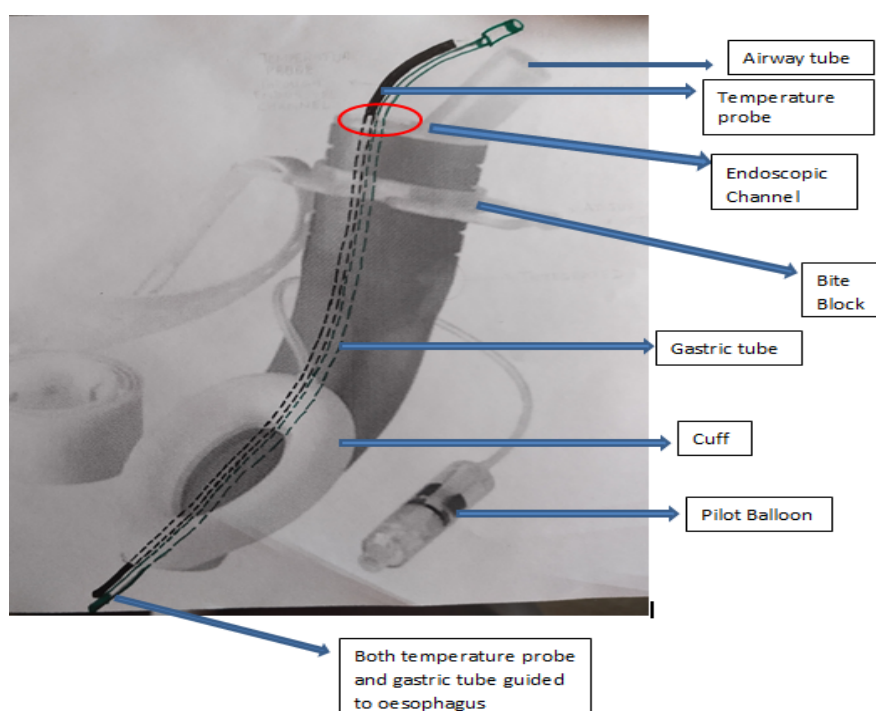


Figure 1. Shows LMA gastro airway with temperature probe in situ and gastric tube in situ.

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endoscopy is done, the temperature probe can be introduced simultaneously with endoscope for smooth conduct and accurate measurement of core body temperature. Thus LMA® Gastro™. Airway can be safely used in such circumstances with gastric tube during surgical procedures and with endoscope in endoscopic procedures.

The Authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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