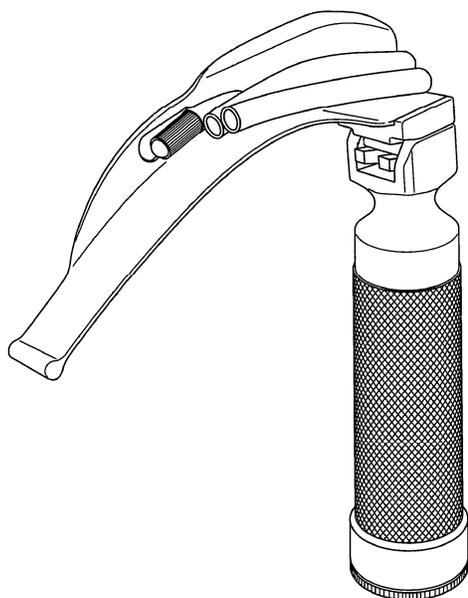


Improved Laryngoscope



DESCRIPTION

Laryngoscopes are generally used during tracheal intubation procedures, both in surgical situations and in any emergency situation requiring access to a patient's mouth and throat. Laryngoscopes are used to suspend the oral cavity, Pharynx and associated structures open for insertion of, for example, endotracheal tubes, which may facilitate positive pressure ventilation for the patient's lungs (Intubation). However, with conventional laryngoscopes, intubation still requires significant force be applied by the caregiver and erroneous placement of an endotracheal tube into the esophagus is a common occurrence. Because intubation is a two-handed process, one hand to hold the laryngoscope and one to maneuver the endotracheal tube, aspiration of secretions must be suspended, which can lead to an obstructed view and increased potential for error.

This technology discloses a redesigned laryngoscope which will allow for simpler and easier intubation of patients. This has been accomplished by improving its design such that the motions associated with intubation are much more natural. An ergonomic

handle that conforms to the hand of the operator improves the efficiency of force applied by the user to the patient via the laryngoscope. Furthermore, a powered extension or retraction of the endotracheal tube can be triggered by finger actuated button on the handle, freeing the caregiver's second hand to continue suction of secretions during tube placement.

KEY ASPECTS

- Ergonomic handle
- Button actuated extension/retraction of endotracheal tube allows intubation to be performed with only one hand
- Device has a "Twist To Lock" connection between the blade assembly and the handle
- Prototype device has been constructed

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Title	US Patent Number	Issued
Device to Aid in Placing Tracheal Tubes	7,608,040	10/27/2009

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