To: AAST Multicenter Trial Committee

From: Shane Urban, BSN, RN

Re: Assessment of prehospital airway placements in the setting of trauma: An American Association for the Surgery of Trauma multicenter study

Date: 09/13/2022

Dear colleagues,

Prehospital endotracheal intubation is a contentious topic. Few studies have found its practice to be associated with improved neurologic outcomes in the presence of traumatic brain injury; while there is growing evidence that prehospital endotracheal intubation increases a patient’s likelihood of adverse outcomes and mortality, especially in the presence of exsanguination.

However, secondary to inconsistent study designs, variable prehospital practice patterns, etc., the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma were unable to make any recommendations regarding prehospital intubation in their last updated 2012 Endotracheal Intubation Practice Management Guideline.

The purpose of this study is to explore the use of various airway management techniques in the prehospital setting for patients experiencing acute, physical trauma. Data are needed so the trauma community can devise firm recommendations for prehospital providers regarding optimal airway management for trauma patients.

Kind regards,

Shane Urban, BSN, RN

Trauma Research Program Manager

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