

RE: Anesthesiologist Endorsement for Intranasal Airway

I am pleased to report my impressions of the new internal nasal airway. Last week, I had a case that was rather challenging. A young man with a severely battered nose underwent reconstructive nasal surgery. There was more bleeding than usual. In the recovery room, despite the heavier bloody nasal drainage, the nasal airways maintained their patency and provided the patient a satisfactory airway. Attributable to that, the patient did not exhibit the usual anxiety and restlessness that he might have if his nose were completely blocked. It was necessary to return the patient to the operating room for control of the bleeding. The surgeon kept the nasal airway in place and very quickly and aggressively re-packed the nasal cavity to control the bleeding, which was coming from several sites. While he was working, I maintained a soft suction catheter, passed through the nasal airway, to keep suctioning the pooling blood from the throat. After the patient was again transferred to the recovery room, the nasal airways performed excellently in the immediate post-operative period. What I appreciated was that these airways provided easy, and without any patient cooperation, access into the pharynx to suction the blood that was accumulating and which would have presented a big problem had there been no route for evacuation. I would highly recommend, to any and all nasal surgeons, that they employ this device routinely in all their nasal and sinus surgery cases. They will have the eternal appreciation of their anesthesiologist.

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