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Overview of difficult airway management clinical practice guidelines in anesthesia. V.1

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ABSTRACT

Summary

Background: The aim of the clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) in the management of difficult airway is to provide a structured response to a potentially life-threatening clinical problem. However, there is concern about the extent to which they are based on sound evidence.

Objective: Our aim is to summarize and compare relevant recommendations and algorithms from evidence-based CPGs (EB-CPGs).

Methods: We will conduct a systematic review (overview) of CPGs, following Cochrane methods. We will summarize recommendations, its supporting evidence and strength of recommendations according to the GRADE methodology.

We will search CPGs that were published in the last 10 years, without language restrictions, in electronic databases, and also searched specific CPG sources, reference lists and consulted experts. We will search in PubMed, EMBase, Cochrane Library, LILACS, Tripdatabase and additional sources: National Guideline Clearinghouse, NeLH Guidelines Finder, Guía Salud GPCs en España, GAC guidelines, CMA Infobase: CPGs database, New Zealand Guidelines, Scottish Clinical Guidelines, EBM Guidelines, Health Services/Technology Assessment Text (HSTAT), National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) and Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI). Pairs of independent reviewers will select EB-CPGs and rate their methodological quality using the AGREE-II instrument.

We will include those EB-CPGs reporting standard methods for identification, data collection, study risk of bias assessment and recommendations' level of evidence. Discrepancies will be resolved by consensus.

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