

Avoiding the “Flailed” Airway

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Airway Algorithms

- Standard Airway Overview
- Crash Airway
- Difficult Airway
- Failed Airway

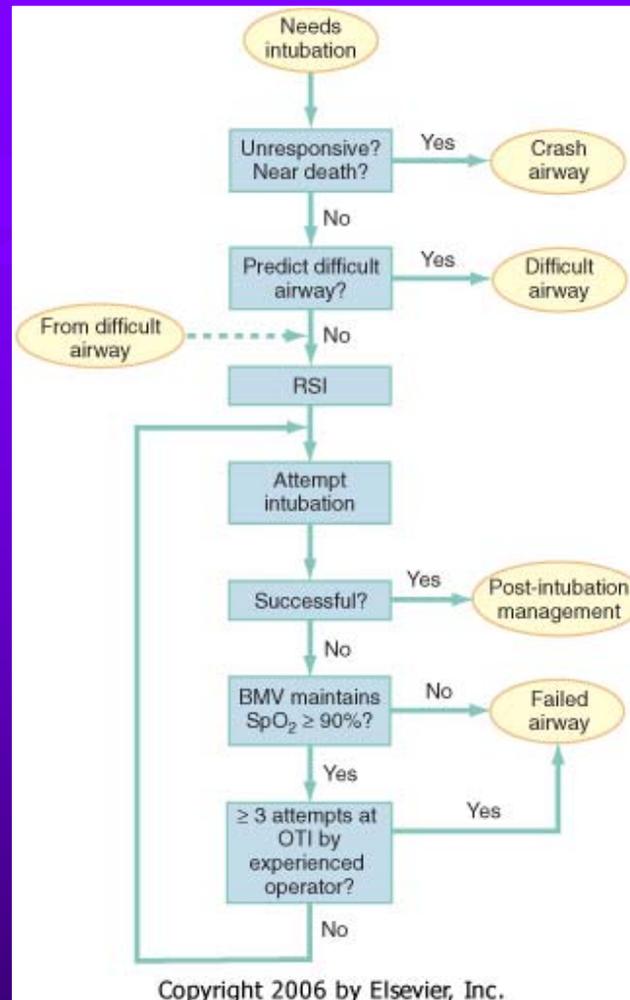


Figure 1-5 Main emergency airway management algorithm. RSI, rapid sequence intubation; BMV, bag/mask ventilation; SpO₂, pulse oximetry; OTI, orotracheal intubation. (Adapted from: Walls RM: The emergency airway algorithms. In Walls RM, et al [eds]: Manual of Emergency Airway Management. Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2004. Copyright © 2004 The Airway Course and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.)

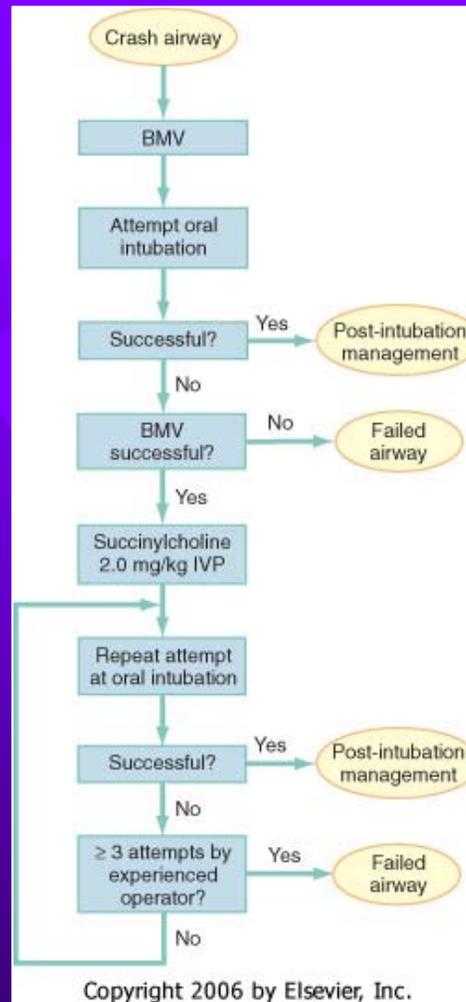


Figure 1-6 Crash airway algorithm. BMV, bag/mask ventilation; IVP, intravenous push. (Adapted from: Walls RM: The emergency airway algorithms. In Walls RM, et al [eds]: Manual of Emergency Airway Management. Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2004. Copyright © 2004 The Airway Course and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.)

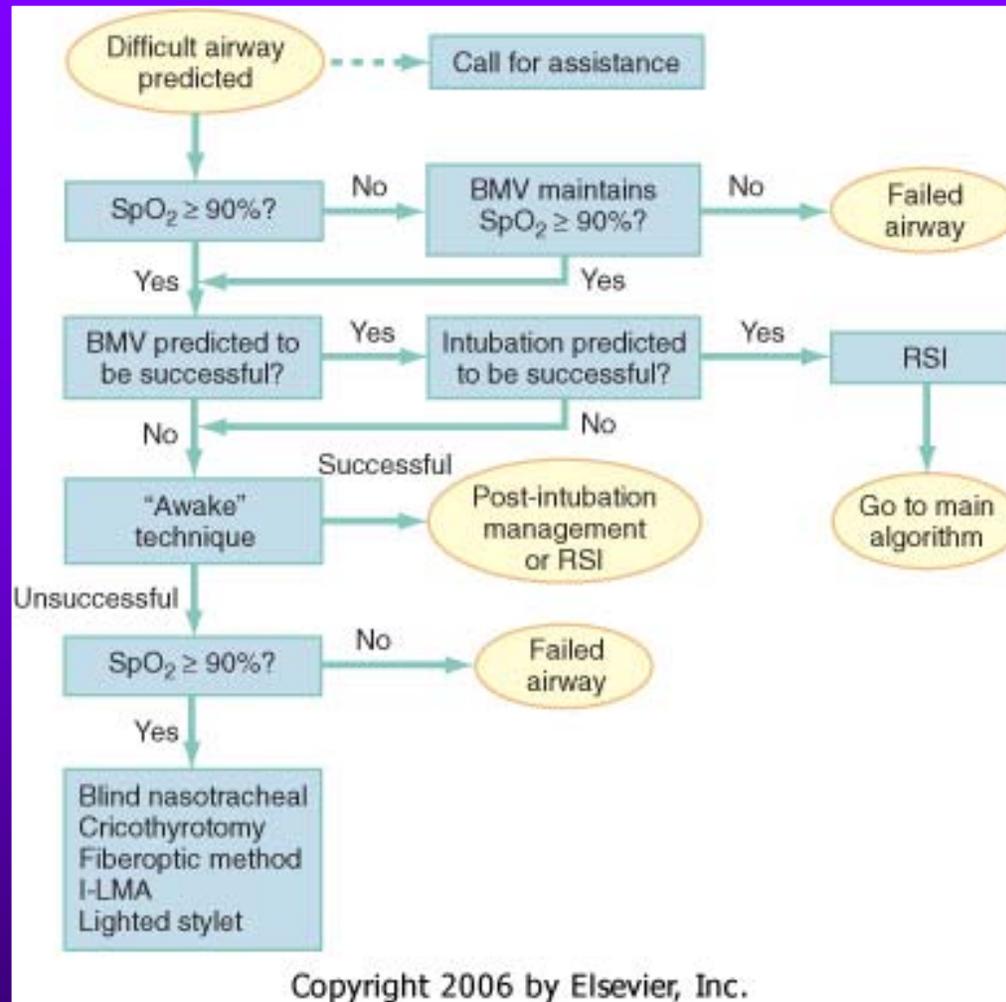


Figure 1-7 Difficult airway algorithm. SpO₂, pulse oximetry; BMV, bag/mask ventilation; RSI, rapid sequence intubation; I-LMA, intubating laryngeal mask airway. (Adapted from: Walls RM: The emergency airway algorithms. In Walls RM, et al [eds]: Manual of Emergency Airway Management. Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2004. Copyright © 2004 The Airway Course and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.)

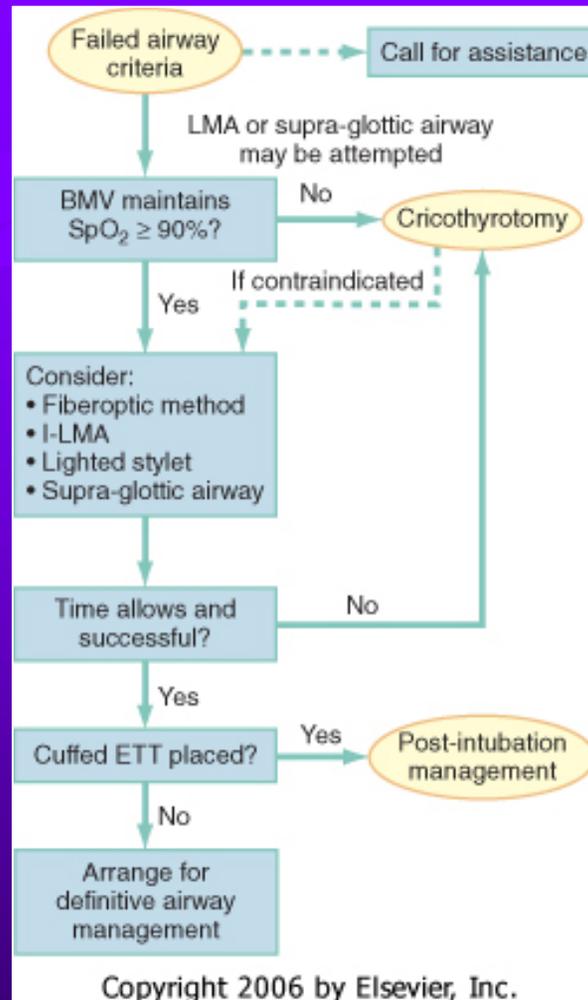


Figure 1-8 Failed airway algorithm. LMA, laryngeal mask airway; BMV, bag/mask ventilation; SpO₂, pulse oximetry; I-LMA, intubating laryngeal mask airway; ETT, endotracheal tube. (Adapted from: Walls RM: The emergency airway algorithms. In Walls RM, et al [eds]: Manual of Emergency Airway Management. Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2004. Copyright © 1999; 2004 The Airway Course and Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.)

The Failed Airway- Definition

- Orotracheal intubation is unsuccessful after three attempts by the most experienced provider,

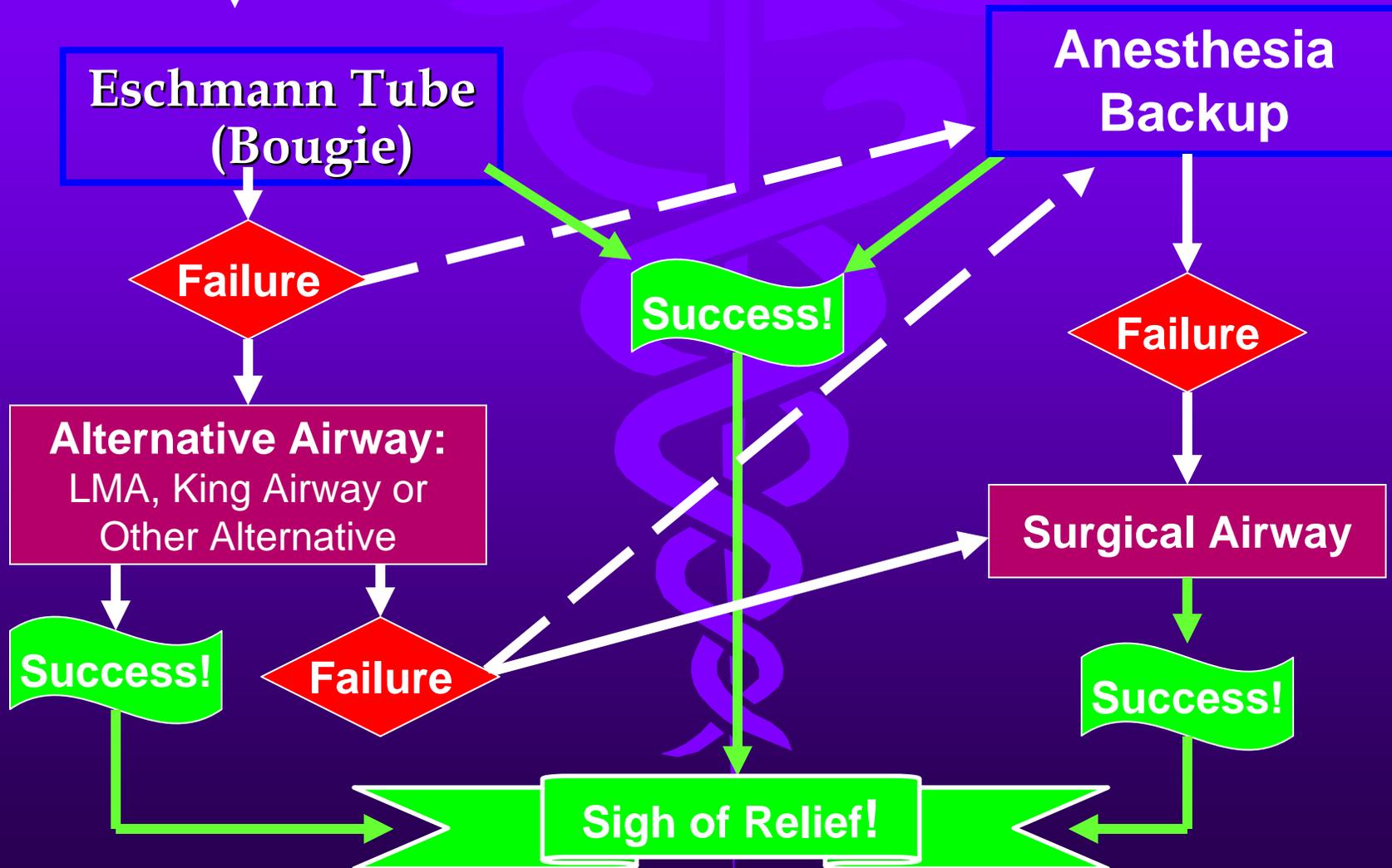
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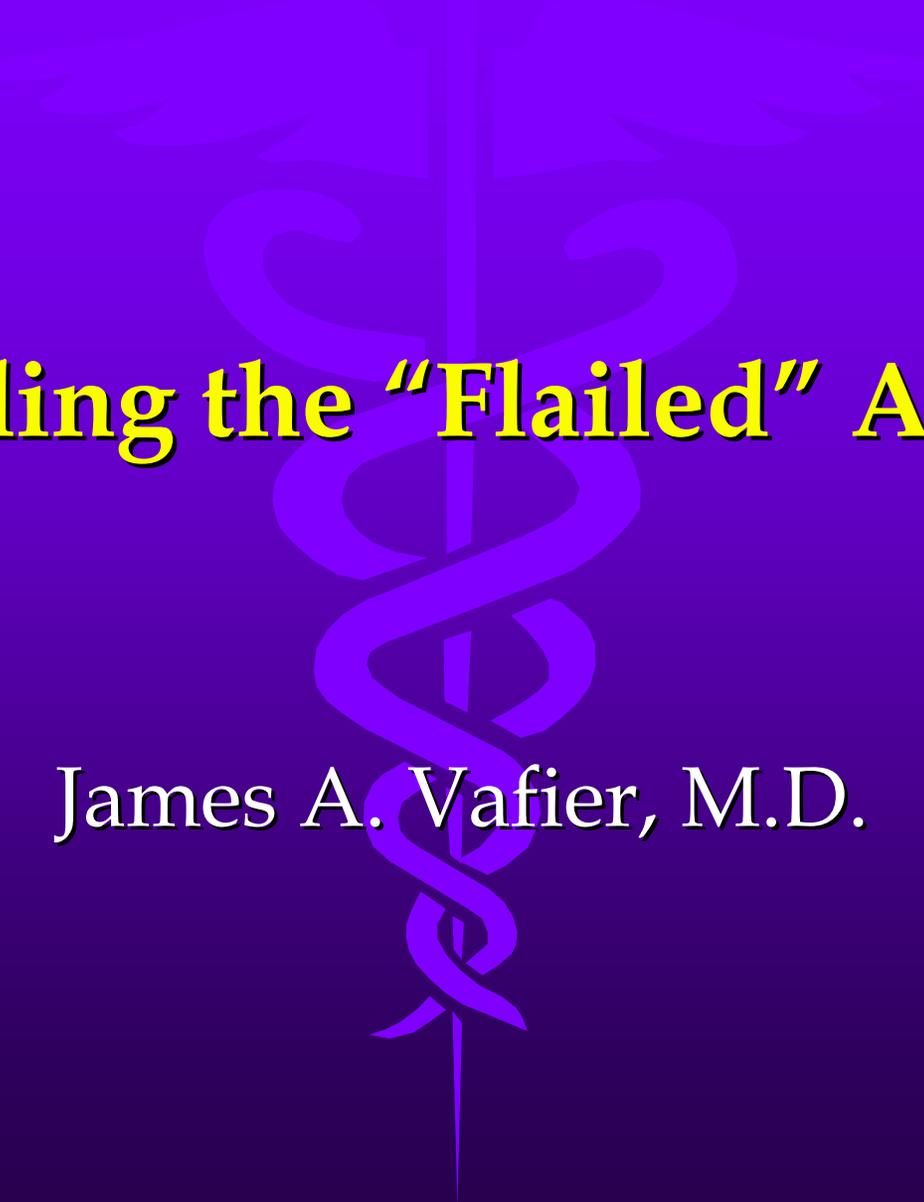
- A single failed attempt with the inability to maintain SpO₂ greater than 90% using a BVM- the “can’t intubate, can’t oxygenate” scenario

The Flaield Airway- Definition

- Repeated attempts at intubation despite one of the two criteria of the Failed Airway having been already met!
- Not knowing your limitations and allowing your pride/arrogance to compromise patient safety. “A man’s got to know his limitations.” -Clint Eastwood

Failed Airway





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