

Novel Oral Airway with Built-In Bite Block

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Technology description

Summary

It is critical to secure airways to ensure adequate ventilation for patients during or following general anesthesia and in patients who are unconscious for other reasons. There are nearly 30 million general anesthetics performed annually in the United States and approximately one-third of them require tracheal intubation. Clenching dental trauma during tracheal intubation account for the majority of dental injuries (50 to 75 percent) in the perioperative period. Currently there are a variety of oral airways used to maintain a patent airway in an anesthetized patient, and a variety of bite blocks that prevent the teeth from being damaged. However, there is no device that combines the functionalities into one and works.

Description

UC San Diego researchers have designed a novel oral airway with a built-in bite block that achieves the desired functionalities.

Institution

[University of California, San Diego](#)

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