

CODE: A6

Question: Airway

Type: Semi-urgent

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Opening Scenario:

25 yr male with acute abd, ?appendicitis, for laparotomy, had major oral surgery 3 days ago for correction of congenital problem, wired jaws.

Major points of additional information to be provided to the candidate, e.g., hx, px, labs, x-ray, consults:

Degree of urgency of abdominal surgery, hydration of patient, n&v, ?septic etc

Degree of stability and extent of OMF surgery, what will happen if wires are cut, (oral surgeon says his face will fall off)

Patency of nares, likelihood of bleeding, edema, etc.

Degree of cooperation from patient

Major decision points (major decision points or options which must be recognized by the candidate)

?absolute need for surgery, (yes)

GA vs. regional, pro's and cons of regional for ?septic patient with difficult airway for ?appy, (pt refuses)

if GA, how to access airway, awake ETT vs awake trach, pro and cons of each methods for each

bailouts routes if approach goes wrong-regurgitation or bleeding during topicalization or trach etc

Any followup information required to lead to the end of the question

Post-op management

Critical features to be included i.e.the *must* have to pass the question or to be considered *completely* unacceptable

Recognition of full stomach

Recognition potential for disaster of jaw wires are cut

Ability to secure airway safely, with alternatives if method of choice fails

Ref: RCEXAMS1.NOV.94
USED: