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Joint Papers on Jet Ventilation

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# Joint Papers on Jet Ventilation 2011

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# **Preface**

Jet ventilation in the airway during general anaesthesia provides the endoscopist with an unobstructed view on a quiet operation field but preserves the anaesthesiologist's ability to control the patient's ventilation and oxygenation. It is now more than 40 years with jet ventilation for rigid bronchoscopy (Sanders 1967)<sup>1</sup> and almost exactly 40 years since introduction of intratracheal (percutaneous, Spoerel 1971)<sup>2</sup>, supra-glottic (Barr1971)<sup>3</sup>, and intracheal translaryngeal (Spoerel1973)<sup>4</sup> jet ventilation for endolaryngeal procedures. The risks of the new ventilation methods and how to avoid complications had been discussed within the following decade <sup>1-7</sup>. Laser surgery in the airway <sup>8</sup> brought new problems, which had been principally solved within another decade <sup>9</sup>.

However, avoidable complications still appear and discredit jet ventilation, which is also a last option to save a patient's life in airway emergencies. Emerging are also new uses of jet ventilation in lung surgery and interventional radiology. The European Society for Jet Ventilation (www.ESJV.org) was founded to keep alive and public the available experience.

The aim of a meeting on jet ventilation to be held in Tampere, June 2010, was that of the Society:

- to improve understanding of basic aspects of jet technology
- to distribute knowledge of different techniques and when to use them
- to help with selection of appropriate equipment
- to exchange experience and to discuss results
- to increase awareness of possible complications and
- how to avoid complications in all medical specialties possibly involved in jet ventilation.

Speakers had been invited to present established methods, their experience with special applications, and to discuss problems with jet ventilation. Unfortunately the meeting had to be cancelled because of too low a number of participants.

The Society still sees the need for publishing the meeting's content. Fortunately the majority of the invited speakers agreed and found the time to write, which is gratefully noted. The papers do not cover the whole field of jet ventilation but present basic knowledge and the most frequently used applications. Unfortunately the

publication lacks the planned discussions on technology and safety. Despite the limitations the authors hope the publications may help when planning research or when preparing to use jet ventilation in clinical work.

# Tampere, May 2012 Gerhard Baer

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# Technology of Jet Ventilation

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There is no person to admire for creation of the jet pump. The first mentioning of the principle is around 1800 in England. Jet pumps have been developed for different purposes via trial and error until recently. Nowadays almost all details of its function are known and calculable.

## Operation principle of jet pumps

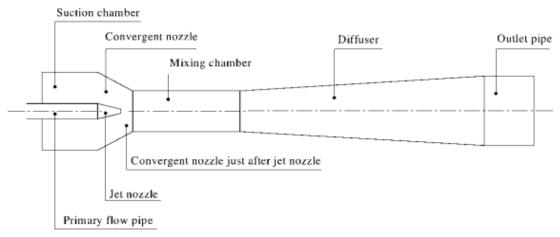


Figure 1. Different parts of jet pump 10

Fluid jet from a power fluid nozzle creates a lower pressure in the throat inlet than that in the suction chamber, which causes the pumping effect, see Figure 2.

- Benefits: simple, reliable operation.
- Drawbacks: low efficiency.

# Pressure distribution in a jet pump

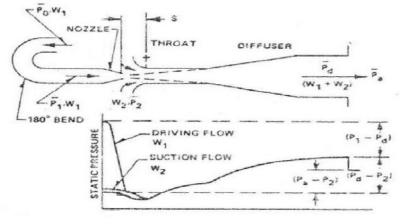


Figure 2. Power and suction fluid pressures in principle. 11

First the pressure drops at the throat inlet, which causes the suction phenomena. The pressure rises in the throat as the mixing of power and suction fluids proceeds. Typical required throat lengths are 4 to 8 throat diameters <sup>12</sup>. In the diffuser kinetic energy  $p_{\text{dyn}} = \frac{1}{2} \rho U^2$  changes into static pressure  $p_{\text{stat}}$ .

## Jet pump applications

- Water raising (water-water): Thomson (1852) <sup>13</sup>
- Vacuum creation (air-air)
- Power stations <sup>11</sup>
- Steam jet pump for removing water (gas-liquid) 14
- mixing and dosing purposes [6]<sup>15</sup>
- Pumping liquids containing solids (liquid gas-solid) 15
- Oil pumping (liquid liquid-gas-solid) <sup>16</sup>
- Continuos casting of steel
- Aeration of pollutet waters
- Flotation deinking aeration <sup>17</sup>
- Automotive fuel injection
- Jet pump ventilation

# Jet pumps

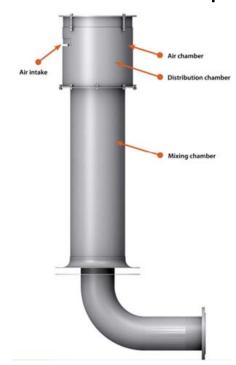


Figure 3a. Metso  $^{TM}$  OptiCell flotation deinking injector.



Figure 3b. Jet pump for metered dosing of chemicals [6].

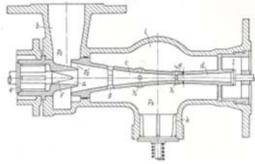


Figure 3c. Steam jet pump for pumping water [5].



Figure 3d. TTY Liquid jet gas pump [9].

For technicians, calculating jet pump performance is quite simple, because the pump's structures are optimally formed and do not change during operation. Some Examples:

## **Equations for incompressible fluids:**

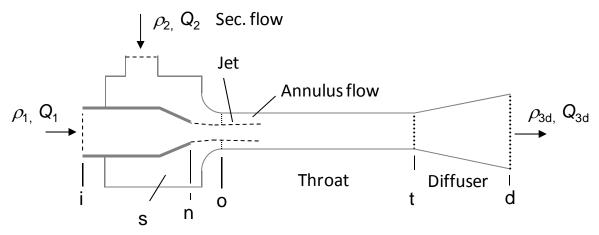


Figure 4. LJL-pump and nomenclature

Nozzle Eq.: 
$$p_{\rm l} - p_{\rm o} = Z(1 + K_{\rm n})$$
 ,  $Z = \frac{1}{2}\rho_{\rm l} U_{\rm n}^2$   
Sec. flow Eq.:  $p_{\rm s} - p_{\rm o} = Z\frac{SM^2}{c^2}(1 + K_{\rm en})$   
Throat Eq.:  $p_{\rm t} - p_{\rm o} = Z\left[2b + 2SM^2\frac{b^2}{1-b} - b^2(2 + K_{\rm t})(1 + SM)(1 + M)\right]$   
Diffuser Eq.:  $p_{\rm d} - p_{\rm t} = Zb^2\left[\frac{1 + SM}{1 + M}\right](1 + M)^2[1 - a^2 - K_{\rm d}]$ 

Equations become even simpler if the pumped fluid is the same as the power fluid:  $S = \rho_0/\rho_1=1$ 

Diffuser to throat area ratio squared is often negligible:  $a^2 = (A_t/A_d)^2 \approx 0$ 

The forms above are simple when compared to those valid for compressible gas/gas jet pumps.

Jet pumps are characterized by energy losses through friction, which needs to be known.

#### **Friction losses**

- Jet pump equations contain friction coefficients for nozzle  $K_n$ , secondary flow entrance  $K_e$ , throat  $K_t$  and diffuser  $K_d$ . The pressure losses are based on form  $\Delta p_f = K\rho U^2/2$ .
  - Density and velocity are defined in locations (see Figure 4) *n* for nozzle, *o*-annulus for entrance and *t* for both throat and diffuser<sup>18</sup>.
- Friction coefficients are determined by the pump geometry and fluid properties. They can be measured or found from literature <sup>16</sup>.
- For LJL-pump (incompressible) the friction coefficients remain constants i.e. pressures or flow ratios have no influence <sup>12</sup>.

- For liquid-jet gas pump (LJG-pump) the friction coefficients remain constants only for a constant nondimensional jet pump number  $n=2Zb^2c/p_0^{-12}$ .

## **Efficiency**

Jet pump efficiency is defined as the ratio of work done to the fluid that is pumped versus the energy used for pumping:

versus the energy used for pumping:  

$$\eta = \frac{p_{s} Q_{s} \ln(p_{d}/p_{s}) + Q_{2} (p_{d} - p_{s})}{Q_{1} (p_{l} - p_{d})} = N_{G} \phi_{s} + \text{NM}$$

$$N_G = \frac{p_s \ln(p_d/p_s)}{p_t - p_d}, \quad \phi_s = \frac{Q_{2Go}}{Q_1}$$
  $N = \frac{(p_d - p_s)}{(p_l - p_d)}, \quad M = \frac{Q_2}{Q_1}$ 

- For incompressible flow the efficiency is only the product of dimensionless head ratio *N* and suction ratio *M*.
- Further, the *N-M*-curve is constant for a LJL-pump with fixed geometry and fluids (friction coefficients are also constant) <sup>19</sup>.
- Maximum efficiencies are about 43 % for LJL and LJG -pumps and about 50 % for LJGL-pumps <sup>20</sup>.

## Performance - Nozzles

• The nozzle is a very important part of a jet pump. Here is shown a great effect to the air suction performance of liquid jet gas (LJG) –pump measured at TTY <sup>21</sup>.

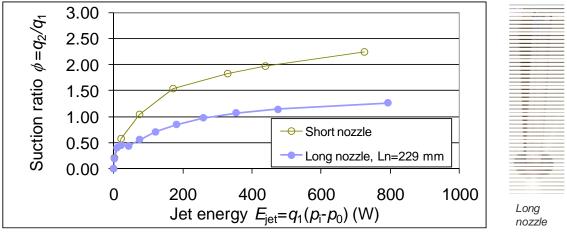


Figure 5. Air suction performance for short and long square-edge profiled nozzles with b=0.287.  $(H_d=700 \text{ mmH2O}, p_s\approx p_0, L_t=1.008\text{m})^{21}$ .

## Performance – Area ratio b = An/A

• Area ratio *b* is another jet pump key parameter. High *b*-values create high pumping pressure and low suction whereas a low b-value pump has high suction ratio but low output pressure.

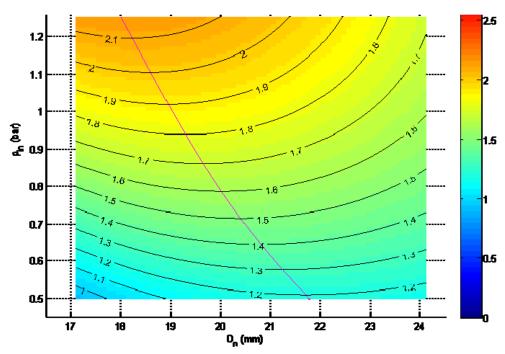


Figure 6. Measured air suction performance  $\phi_s$  as a function of jet pressure  $p_i$  and nozzle diameter  $D_n$  ( $b=D_n^2/42^2$ ) for short nozzle having triangular cross section ( $H_d=700 \text{ mmH2O}$ ,  $p_s\approx p_0$ ,  $L_t=1.008m$ , interpolated from 16 measurment points)  $^{21}$ .

#### Jet Ventilation - Measurements

- For defining the jet pump operation the minimum requirements are measurements for three pressures  $p_i$ ,  $p_s$ ,  $p_d$  and two flow rates  $Q_1$ ,  $Q_2$ .
- Friction factors  $(K_n, K_s, K_t, K_d)$  and the NM-curve can be defined as a series of these measurements.
  - Typically the pressure measurements are tried to take as close to the jet pump as possible in order to reduce the effect of piping friction losses etc. <sup>19</sup>.

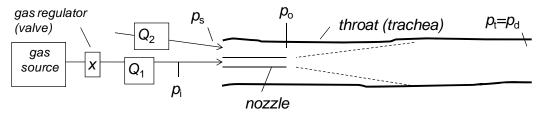


Figure 7. Required jet pump measurements.

## The Example of Intratracheal Jet Ventilation for Laryngomicroscopy

O Human trachea sizes have been measured and reported by Baer et al 1987  $^{22}$ , see Table 1. An average size at ring 12 is chozen for the example case =>  $A_t$ =233.5 mm<sup>2</sup>. It is important to notice that the range of human trachea areas is very wide,  $A_t$  =96...462 mm<sup>2</sup>.

Table1. Human trachea sizes <sup>22</sup>

Convergent tracheas, n=111				Divergent	t tracheas,	n = 78	
Ring	mean	SD	Range	Ring	mean	SD	Range
7	268	62	$114-462 \text{ mm}^2$	7	206	49.5	$114-308 \text{ mm}^2$
12	232	55.6	$96-364 \text{ mm}^2$	12	235	56.2	$138-396 \text{ mm}^2$

- O Shape of the example case trachea is chozen to be somewhat asymmetric according to measures given by Baer et al. <sup>22</sup>, see Figure 8.
- o Nozzle (catheter) sizes from  $^{22}$ ,  $D_n$ =2.2 mm, Od=3.4mm
- Longitudinal divergence or convergence is quite small and therefore neglected  $^{22}$ . Length measures has been guessed, nozzle:  $L_n$ =240 mm, suction chamber (upper trachea and laryngoscope)  $L_s$ =200 mm and throat (lower trachea)  $L_t$ =200 mm.

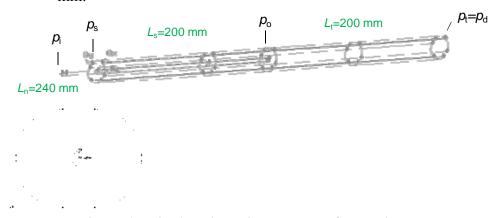


Figure 8. Throat (trachea) and nozzle geometry of example case.

## **CFD-solution for the example case**

- The example case has been solved by using computational fluid dynamics (CFD) program (Fluent R13). Main features are:
- Compressible (isentropic) air-air case (at operating pressure of 101325 Pa)
- K-omega turbulence model
- Back pressure  $p_d$ =1471 Pa (15 cmH2O at carina) taken from Albert et al 1972 <sup>23</sup>.
- Suction pressure  $p_s=0$  Pa, T=293 K (room pressure and temperature)
- Nozzle pressure (T=293 K)
  - Multible cases with different pressures  $p_i=[140, 160, 180, 200]$  kPa

## **Overall CFD Results**

Table 2. Main CFD inputs and results

Case	pi (Pa)	ps (Pa)	pd (Pa)	N	q1 (I/s)	q2 (I/s)	M()	eetta (%)	U_jet (m/s)	Z (pa)	T_1n (K)	$ ho$ _1n (kg/m3)
6	120000	0	1471	0.012	0.879	neg.	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	231.3	35667	265	1.33
7	140000	0	1471	0.011	0.954	0.624	0.65	0.7 %	251	42951	260	1.36
5	160000	0	1471	0.009	1.025	2.233	2.18	2.0 %	270	50516	255	1.39
8	180000	0	1471	0.008	1.092	3.578	3.28	2.7 %	287	58475	250	1.42
2	200000	0	1471	0.007	1.155	4.616	4.00	3.0 %	304	66794	245	1.45

- The operation of the jet pump begins quite late, at about  $U_{jet} = 250 \text{m/s}$  (140 kPa, see Table 2)

- The highest possible jet velocity for this nozzle type (straight pipe) is the velocity of sound in air, c=313m/s at T=243K (c=343m/s at T=293K; for oxygen c=327m/s).
- Minimum required inlet pressure for this long nozzle (240mm) is about pi=140kPa (20.3psi). This is quite in accordance with the minimum value of 103kPa (15psi) reported by Fassl et al. <sup>24</sup> for a shorter catheter (Jelco IV 4068: 14-gauge, 2-1/4').
- Efficiency is very low, mainly because of small b-value (b=0.016) and high nozzle pressure loss (small diameter and great length).
- High nozzle pressure loss causes **nozzle dependent** compressibility effects:
- Jet temperature decreases (from 20°C to -13 to -30°C)
  - → Jet density  $\rho_{1n}$  increases ( $S=\rho_2/\rho_1<1$ ,  $\rho_2=1.205$ kg/m<sup>3</sup> at T=293K and p=101325Pa.

## **NM- eta (η) Results**

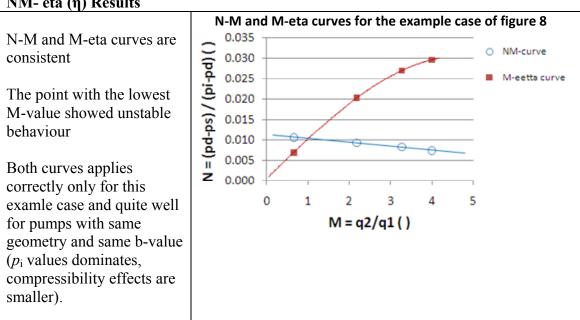


Figure 9. N-M and M-eta curves for example case.

#### 1 D Theory

- Friction factors  $(K_n, K_s, K_t)$  and other relevant parameters for the incombressible 1D-theory (fig. 6) has been calculated from the CFD-results (Appendix 1).
- The measured friction factor values include some variation and the M=0.65 point varies much more (unstable).
- $K_n$ ,  $K_s$ ,  $K_t$  and S has been taken from the last point (M=4). Theory fits well to the CFD-points despite that the real nozzle is compressible.

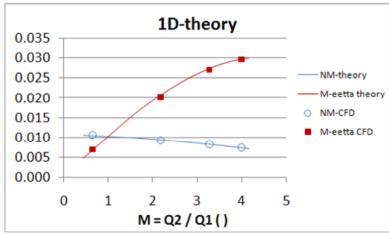


Figure 10. 1D-theory curves with  $K_n=2$ ,  $K_s=0.662$ ,  $K_t=0.031$  and S=0.833 (b=0.01628).

## Jet Ventilation – Simulation

- The known NM-curve or known constants for the 1D-theory can be used for **simulating jet ventilation cases** by changing some of the variables (constant *b*-value pump). For example:
  - Simulating the effect of inlet pressure  $p_i$  to the resulting (breathing) flow rate  $Q_3$ .
  - Calculating required inlet pressures  $p_i$  for different back pressures  $p_d$  (lungs) with some wanted output flow rates  $Q_3$ .
- The use of NM-curve is very simple. There is no need to know any other pump parameters as long as the jet pump geometry stays the same.
- 1D-theory is capable for more advanced simulations. For example different b-value pumps (throat or nozzle area changes) can be handeld by forming models for the changing K-values.

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### Nomenclature

A = area (m<sup>2</sup>) $a = diffuser area ratio A_t/A_d$  $b = jet pump area ratio A_n/A_t$  $C = A_2C_0/A_n = (A_t - A_n)/A_n = 1 - b/b$ D = diameter (m) H = pressure head (mH<sub>2</sub>O)K = friction loss coefficient L = length (m)  $M = liquid-liquid suction ratio, Q_2/Q_2$  $N = head ratio (p_d - p_x)/(p_i - p_d)$ NC = gas head ratio,  $p_2 \ln(p_d/p_2)/(p_i-p_d)$ n = dimensionless jet pump number,  $2Zb^2c/p_c$ p = pressure (abs.) (Pa) Q = volume flow rate  $(m^3/s)$  $S = density ratio p_2/p_1$ U = velocity (m/s) Z = jet dynamic pressure (Pa)  $\mu$  = efficiency  $\Upsilon$  = gas density ratio at 3 pc<sub>2</sub>/p<sub>2</sub>  $p = density (kg/m^2)$  $\phi$  = gas flow ratio at s Qc<sub>x</sub>/Q<sub>2</sub>

# **Subscripts**

1 = primary flow (liquid)

2 = liquid secondary flow

G = gas secondary flow

2G = bubbly secondary flow

2Go = bubbly secondary flow at o

3 = mixture of fluids 1, 2 and G

en = throat entry

i = location, Figure

n = nozzle

o = throat entry

s = suction chamber

t = throat end

d = diffuser end

#### **Abbreviations**

LJL = liquid jet - liquid -pump LJG = liquid jet - gas-pump LJLG = liquid jet - liquid-gas -pump

# $Appendix \ 1-1 D \hbox{-theory calculations}$

р0	T0 (K)	Rair (J/kgK)	$\rho_2 (kg/m^3)$	Dn (mm)	An (mm²)	At (mm^2)	b()	kappa
101325	293	286.9	1.205	2.2	3.80	233.5	0.016	1.4

case nro	7	5	8	2
pi (Pa)	140000	160000	180000	200000
po (Pa)	-52	-107	-252	-404
Cd ( )	1	1	1	1
An (mm²)	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80
q1 (I/s)	0.95	1.02	1.09	1.155
Un (m/s)	251	270	287	303.8
c (m/s)	323	320	317	314
Mach nro ( )	0.78	0.84	0.91	0.97
Roo1_awa	1.363	1.391	1.418	1.447
Z (Pa)	42951	50516	58475	66794
Kn ( )	2.26	2.17	2.08	2.00
T_stat_awa	259.9	255.0	250.1	245.4
At (mm²)	233.5	233.5	233.5	233.5
b()	0.0163	0.0163	0.0163	0.0163
c()	60.4	60.4	60.4	60.4
Roo2 (kg/m3)	1.205	1.205	1.205	1.205
S()	0.885	0.867	0.850	0.833
q2 (I/s)	0.62	2.23	3.58	4.616
M()	0.65	2.18	3.28	4.00
ps (Pa)	0	0	0	0
Ks ( )	10.62	0.87	0.72	0.66
h_out (cmH2O)	15	15	15	15
pt=p_out (Pa)	1471	1471	1471	1471
Kt ( )	-5.89	-0.55	-0.13	0.03

## Appendix 2 – CFD pressure profiles (p<sub>i</sub>=200 kPa)

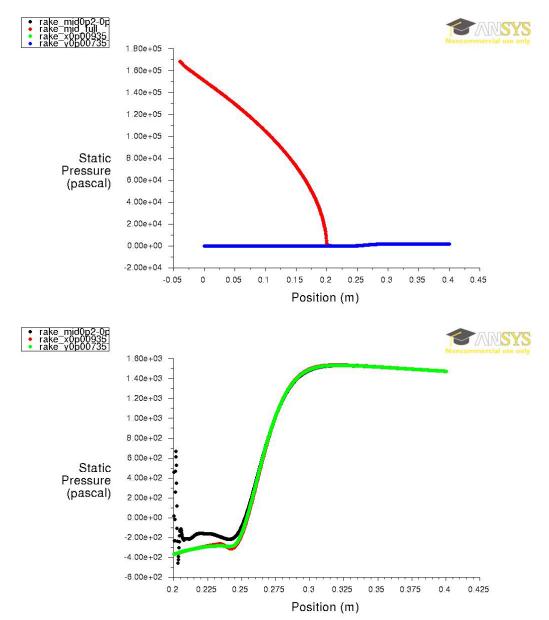


Figure A1.  $p_i$ =200 kPa example case pressure profiles at the middle of the geometry and at both trachea walls (x and y).Up: From nozzle inlet to throat outlet (z=-0.04 to 0.4 m), Down: From nozzle tip to throat outlet (z=0.2 to 0.4 m).

## Appendix 3 – CFD contours for density and temperature ( $p_i$ =140 kPa)

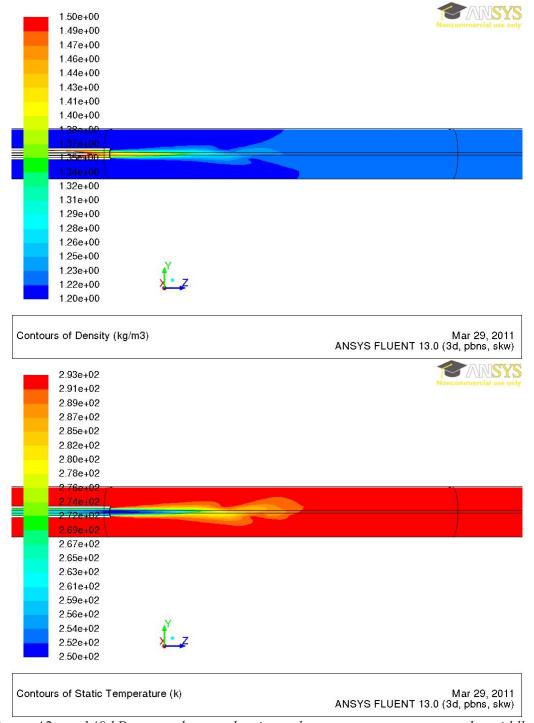


Figure A2.  $p_i$ =140 kPa example case density and temperature contours at the middle of the geometry (x=0 plane).

# Jet ventilation settings and setting changes

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Operating a jet ventilator needs certain knowledge about the settings and parameters that have to be controlled and measured during the application of this ventilation method on patients. The actual knowledge about this topic is mostly deriving from the experience of users and to a lower extent by evidence based investigations. However, there is some material about the interaction of certain ventilation settings and the resulting gas exchange parameters. One has to be aware of the limitations of these reports: no parameter remains stable even during unchanged settings, and modifications of settings are neither immediately, nor consistently and even less proportionally followed by changes in gas exchange parameters. Besides, during one intervention, the same settings may result over time in different parameters. The probably most important consequence of these statements is that jet ventilation needs continuous surveillance and immediate adjustments and readjustments of settings according to the prevailing situation. Therefore, handling of jet ventilation requires a pragmatic approach on an individual basis and remains to a large extent dependent on the personal experience of the user.

A fundamental issue in this context is the differentiation of settings that are given and remain unchanged (fix settings) such as Working Pressure, Cycles per Minute, Inspiration Duration, and Oxygen Concentration in the jet gas, while there are resulting settings such as Oxygen Concentration in the airway, Gas Volumes and Airway Pressure which are interdependent and may change by time.

#### **Working Pressure**

Working pressure (WP) is the gas pressure deriving from the external gas source that is translated through the jet tubing before the nozzle or the airway catheter. Modern jet ventilators do not generate the working pressure themselves, they only interrupt transmit the pressure from the gas source to the tubing, according to certain limitations set by the user. For that reason, the highest possible WP is near to the source pressure, but never exceeds it. WP has the strongest influence on the efficiency of gas exchange and in particular on CO2 elimination <sup>1</sup>. As typical for jet ventilation, there is no linear correlation between the WP and gas exchange parameters. Changes of WP produce non-proportional changes in the applied gas volumes.<sup>2</sup>

## Cycles per Minute

Cycles per Minute (CpM) is a synonym for ventilation frequency, which in turn is the number of respiratory cycles generated per time. Usually the CpM are set at about

100 to 150 CpM, but in certain conditions this might vary between 12 (low frequency jet ventilation) to 300. In general one can say that higher frequencies allow a smoother working field for the surgeon, which is the main reason for the preference for high frequency application of jet ventilation. With this the amplitude of tidal movements within the operating field are smaller. However, with higher CpM the proportion of dead space increases too and this might reduce the efficiency of CO2 elimination<sup>3</sup> Before emergence of anaesthesia, and after the neuromuscular blockade has been completely reversed, the ventilation can be continued with an ever higher frequency, e.g. 300 CpM. With this setting, CO2 is gradually accumulated, thus increasing the likelihood of spontaneous breathing. The latter does not interfere with the ventilation. When sufficient spontaneous tidal movements are present, the ventilation can be stopped and the jet catheter can be removed.

Oxygenation remains unaffected by the CpM over a large spectrum of settings. But with higher frequencies, there might build up some auto-PEEP, which is caused by shortening of the exhalation time duration. Due to the resistance of the exhalation pathway, the gas egress may be hindered and the auto-peep might reach to undesired values.<sup>4</sup> This may have a minor beneficial impact on oxygenation.

## **Inspiration Duration**

The duration of inspiration (ID) is an analogy for the same parameter during conventional ventilation: in jet ventilation it defines the ratio between the active insufflation time and the passive exhalation period. During the latter insufflation is simply halted. Accordingly, the ID value is presented as percentage of the insufflation time in relation to a complete respiratory cycle. The default value is usually set at 50%. Changes of ID have an immediate effect on the delivered gas volumes. Longer ID result in a shorter exhalation, and may increase the auto-PEEP<sup>5</sup> These effects in turn are dependent on the CpM, so no blanket statements can be made for changes of ID. There is a trend for slight improvement of oxygenation by extending the ID, but this happens on the expense of carbon dioxide elimination. Secondarily, there will be a shift of the thoracic excursions into a deeper inspiratory position, which in turn can lead to higher airway pressures and consecutively worsen gas exchange as well. In general one can state that modifications of the ID are usually followed by changes in other parameters, and that the resulting effects on gas exchange are unpredictable. Therefore it does not make much sense to vary the ID; it seems to be the best to keep it unchanged near by 50%.6

## **Oxygen Concentrations**

The oxygen concentration (fraction) in the jet gas (FjetO2) results from the set mix of oxygen and air which is supplied from the high-pressure gas sources. This value can be varied between 0.21 (air) and 1.0 (pure oxygen). It is a common habit among users to equate the FjetO2 with the inspiratory oxygen concentration as used in

conventional ventilation (FiO2). However, this analogy is not adequate because due to "air entrainment", the incoming oxygen concentration in the airway inevitably falls somewhat below the set FjetO2 value. But the reduction in oxygen consentration is very unpredictable. The higher the FjetO2 is set, the more pronounced this effect results. Besides, the negative effect of entrainment on oxygenation is highly dependent on the configuration of the ventilation equipment. The deeper the jet catheter is inserted into the respiratory tract, the less ambient air is entrained and the oxygen concentration remains less affected. The negative influence of entrainment is therefore the unpredictable lowering of the resulting oxygen concentration in the airway and lungs. While an increase in the FjetO2 is the most likely measure to improve oxygenation, its reduction is a desirable objective in the application of laser beams. Even by avoiding the use of inflammable material, and exclusively using laser-resistant equipment, a certain risk of ignition and fire complications remains <sup>7</sup>. This is due to particles released from the tissue of the operated patient, which can ignite in an oxygen-rich atmosphere. To keep this risk to a minimum, the lowest possible oxygen concentration in the ventilation gas (<40%) has to be observed during activation of the laser device<sup>8</sup>

## **Gas Volumes**

An important resulting parameter in JV is the delivered gas volume, expressed either as tidal volume (TV = volume of one insufflation cycle), or as minute volume (MV = TV · CpM). In contrast to conventional ventilators, in JV gas volumes are not identical with the corresponding thoracic expansion. The resulting chest expansion is much smaller than the applied gas volumes, thus indicating that a considerable portion of the delivered gas amount caused only a "washout" of the airways. Only a small part of the gas is translated to alveolar ventilation. Tidal an minute volumes are resulting parameters, which variate depending on multiple factors. The gas volumes are directly influenced by WP and ID, as well as by the geometry of gas-carrying components and the airway. An increase in WP results in higher TV and MV, but as usual in JV this relationship is not linear because of the complex interaction of multiple factors.

## **Airway Pressure**

The airway pressure (Paw) is a resulting parameter that is mainly influenced by WP and to a lesser extent by other factors. As long as no obstacle to the gas outflow exists, the Paw remains very low in the magnitude of a only few millibar. CpM and ID have little direct impact on the Paw, except in extreme settings when it comes to remarkable changes in gas volumes. Additional factors such as size and shape of the tubing and the airway geometry are involved. Since high Paw directly bears the risk of barotrauma, a continuous measurement of Paw is required, as well an automatic shutdown feature of the jet ventilator if set pressure limit is exceeded. A state-of-theart jet ventilator is additionally equipped with a second Paw-monitoring line that can be connected to a separate lumen of the jet catheter. Through this special line, the Paw is

continuously measured and displayed as a pressure curve indicating its determinants such as peak inspiratory pressure (PIP), mean airway pressure (mPaw) and endexpiratory pressure (EEP). In any case, the pressure is also measured in the jet tube, which however is only possible during the short break between the insufflations. Here, another alarm limit may be installed (break pressure), which needs to be undercut during each cycle so that the next insufflation will be released. With these provisions, jet ventilation is very safe in the context of avoiding lung injury, although the device operates with far higher WP than conventional ventilation. From strictly scientific point of view, one has to admit that the Paw in the trachea as measured with the ventilator's sensors is not identical to the airway pressures in various portions of the lung, but may be accepted as a good approximation. This can be used to activate the necessary alarms and to obey the pressure limits set by the user.

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# Driving gas conditioning in jet ventilation

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Ventilation with dry and cold gas may cause damage to the mucosa of the respiratory tract.<sup>1</sup> Mucosal damage may lead to temporary disturbance of muco-ciliary clearance, or to more severe morbidity related pneumonia or even to life-threatening conditions such as a necrotizing tracheo-bronchitis.<sup>2</sup> The involved factors in the etiology of these complications are:

- 1. exposure time to unconditioned gas during ventilation
- 2. hemodynamic instability
- 3. direct physical pressure on the mucosa
- 4. pre-existing damage of the mucosa as is in case of cigarette smoking- history.

Unfortunately it became a widespread habit among jet ventilation users to define shorter ventilation durations as "safe" in the context of ventilating without gas conditioning. Most popular estimates for this time period are < 30 or 45 minutes. It has to be emphasized, that such assumptions are not evidence based and reflect only the personal views or desires of those users, who don't have a gas conditioning unit but would like to justify their use of JV. It's however natural, that the longer the intervention lasts, the more problems would occur with unconditioned JV. But due to the multi-factorial origin of the resulting airway complications, a safe time period cannot be defined at all. Since even shorter procedures under JV without gas conditioning cause clinically relevant hypothermia, the only reasonable attitude in this context is that gas conditioning should be always implemented, independently of the duration or type of JV. Hypothermia is an unavoidable consequence of unconditioned gas ventilation due to the fact that large gas portions between 20 and 30 l/min are injected into the immediate vicinity of the large thoracic vessels, which in this case represent an efficient heat exchanger. Within 10 to 15 minutes of unconditioned JV, a decrease in body temperature of more than 2°C has to be expected.<sup>3</sup>

To create a well conditioned gas for JV means to warm up the gas to body temperature (37°C) and to enrich it with 100% relative humidity <sup>4</sup>. Neither warming of dry gas, nor simply adding water to unheated gas can achieve this requirement;

warming and moistening must go hand in hand in a coordinated mode <sup>5, 6</sup>. For doing so, certain physical properties and limitations have to be taken into account. As pressure dramatically drops when the gas stream leaves the jet nozzle, the evicted gas expands and cools down by loosing energy. This causes condensation of the transported humidity. The maximally possible water content of gas is temperature dependent. At body temperature, ventilation gas can contain 44 mg/l thus representing 100% relative humidity. When the gas cools down to ambient air temperature (22°C), the maximum capacity to carry water at 100% relative humidity drops to 19 mg/l. Therefore, whenever the temperature of the gas decreases – which unavoidably happens in the delivery system of jet ventilators of any kind – condensation of water occurs. This leads to formation of water droplets that are injected with the otherwise humidified gas into the airway. This water is rapidly absorbed and represents on the long run nothing else than an unwanted infusion of free water. This has to be considered in long term jet ventilation and even more in children as a potential cause for hyperhydration, disturbance of the osmotic balance and hyponatremia <sup>6</sup>.

In modern jet ventilators, gas conditioning is provided by generating steam that is added to the jet gas. Therefore in the device the gas temperature comes close to 100°C and is saturated with water. Along the jet line which has a predetermined length, the temperature of the gas decreases to exactly 37°C, which causes the condensation of some part of the humidity. The relative humidity remains at 100%. This not really ideal from physiological point of view, but probably the best one can physically achieve <sup>7, 8</sup>. An inbuilt microprocessor calculates the right amount of water that has to be vaporized to the actually delivered gas amount. The user of the device can operate an overall gas conditioning level ranging from 0 to 100%, but he cannot define the amount of water or the heat level separately. Considering the goal of always applying as much conditioning as possible, the default setting should be at 100% <sup>9</sup>. However, in certain cases, a lower setting might be necessary. This is the case, when the operator is using an operation microscope and its lenses or mirror would become fogged by the exhaled humid gas. In this case, the conditioning level should be lowered as much as necessary and as little as possible.

Finally, conditioning of the delivered gas during JV is not an additional feature that might be applied or not according to availability of equipment or preferences o users; it

is a mandatory prerequisite for safe and time-unlimited application of this ventilation mode. The level of conditioning should be adjusted according the principle: as much as possible and as low as necessary. Contemporary equipment enables simple assembling and easy use of gas conditioning whenever JV is executed, in particular if a jet ventilator is used which automatically adjusts the water and energy supply to the actual ventilation settings.

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# Monitoring during jet ventilaton

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The purpose of this chapter is to review monitoring methods and their information value during jet ventilation for laryngeal and tracheal surgery with laser techniques.  $CO_2$  laser for excisional surgery in the airway is generally done via an operating laryngoscope equipped with supraglottic or subglottic small-bore tube or tubes to deliver jet streams of inspiratory gas mixed with air using a variety of frequencies (20 to >300 /min). This results in repeated pressure increases in the trachea and thus provides alveolar ventilation. For special cases, percutaneous transtracheal jet ventilation is used  $^1$ .

Providing safe anaesthesia and maintaining oxygenation and sufficient ventilation during surgical laser procedures in the airway is more like art for the anaesthesiologist. Aside from administering sufficient anaesthesia/analgesia one has to provide the surgeon with maximally unobstructed view of the laryngeal surgical field while preventing complications (most significantly airway fires) during the fragile process <sup>2</sup>. Modern monitoring methods measure gas concentrations in the inspiratory and expiratory gas streams thus providing the facilities for safe oxygenation and normal carbon dioxide homeostasis <sup>3,4</sup>. Transcutaneous carbon dioxide monitoring may or may not be useful <sup>5,6</sup>. Pulse oximetry has routinely been used to confirm satisfactory oxygenation of peripheral arterial blood, which depends heavily on alveolar oxygen concentration enriched by various modes of jet ventilation <sup>7</sup>.

Vocal cords and trachea are highly irritable during manipulations with the laser devices so that the patient must be adequately anaesthetized and ample amounts of analgetics must be administered to suppress autonomic responses, coughing and laryngeal spasms that interfere with surgery and may endanger the patient's well being<sup>8</sup>.

Neuromuscular block may be necessary to ensure immobilization of the surgical field even if this may prolong the recovery from anaesthesia.

Gas sampling for side-stream capnometry is straightforward – a metallic tube or needle is placed into the trachea either through the operating laryngoscope or transtracheally and connected to the gas analyzer. Many gas monitors can measure oxygen simultaneously from the same sample. During high frequency ventilation, the inspired and expired gases mix and the measured value gives a weighed average of gas concentrations. This can be avoided by decreasing the jet frequency intermittently to 20 /min or less so that a good expiratory tidal volume and its end-tidal values can be obtained <sup>3,10</sup>. Some jet ventilators can be programmed to give one larger tidal volume every minute or a dual system can be used with two separate jet streams with high and low frequencies superimposed and controlled electronically by solenoid valves <sup>11</sup>. Combined jet frequencies have been described having monitoring tubes for gas sampling and pressure monitoring <sup>2,4</sup>.

Normoventilation means alveolar ventilation which maintains the carbon dioxide level at around 4.0 kPa or 5,3 %. Anaesthesia is associated with respiratory depression, mainly due to opioids. Abnormally high ETCO<sub>2</sub> levels can be seen also during clinically sufficient inhalational anesthesia during spontaneous breathing. Permissible hypercarbia states, that an acutely higher than normal carbon dioxide concentration is not harmful for the patient if kept below 80 kPa, above which carbon dioxide narcosis may follow <sup>12</sup>. End-tidal carbon dioxide is a good indicator of the overall carbon dioxide concentration and has good correlation with arterial P<sub>a</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>-values <sup>13,14</sup>.

The oxygen content of the gas has to be adjusted to facilitate alveolar oxygenation and kept low enough to prevent fires caused by the CO<sub>2</sub> laser igniting non-metal tubes, cannulaes or coal resulting from tissue destruction. Monitoring of expired alveolar oxygen concentration forms the basis of adjusting oxygen of the inspired oxygen fraction enabling fine adjustment of a satisfactory pulse oximetry reading. Arterial blood gas analyses (Pa<sub>O2</sub>, Pa<sub>CO2</sub> and arterial oxygen saturation) are invasive procedures and are impractical to be done routinely. Expiratory gas concentrations and

pulse oximetry provide satisfactory data on the effect and quality of ventilation and oxygenation <sup>7</sup>.

Barotrauma. During high frequency jet ventilation (HFJV), it seems the pressures involved are the main hazard to the patient and, therefore, airway pressure monitoring is essential in the prevention of barotraumas. Tidal volumes increase with driving pressure while airway pressure only increases when tidal volume exceeds some 25 ml/kg <sup>15</sup>. It is fundamental to ensure adequate expiratory airflow during HFJV in order to protect the airway from inherent auto-PEEP effect <sup>15</sup>. Double lumen tubes for jet and monitoring of gas concentrations and pressures, either inserted through the pharynx or transtracheally seem a useful idea. Transtracheal pressure monitoring enables also gas sampling for analysis.

Neuromuscular block is often necessary to prevent vocal cord movement during surgical procedures. Conventional monitoring using a nerve stimulator and a method for objective determination of train-of-four responses aid in adequate timing and safe recovery of the block. The author's experience is that one or two residual responses to TOF keep the surgeon happy. The use of rocuronium and the new reversal drug, sugammadex provide optimal immobility and prompt recovery of muscle power.

Anaesthetic adequacy. There are methods to determine adequate levels of anaesthesia and analgesia. BIS and State entropy (SE) are EEG-derived indices measuring the anaesthetic effect of the applied hypnotic on EEG <sup>16,17</sup>. Response entropy (RE) reflects the activation of the frontal mimic muscles caused by pain. Electromyographic activation may interfere with the EEG signal and lead into erroneously high SE values. The remedy for this is not additional hypnotic, but a moderate dose of opioids to abolish the mimic muscle activation and to reveal the correct SE.

Autonomic nervous balance. Another new parameter is the Autonomic Nervous System State (ANSS), which is a product of plethysmographic pulse peak interval (s) and plethysmographic pulse amplitude (%) <sup>18</sup>. The Autonomic Nervous System spot displays the pulse amplitude on Y-axis and pulse interval on the X-axis beat by beat <sup>18</sup>. Laryngeal or tracheal irritation causes autonomic responses that are readily detected by ANSS and suggest a need of additional opioids to be administered.

In conclusion, the jet ventilation techniques instead of conventional endotracheal tubes offer binocular vision through the operating microscope, excellent hemostasis and a clear line of demarcation of tissue destruction. In the light of gas monitoring, using high ventilation frequencies seems unnecessary, since it is possible to maintain adequate oxygenation and ventilation with moderate frequencies without compromising the laryngeal surgical field <sup>2</sup>. Monitoring of airway gas concentrations during less frequent breaths is easier and more accurate and is associated with fewer complications <sup>19</sup>.

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## Safe Jet Ventilation

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A complication is the manifestation of a known or unknown risk. Knowing risks and acting appropriately improves safety. However, complication-free acting is impossible. Therefore, safe acting inheres being prepared to treat complications. There are specific risks and possible complications for the different modes of jet ventilation.

#### Risks

The ejector formed by a rigid bronchoscope and a jet provides always the same airway pressure when a certain driving gas pressure is applied <sup>1</sup>. Unnoticed occlusion of the expiratory airway is impossible. There are no reports of barotrauma with this mode of jet ventilation in adult patients. However, settings of a jet safe in an adult bronchoscope may cause extremely high pressures in paediatric size broncho-scopes.

Jet ventilation through a channel of a fiberbronchoscope inheres a high risk of barotrauma. Once the bronchosope occludes a bronchus (wedging) most certainly barotrauma will occur.

Transcutaneous intratracheal jet ventilation <sup>2</sup> inheres the highest complication rate <sup>6</sup>: there is the risk common to all kinds of intratracheal jet ventilation, i.e., barotrauma due to occlusion of the expiratory airway. Additionally, the transdermal cannula easily slips out of the trachea. Then, depending on its location between tracheal wall and skin, the next jet blow will cause more or less local surgical emphysema, which may cause serious problems.

Translaryngeal intratracheal jet ventilation <sup>4</sup> avoids the risks of tracheal puncture. Like with all kinds of tracheal intubation, the jet catheter may be displaced. However, one blow of the jet into the oesophagus may cause gastric rupture. Occlusion of the expiratory airway will immediately cause barotrauma. - Shape and size of the trachea and the position of a simple jet catheter inside the trachea are normally unknown; these three parameters influence the performance of the ejector formed by the jet and the trachea <sup>25</sup>. Thus, airway pressure cannot be deduced from driving gas pressure. A catheter not fixed to the centre of the trachea may blow onto the mucosa.

The dry and cold jet certainly causes local spots of mucosal anaemia; no squeals are published. On the general consequences of dry gas jet ventilation see Biro <sup>26</sup>.

Supraglottic jet ventilation, the "ventilating laryngoscope" <sup>27</sup>, avoids the risk of expiratory airway occlusion. It inheres the risk of debris seed, as noted by its pioneers <sup>3;27</sup> and smoke inhalation into the tracheo-bronchial system, which have been mentioned also later <sup>28 29 30 31</sup>; complications have been rarely published <sup>32</sup>. To ventilate and oxygenate his patient, the anaesthesiologist depends on the skills of the endoscopist, which may cause difficulties in teaching hospitals <sup>33</sup>.

All inflammable material may explode in pure oxygen. Most catheters used for jet ventilation consist of inflammable material. Additionally, the laser beam may form coal out of tissue or tissue particles (smoke) <sup>34</sup>. Therefore, during airway laser surgery, the oxygen concentration in the airway should be kept as low as possible < 30% as a rule) and flammable material avoided <sup>9</sup>.

In order to minimize vocal cord movements during endolaryngeal surgery, high frequency jet ventilation was introduced <sup>35</sup>. With intratracheal use, the inherent PEEP effect may prevent aspiration <sup>36</sup>, but may also cause barotrauma. Superimposed high frequency jet ventilation compensates for the occasionally seen insufficient ventilation with ventilation at high frequencies <sup>37</sup>.

## **Complications**

Table 1 gives an overview on complications (pneumothorax and tissue emphysema) published in relation to a certain patient population. Case reports of complications are numerous during the first decade of jet ventilation. The table depicts the same correlation as recently found in a review on jet ventilation <sup>38</sup>: the complication rate is inversely related to experience. Neglecting basic safety rules is the main reason for complications.

## Safety

The **equipment should be familiar** from own experience before approaching a patient <sup>1</sup>. In most hospitals, there is a plethora of equipment particles from different manufacturers and different series.

Manipulations in the airway may always result in airway occlusion. Therefore, pre-oxygenation and pure **oxygen** as driving gas, when not contraindicated, are recommended. The **expiratory airway** has to be **secure**.

Source	N	A/P	Mode	Compl.%	Centre
RossAnderson2011	50	A	TTHFJV	0	single
Davies2009	552	A	TLJV	0	single
Jaquet2006	265	Α	TTJV	2.26	single
Jaquet2006	469	Α	TLJV	0.2	single
Gulleth2005	33	Α	TTJV	6.06	single
Bourgain2001	643	Α	TTHFJV	10.3	multi
Russel2000	90	A	TTHFJV	2.22	single
Depierraz1994	28	P	TTJV	7.14	single
Chang1980	600	A	TLJV	0.5	single
1971 –1975 *	104	A	TTJV	7.69	multi
1973-1981 *	367	Α	TLJV	1 64	multi

Table 1 Complications (pneumothorax and tissue emphysema) with jet ventilation

\* Summary of three different publications <sup>39</sup>.

Explanations: A/P: adult(paediatric.

TTHFJV: trans-tracheal high-frequency jet ventilation

TTJV: trans-tracheal jet ventilation TLJV: trans-laryngeal jet ventilation.

Centre: single: single centre study. multi: multi-centre study

One can never be absolutely sure, that the jet catheter is where it should be, that the trachea is of normal size and shape or that the ventilating laryngoscope is in the right position. Therefore, jet ventilation begins at driving gas pressure zero.

Driving gas pressure is slowly increased. One finger is ready on the "stop" button. Without monitoring equipment, observation of respiratory movements is the only way to monitor ventilation. Auscultation is useless because it mediates only the noise of the jet, whether it is blowing into the trachea, into the oesophagus or somewhere into the tissue. The jet operator should know at what driving pressure to expect first respiratory movements (respiratory inductance plethysmography via elastic bands<sup>40</sup> or impedance pneumography may soon become useful tools), a rising airway pressure or when end tidal carbon dioxide should appear. If these signs do not appear in time, it is better to stop and to look for the reason of malfunction. Phonation and coughing or attempts thereof should cause an immediate stop (insufficient anaesthesia, insufficient muscle relaxation).

With intratracheal jet ventilation, **airway pressure monitoring** <sup>41</sup> is mandatory because of the uncertainties about the performance of the individual jet pump formed by the jet catheter and the patient's trachea <sup>42</sup>. A "safe overdose" of succinylcholine <sup>5</sup> may be sufficient to **avoid active glottic closure**. A method warning in time of possible glottic closure (insufficient muscle relaxation) might be preferable. Attempts to cough

or of weak phonation are observable without special equipment. Pressure curve monitoring has been suggested <sup>43</sup>, watching for movements of the vocal cords on the video chain monitor <sup>44</sup> is possible in all well-equipped institutions. Keeping TOFF below zero is not sufficient, a post tetanic count at maximum of two is recommended <sup>45</sup>. An **automatic cut-off** at a certain pressure is **mandatory with HFJV** <sup>7</sup> because several blows have happened before an observer reacts to increasing airway pressure; such automatic is incorporated in all modern jet ventilators.

Transtracheal jet ventilation should be reserved for special cases <sup>6</sup> and should be performed by experienced teams only <sup>38;46</sup>. For use in emergencies see Janjevic <sup>47</sup>.

In experienced centres, there are no difficulties and no complications with supraglottic jet ventilation <sup>28</sup>. During laser surgery, smoke is blown into the trachea. However, there are no controlled randomised trials suggesting, which risk to prefer: smoke inhalation and possible debris seeding with supraglottic jet ventilation or the risk of (avoidable) barotrauma with intratracheal jet ventilation <sup>48</sup>.

Only with supraglottic jet ventilation all possibly ignitable material, except burnt tissue, is out of reach of the laser beam. A second choice has been use of soft copper tubes as intratracheal jet pipes see Pukander2011 <sup>49</sup>. According to clinical experience, a fluoroplastic self-centering tube is as safe <sup>50</sup> and softer; it will not burn, but may be badly deformed by the laser beam <sup>51</sup> - Laser surgery during jet ventilation can also be safely performed in patients with impaired lung function (COPD, obesity): Monitoring end tidal oxygen concentration enables to keep safely longer periods of low inspiratory oxygen concentration than when monitoring oxygen saturation <sup>52</sup>.

Equipment and skill to treat all possible complications is an essential of all safe anaesthesia. Treating complications should never become a routine; therefore, perpetual training is mandatory. After starting to repeat regularly one-hour resuscitation training at three months intervals, resuscitating, seen previously once a year, became absent for the next 6 years in our department (about 3000 cases of ENT surgery, 120 endolaryngeal procedures per year).

To summarise: following established safety rules, relying on experience, and being prepared to treat complications are the keystones of safe jet ventilation.

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## Endolaryngeal procedures: Conventional Intubation vs. Infra- and Supra-glottic Jet Ventilation.

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Grasping a specimen out of the larynx under more or less local anaesthesia using benched forceps and a mirror became obsolete after introduction of laryngo-microscopy<sup>1</sup>. General anaesthesia became necessary and a secured airway. Smaller and smaller intubation tubes were used but the competition in the airway between anaesthesiologists and laryngologists remained, until jet ventilation <sup>2</sup> was introduced for that purpose in three different modes:

- transtracheal jet ventilation, were skin and trachea are punctured by the jet needle below the larynx <sup>3</sup>;
- supraglottic jet ventilation, were the jet blows into the laryngoscope, which is tightly positioned to the larynx <sup>4,5</sup>;
- translaryngeal (subglottic) jet ventilation, were a small catheter is introduced through the larynx into the trachea <sup>6</sup>.

Other possibilities to prevent any obstacles for the laryngologist are apnoeic oxygenation <sup>7</sup> and negative pressure ventilation using a cuirass.

The purpose of this communication is to evaluate the benefits and drawbacks for the patient of the different possibilities to ventilate during endolaryngeal procedures. Unfortunately lack of randomised controlled trials turns this into a discussion of published and personal experience and opinions.

## **Working Conditions**

The working conditions inside the patient's airway are obviously better with any kind of jet ventilation than with ventilation through conventional or even small-bore intubation tubes. Perhaps, therefore, there are almost no randomised controlled trials (RCT) comparing working conditions of different ventilation modes <sup>8</sup>. (Medline 2010, jet ventilation AND randomised AND controlled).

There are retrospective studies analysing a period when different modes of ventilation were used almost at random <sup>9</sup> <sup>10</sup> or alternatively for special procedures <sup>11</sup>. Most publications on jet ventilation deal with experience with jet ventilation in case series without comparison to other ventilation modes <sup>12</sup> <sup>13</sup> <sup>14</sup> <sup>15</sup>.

Conclusions have been that working conditions with any mode of jet ventilation are better than with ventilation through conventional intubation tubes.

Very rarely procedure durations have been compared <sup>9;16</sup>; durations are smaller with JV, but results are unreliable due to uneven distribution of different procedures and too small case numbers.

## **Complications**

Complications with JV have been published as case reports and within case series and comprise barotrauma only. In a recent study on complications with different modes of ventilation for laryngomicroscopy in one institution during 10 years <sup>11</sup> the rank order of complications is similar as described in the pioneer years of jet ventilation <sup>17</sup>: Most severe complications relate to transtracheal jet ventilation, which, therefore, should be reserved for emergencies and special cases <sup>11</sup>, <sup>17</sup>; obstruction of the expiratory airway is the second important reason for complications with intermittent apnoeic ventilation <sup>11</sup> and transglottical JV <sup>9;11</sup>. On the other hand, most of these complications are avoidable and their appearance is inversely related to performance numbers, i.e. the less experience the more complications <sup>18</sup>.

Some cases of unnoticed mucosal lesions have been published <sup>9</sup>. Their consequences in the worst case can only be imagined; there are no published cases. The possibility of debris aspiration has been discussed in the pioneer phase of jet ventilation <sup>4</sup>, <sup>5</sup> and recently <sup>19;20</sup>, but there is no publication on debris aspiration.

## Data of interest for patient and hospital owners

Estimation of working conditions has been by the ENT surgeon. However, working conditions are of no interest for patients and hospital owners without showing that "better conditions" means less suffering and decrease of expenses. They might be interested in

- duration of the procedure
- pain and sore throat after the procedure
- risks and complication rates
- frequency of wrong or missed diagnosis
- frequency of subsequently necessary additional procedures

in relation to the different ventilation methods.

Insurance companies may be additionally interested in duration of sick leave and frequency and costs of persistently cured patients. There are no studies published answering these questions.

#### **Conclusions**

Most certainly long-term results of endolaryngeal procedures performed under general anaesthesia are better with any form of jet ventilation (JV) than with conventional ventilation (CV) through intubation tubes. Procedures are shorter and sick leave may be shorter after JV than after CV. Complications with JV are avoidable when safety rules are followed, which is obviously easier in an experienced team than when doing occasional cases. Anaesthesiologists might prefer translaryngeal catheter JV because of their responsibility for ventilation and oxygenation; additionally, not even smoke during Laser surgery will enter the lungs <sup>21</sup> <sup>22</sup>. However, there is a lack of RCTs and comparing studies to prove these claims and to convince those not using jet ventilation.

Table 1

Conventional intubation or JV for endolaryngeal procedures:			
Aspect	Intubation	Intratracheal JV	Supraglottic JV
View	restricted	No problem	free
Working conditions	restricted	No problem	optimum
Gas Composition	Controlled	Controlled	Uncertain
Ventilatory	Unique	Unique	Shared
Responsibility			
Monitoring <sup>4</sup>	Usual equipment	Special equipment	Special equipment
Barotrauma	Rare, avoidable	Frequent, avoidable	Possible
Tissue emphysema	Rare	Possible	Possible
Gastric inflation	Anaesth. dependent	Anaesth. dependent	Scopist-dependent
Debris seed	Impossible	Impossible <sup>1</sup>	Possible
Laser Surgery	Needs Special Equipment	Needs Special Equipment <sup>3</sup>	No Problem
Worst scenario	Undetected Lesion	Barotrauma	Can't ventilate
"Sore Throat" <sup>2</sup>	frequent	< frequent	<< frequent

- 1. There is a weak inflow for the first 1/8 of inspiration, thereafter persists a strong flow out of the glottis <sup>21</sup>. See also Virtanen & Karvinen <sup>22</sup>.
- 2. Sore throat correlates with size of p.o. observable mucosal lesions <sup>23</sup>; therefore, sore throat should appear in the indicated frequencies.
- 3. Non-inflammable jet catheters have been soft copper pipes <sup>24</sup> or with less perfect resistance, made from polytetrapolyethylene <sup>25</sup>.
- 4. See Paloheimo <sup>26</sup>.

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# 20 Years of Experience with Normofrequent Subglottic/Intratracheal Jet Ventilation.

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HFJV with sophisticated equipment dominates in the recent literature about anaesthesia for endolaryngeal microsurgery. Despite their well-known drawbacks, supraglottic JV or JV via an invasive access to the subglottic space (transtracheal JV) are in use in leading centres. In Tartu JV was introduced in 1990  $^1$  and has been used in  $\sim 2700$  anaesthesias. In the first 200 cases patients were intubated with double lumen copper cannula (OD 2,2 mm). One lumen was used for monitoring intratracheal pressure. Through the other lumen, normofrequent JV (NJV) with 100%  $O_2$  was applied using a hand-operated valve and pressure regulator. Alternatively, NJV/HFJV was applied using a home-made electronic ventilator  $^2$ .

Both methods provided full oxygenation and acceptable  $CO_2$  removal for up to 140 minutes of anaesthesia. Therefore, preferring simplicity, the last  $\sim$  2500 cases were managed with NJV and a hand-operated valve. The pressure monitoring line was removed, and ventilation was monitored observing chest movements and  $SpO_2$ . The 1,5 or 2,2 mm OD blunt single metal pipe provided the surgeon with good operating conditions, enabled use of laser, and provided unlimited time.

Anaesthetics were given intravenously in single doses in sufficient amounts to suppress motor responses to surgery. A muscle relaxant (Succinylcholine with antidepolarizer pre-treatment) was used only for intubation of the trachea. Introduction of the metal pipe and its alignment with the axis of the trachea was possible even in severely compromised airways. Exception are two cases of Ca laryngis, were the airway was established with a stiffer metal tube (pediatric bronchoscope).

JV began with about half of the intended final pressure. After confirmation of expiration, driving gas pressure was gradually increased (up to 3,5 bar in most adults). Ventilation was continued after the end of surgery until return of consciousness and muscle power.

Patients' age varied from 4 months to 91 yrs., BW was from 5,2 to 170 kg. Adipose or dyspneic patients were positioned with hips bent and upper body elevated. Despite one case of lethal barotrauma in a baby with tracheobronchomalacy and multiple anomalies, we consider our technique acceptable and continue it's use for

management of various airway pathology. It is obviously safe, efficient, and inexpensive, the latter being important not only in Estonia.

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## JV and LASER for Endolaryngeal Procedures

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Jet ventilation is one of the most important advances in anaesthetic techniques for endolaryngeal procedures because it provides the surgeon with free access to the larynx without any visual or mechanical obstruction by an endotracheal tube <sup>1,2</sup>. The original jet ventilation method with the supraglottically situated jet device 3;4 contains some disadvantages like possible gastric distension, vocal cord motion, mucosal dehydration and when using laser, smoke <sup>5</sup> and debris can enter the tracheobronchial tree. All these disadvantages can be avoided by inserting the jet device inside the trachea <sup>6;7</sup>. The jet can be delivered using a transdermal needle puncture to the trachea <sup>8</sup>, but this is recommendable only in few specialized cases and inheres a high risk of serious complications <sup>2;9;10</sup>. Use of a translaryngeal jet catheter is another choice <sup>6</sup>. After the introduction of lasers in endolaryngeal microsurgery several types of nonflammable metal intubation tubes have been developed like the Norton <sup>1</sup> and Porch tube <sup>11</sup>. But to provide an adequate inner diameter for ventilation, the outer diameter of the metal tubes is reasonably large obstructing the working conditions of the endoscopist. Intratracheal jet ventilation is associated with the risk of barotraumas, thus monitoring of intratracheal pressure is mandatory.

In our institution we have developed a double lumen copper tube where one channel delivers jet gas at high pressure for the injector, the other channel serving as a monitoring line. Soft copper stiffens, when bended, but may be softened again by heating; it does not reflect the laser beam, and does not melt at the energy used during endolaryngeal laser surgery. However, during laser surgery tissue is transformed into

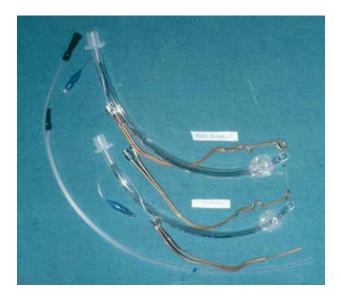


Fig. 1

Double lumen copper pipe for intratracheal jet ventilation.

Corresponding conventional intubation tubes and our plastic jet ventilation tube made from two suction catheters are added for comparison.

inflammable material <sup>12</sup>; therefore, airway oxygen concentration should be kept at 30% maximum <sup>13</sup>. At this level of oxygen concentration monitoring of end tidal oxygen enlarges the safety margin in patients with obesity or COPD <sup>14</sup>.

#### INSTRUMENTATION

The jet ventilation tube is made of two thin walled bendable copper pipes with the outer diameter (OD) of 2.5mm and inner diameter (ID) 1.8mm, respectively; this is the copper pipe closest in size to our plastic jet catheter system, self-made from two FG 10 suction catheters (ID 2.2mm). The tip of the injector line is in the centre of two coils formed by the monitoring line to centralize the jet inside the trachea (Fig.1). The proximal coil is 2cm, the distal 7cm below the vocal cords. The outer diameter of the coils matches the size of a 7 or 8mm ID tracheal tube. The distal coil is provided with small holes to monitor airway pressure during inspiration and alveolar gas concentration during expiration <sup>14</sup>.

The inserting technique of this metal tube is similar to normal endotracheal intubation and an experienced anaesthesiologist easily learns to bend the tube to the individual patient's need. Since this pioneer work in the 1990 's <sup>15</sup> commercial products are nowadays available like the self-centralising <sup>16</sup> Hunsaker Mon-Jet tube made from non-flammable fluoroplastic material <sup>17</sup>.

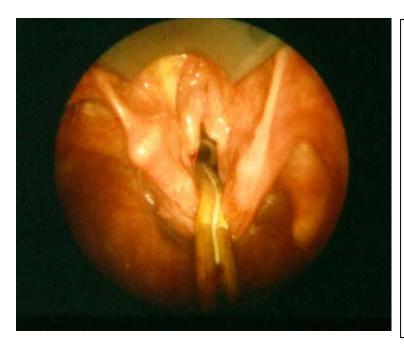


Figure 2

Larungoscopic view of a double lumen copper pipe in situ.

Note the white welding line between the pipes and the upper of the two centralizing rings. The small curve leading over the glottis' threshold helps to place the pipe at the right depth.

## **OUR EXPERIENCES**

Our department has used the copper tube since 1988 in several hundred patients until a decree on the use of self-adapted equipment in Finnish hospitals stopped its use. Indications for laser surgery are mostly benign tumours, papilloma being the most common but also other types of hyperplastic and granulomatous lesions. Also malignant neoplasms are suitable for laser surgery and the method is replacing irradiation in T <sub>1</sub> glottic lesions <sup>18-20</sup>.

According to our experience endoscopists' working conditions are much better with jet ventilation compared to normal intubation, regardless how small the conventional intubation tube is. Furthermore the endolaryngeal working circumstances do not differ essentially between the plastic tubes and the non-flammable system.

#### SIDE – EFFECTS

The most frequent is a film of loose blood clottings inside the trachea in about half of the patients. This is however a completely innocent phenomenon from minor bleeding during the endolaryngeal procedure and needs no therapy. The next common is spot lacerations due to rubbing of the copper coil against tracheal mucosa but the areas of these lesions are small. Also some spot bleedings and diffuse reddening of the tracheal mucosa can occur, but according to our experience all these lesions of the tracheal wall were never circumferential like those caused by the cuff of an intubation tube and always smaller than the latter.

. The most intense attention in the literature has been paid for ignition and combustion of ventilation materials. The Rüsch red rubber tube might be the least combustible. Several protecting techniques from wrapping the tube with aluminium or other metal foil stripes <sup>21</sup> to application of dental acrylic combound to the outside of the tube have been tried <sup>22</sup>. Also the cuff has been filled with saline instead of air and even stained with methyl blue <sup>23</sup> <sup>13</sup>. Anyhow, in all these techniques there is a flammable material present very close to the area where the laser beam works forming so a potential risk for ignition and formation of toxic fumes <sup>24</sup>. Although the ignition risk is rather low- 0.4 to 1.5% of the cases- <sup>25</sup> this untoward phenomenon can be totally avoided by using non-flammable tubes. Also the heating risk of the tube is very low because of the cool driving jet gas.

In conclusion, the non-flammable double lumen jet ventilation is very close to the ideal method in endolaryngeal surgery. In experienced hands the frequency of complications is very low and the nature of those only minor.

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## JV FOR DIFFICULT INTUBATIONS AND EMERGENCIES

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#### Introduction

The primary goal in airway management is to safely provide oxygenation and ventilation. The consequences of lack of oxygenation due to difficulties or failure with facemask, supraglottic device, tracheal tube or transtracheal device can be catastrophic. Though an infrequent occurrence, failed tracheal intubation is the primary cause in anaesthesia of hypoxia, brain damage, and death.

Under these circumstances transtracheal access at the level of the cricothyroid ligament provides immediate oxygenation and ventilation. In the "can't intubate, can't ventilate" (CICV) scenario cricothyroidotomy is recommended if all other methods of ventilation have failed, in order to rapidly restore oxygenation.

Needle cricothyroidotomy with percutaneous translaryngeal ventilation can be a life-saving procedure when an emergency airway is needed. Appropriate ventilatory parameters using a high–flow oxygen source and an adequate expiratory time may limit the complications of barotrauma and allow for a more extended time of ventilation. The emergency physician should be familiar with the indications, contraindications and complications. Transtracheal jet ventilation (TTJV) must be viewed as procedure providing adequate gas-exchange and ensuring the patency of the airway until a definitive procedure such as oral intubation or surgical tracheotomy can be performed.

The objective of this presentation is to show the benefit of TTJV via a needle cricothyroidotomy as a temporary life saving procedure in cases of difficult or failed endotracheal intubation in adults and children and the use of this technique prophylactically for the management of anticipated/known difficult airway in ENT surgery (1,2,3,4,5).

## Transtracheal jet ventilation via a needle cricothyroidotomy

Resuscitation employing TTJV during difficult intubation is not a new concept for the anaesthetist, otolaryngologist and emergency room physicians. In an elective or emergency setting, transtracheal jet ventilation via a needle cricothyroidotomy may be life saving <sup>(5,6)</sup>.

Oxygenation via transtracheal cannula was first described in the early fifties by Jacoby (6,7) who was able to avoid hypoxemia in anaesthetized patients with complete respiratory obstruction by using an oxygen flow of 4 L min<sup>-1</sup> via an 18 G cricothyroid

cannula. Later, Spoerel et al (8) introduced transtracheal jet ventilation with highpressure oxygen via a 16 G needle. Ravussin and Freedmen first described the 13 G VMB cannula used to ventilate their patients with HFJV, who required surgical procedures in the upper airway or presented a difficult airway <sup>(9)</sup>. Preliminary reports suggest that needle cricothyroidotomy with TTJV may be useful for endotracheal intubation of patients who have a difficult or failed airway and may help prevent aspiration, although further studies are needed. TTJV is included in most algorithms of difficult oxygenation and difficult intubation (10). The Difficult Airway Society (DAS) protocol and other current airway guidelines for the CICV scenario recommend the use of a kink-resistant cannula for crico-thyroidotomy with jet ventilation. Results of several studies suggest to use the benefits of TTJV in adult patients with stridor and critical airway obstruction (1,2,11). A recently published study in animals described the possibility to confirm the correct placement of the cricothyroidotomy needle with a special esophageal detector device (12). Further investigation is needed to identify a standardized apparatus for needle cricothyroidotomy in emergency situations. On the other hand most publications stress that successful use of needle cricothyroidotomy requires training and familiarity of the physicians with this meticulous technique to prevent complications. There is a high incidence of complications when the technique is used by inexperienced personnel (13,14,15).

*Transtracheal jet ventilation system.* The TTJV system consists of a high-pressure oxygenation source (usually central wall oxygen pressure of 50 psi, 344.7kPa), high-pressure oxygen tubing, a regulator to control the driving pressure, an on-off valve to control inspiratory time, high-pressure tubing, and a Luer lock to connect to the cannula. Oxygen can be delivered via a jet ventilation device such as Manujet; VMB Medical, Germany, which enables control of delivery pressure as well as flow Bouldi (16)

The kink-resistant cannula (Ravussin, VMB which is available in size of 13-16G and the Benumof needle of 2 mm, Cook) designed for TTJV is preferable to standard intravenous cannulas because of the tendency of the latter to kink. Effective ventilation through a cannula is only possible when a high-pressure source is used. Verification of correct cannula placement by aspiration of air into a large syringe before the use of high-pressure ventilation is essential. Subsequent displacement of the cannula must be prevented. During transtracheal (puncture) jet ventilation (JV) it is essential that the expiratory pathway is unobstructed. The occlusion of the expiratory pathway rapidly leads to hypoventilation, manifested by hypercarbia and hypoxaemia, and interferes with cardiac output by increasing the intrathoracic pressure, with the risk of producing serious barotrauma to the lung. It is therefore important to understand the principles (the mechanism and basic physical properties) of JV in order to understand how it may help in the CICV situation (14,15,17).

TTJ and CICV scenario. The Difficult Airway Society (DAS) protocol and the other current airway guidelines for the CICV scenario recommend the use of kink-resistant

cannula cricothyroidotomy with transtracheal jet ventilation or surgical cricothyroidotomy.

The "can't intubate, can't ventilate (CICV) situation may be defined as the situation in which ventilation with non-invasive techniques fails to maintain oxygenation and tracheal intubation proves impossible. Rapid development of severe hypoxaemia, particularly associated with bradycardia, is an indication for imminent intervention with an invasive technique. The risk of an invasive rescue technique must be constantly weighed against the risk of hypoxic brain damage or death. The CICV scenario is fortunately rare but for all anaesthetists a feared emergency situation. Although TTJV is rarely performed in the emergency settings, it is a simple, relatively effective means of supporting oxygenation. The advantages of this technique over cricothyroidotomy may include speed, a simple use, and less bleeding. It can also provide an alternative for physicians unable to perform cricothyroidotomy. Patients' age is not a restriction to TTJV, which is the surgical airway of choice for children younger than 12 years. Needle cricothyroidotomy with TTJV is a surgical airway that may be used to temporize in the CICO situation, particularly in children. There are several other aspects of this technique that differ from cricothyroidotomy important to consider. To provide ventilation, supraglottic patency must be maintained to allow for expiration. In the case of complete upper airway obstruction, air stacking from TTJV will cause barotrauma; therefore, cricothyroidotomy is preferable. Another significant difference is that the cannula in TTJV does not provide airway protection. Also, suctioning cannot adequately be performed through the percutaneous catheter. TTJV is therefore best considered a temporizing means of rescue oxygenation until a more definitive airway can be obtained.

The complications associated with transtracheal jet ventilation include: damage to the tracheal cartilages, barotrauma, reflex cough with each ventilation, catheter kinking, obstruction from blood and mucus, esophageal puncture, and mucosal damage if nonhumidified gas is used. The false passage of the catheter can lead to pneumomediastinum and surgical emphysema if jet ventilation is attempted. Pneumothorax can occur if jet ventilation is attempted after correct placement of the catheter when there is a significant airway obstruction (1,2,9,11,18).

Emergency jet ventilation in children. An unanticipated difficult airway is very uncommon in infants. Major difficulties in managing the pediatric airway arise relatively infrequently and are usually predictable. The "can't intubation, can't ventilate" scenario is very rare in pediatrics. The recommendations for managing the CVCI situation in infants and small children are based on difficult airway algorithms for adults. The Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG) and the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) recommend that for emergency airway management in children, needle cricothyroidotomy should be used in place of an open surgical technique. Needle cricothyroidotomy is preferred over surgical cricothyroidotomy in infants and young children. ALSG recommends using 14-gauge cannula for children and 18-gauge for babies. The diameter of these cannulas is not sufficient to allow

conventional ventilation and in these circumstances a jet ventilation technique is needed. Inserting a cricothyroid needle in children is technically difficult because the anatomical structures are smaller and more easily compressed (17,18).

Only those familiar with jet ventilation should consider its use. If ventilation is used, the ventilator requires an adjustable pressure regulator. Start with low pressure (20 psi) and titrate to adequate chest rise and fall and oxygen saturation, using exceedingly brief bursts of ventilation while observing chest rise, followed by sufficient exhalation time again judged by watching the chest fall. There is little published evidence to support TTJV as an emergency method of ventilation in children and the evidence from adults is not encouraging, considering that technical difficulties with the jet will increase in the smaller, more compressible airway.

In a recent study Bolton considered that pressure- and flow-limited jet ventilators such as a Manujet system could be used with a degree of safety to allow ventilation in a CICV situation in children where a trans-tracheal catheter may be lifesaving (18,19,20).

## Prophylactic placement of cricothyroidotomy cannula

Jet ventilation via transtracheal catheter is now an established procedure for ENT surgery. The use of transtracheal (transdermal) JV prophylactically for the management of an anticipated/known difficult airway is getting more popular in recent time.

The procedure involves inserting a dedicated narrow bore cannula (e.g. Ravussin) through the cricothyroid membrane under local anaesthesia before performing the definitive technique. The transtracheal cannula can be used to maintain oxygenation if the intubation procedure runs into problem, especially in complex ENT surgery. Recent studies suggest that percutaneous transtracheal jet ventilation is a safe and effective technique, which can help to avoid tracheotomy. It should be available for patients with head and neck cancer, undergoing general anaesthesia, when a difficult airway is anticipated. The procedure requires experience and may be difficult to perform in patients with a rapid deteriorating upper airway. Fiber optic intubation has been the preferred technique in most patients with compromised upper airway due to pathology above the glottis, at or near glottis. With fiber optic intubation there is a chance to develop total obstruction either when spraying local anaesthetic or by stimulation with the fiberscope itself. Also there is a possibility to cause bleeding. Under these circumstances, transtracheal catheter and JV provides immediate oxygenation and ventilation until definitive airway management or surgical tracheotomy is performed. With transtracheal JV its is vital to keep the upper airway as open as possible with jawthrust and to verify deflation of the lungs and exhalation through the upper airway. If the system is closed barotrauma becomes a real and serious risk.

Another opportunity to practice TTJV was reported by Ross-Anderson *et al*. They described the use of TTHFJV in 50 patients with severe airway compromise and stridor undergoing pharyngolaryngeal surgery with no major complications (11,21,22). In patients with bilateral vocal cord palsy (serious complication after thyroid surgery), suffering

from dyspnea, stridor and critical airway obstruction, the other choice would be a surgical tracheotomy. In these patients, TTHFJV has been an established technique, which allows adequate oxygenation, continuous airway patency, good exposure of the larynx and immobility of vocal cords (23,24).

#### Conclusion

JV is the method of choice for oxygenation and ventilation if transtracheal access to the airway through a narrow cannula is considered to be the next step, an appropriate step in an algorithm to manage a difficult airway situation. TTJV is a temporary means to gain time until a definitive method of securing the airway can be performed. Every anaesthetist should be familiar with transtracheal ventilation since they may face a CICO situation. During transtracheal jet ventilation it is essential that the expiratory pathway is unobstructed. The regular use of this technique requires: clinical training of skill, profound knowledge of basic physical properties of JV and clinical experience. Jet ventilation should be used more frequently in routine practice both in elective and emergency settings.

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Jet ventilation in the presence of airway stenosis: advantages, drawbacks, and complications

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Jet ventilation is an alternative ventilatory technique with specific advantages when used for diagnostic or surgical interventions in patients with airway pathology. Tidal volumes delivered via small-bore catheters or cannulae will guarantee adequate oxygenation when access to the airway is restricted or when laryngotracheal stenosis severely reduces gas flow. However, damage resulting from the application of high-pressurized gas has also to be considered.

Advantages, drawbacks and potential complications associated with the use of jet ventilation in patients with airway stenosis will be discussed in this article.

ADVANTAGES OF JET VENTILATION: Main advantages offered by jet ventilation in anesthetized patients include the positioning of jet catheters with less effort than large tubes in the presence of airway stenosis, an improvement of surgical access and viewing of the larynx, the performance of laser surgery with less risk by avoiding the use of flammable plastic materials, a reduced risk of aspiration of blood and debris due to a continuous outflow of gases when high-frequent jet pulses are used, the continuous ventilation during tracheal surgery when jet streams are applied distally, and ventilation of the patient's lung following puncture of the cricothyroid membrane as an effective rescue measure.

With regard to the position of the injector's outlet to the glottic opening, the method can be performed as supraglottic or infraglottic jet ventilation. Supraglottic techniques offer the advantage not to obstruct the surgical field which will be completely free of any ventilating instruments. The supraglottic technique has also been reported to result in a decreased risk of complications.<sup>3</sup> The infraglottic technique can be instituted non-invasively by insertion of a translaryngeal jet catheter, or more invasively after puncture of the cricothyroid membrane or the anterior tracheal wall. Thereby, transtracheal jet ventilation has been considered not only for elective surgery<sup>4</sup> but also as a means to manage "cannot intubate, cannot ventilate" emergencies and is listed as a potential option in the ASA difficult airway algorithm.<sup>5</sup>

AIRWAY STENOSIS: Airway stenosis may arise from a variety of causes like trauma, infection, tumor, aspirated foreign bodies, tracheal constriction after intubation, or may accompany congenital defects in infants. Considering a normal tracheal diameter between 7 and 8 mm in small children, and 18 and 22 mm in adults, 6 reductions in airway cross sectional area may result from extrinsic compression, mural lesions, or intraluminal objects. In addition to such structural types of stenosis, there can also be functional types resulting from malacic conditions or a floppy posterior tracheal membrane. Various classification systems to describe location and degree of stenosis have been proposed. Recause of the narrowness of children's airways, high grade stenosis caused by dynamic processes like swelling will develop earlier and faster in small children than in adults. Typical

cinical symptoms of severe airway compromise include stridor, dyspnea, cyanosis, hoarseness or aphonia, and feeding disorders in small children.

By affecting intraluminal gas flow and applied gas volumes, stenosis will either decrease or increase lung pressures. End-expiratory pressure and peak lung pressure may sometimes be affected in different ways, e.g. a rise in PEEP may be accompanied by a reduction in peak pressures. (Figure 1) In general, the effect of a stenosis on pressures in the airways and in the lung during jet application will depend on the degree of obstruction, injector's diameter and position, the driving pressure set on the ventilator, and the time constant of the lung/thorax system. Driving pressure and injector's diameter determine delivered jet gas volume according to the principle of Hagen-Poiseuille coupling the flow of gases to the diameter of pipes and the pressure applied. High airway pressures have to be expected when large volumes of gas will enter the lungs and/or when expiratory gas flow is severely reduced. Depending on the injector's position with regard to airway stenosis, suprastenotic and infrastenotic jet ventilation types have to be distinguished.

LUNG PRESSURES: High lung pressures may originate from several factors and appear to be associated with jet application, surgical manipulation and the anatomical nature of the restricted airway. If jet ventilation is delivered at high respiratory rate intrinsic positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP<sub>i</sub>) may develop due to reduction of the expiratory phase of the respiratory cycle and an incomplete emptying of the lung. During jet ventilation, levels of PEEP<sub>i</sub> depend on driving pressure and jet frequency. This phenomenon of air trapping is also well known for mechanical ventilation, when respiratory rates are high, or when expiratory gas flow is limited by a decrease in airway diameter. Obviously the simultaneous occurrence of both conditions even more predisposes patients to the development of inadvertent PEEP<sub>i</sub>. In vitro data have demonstrated this effect during jet ventilation. Thus, special care must be taken to ensure an adequate exhaust of delivered gas volume.

Secondly, expiratory airflow reduction may result from obstruction of the airway by surgical instruments, and high peak lung pressures may develop within seconds, when jet gas is continually applied. Because jet streams are delivered actively with high pressure, but expiration is driven passively by the elastic forces of the expanded lung and thorax, instreaming gas will be less affected than the outflow of gas and consequently lung volumes and pressures will increase. This risk increases in patients with high-degree stenosis. Therefore, technical mechanisms for flow and pressure release in jet devices are requested from manufacturers. However, measurement of airway pressure in vivo is difficult in open ventilation systems, and dangerously enhanced lung pressures may eventually not be detected. Thus, airway pressures have been studied in various experimental models. Fixed orifice restrictors to simulate central airway stenosis as well as models investigating dynamic obstruction have been used to demonstrate the effect of stenosis on pressures. 12,13,14

There has been some debate whether suprastenotic jet application may result in higher airway pressures than infrastenotic jet ventilation. Some investigators found higher distal airway pressures and increased tidal volumes when jets were applied above stenosis. They suspected that air entainment is causative for this effect, because more air will be entrained around jet streams above stenoses than when jets are delivered below stenoses. However, it has been clarified recently that this effect depends crucially on the injector's position in relation to the restricted airway. When jet injectors are in close proximity (e.g. 1 cm) to the restriction, increasing degrees of stenosis will result in increasing lung pressures. Placement of an injector's nozzle more proximal to the restriction (> 3 cm) will lead to a decrease in lung pressure, and pressures will further decrease when airway diameters are reduced. Therefore, distant injectors like the types used in special ventilating laryngoscopes may prevent development of harmful intrapulmonary pressure during high-frequency jet ventilation.

COMPLICATIONS: Complications associated with supraglottic or infraglottic jet ventilation may include gastric distension resulting from misdirected or dislodged injectors, cardiac dysrythmias, a blood pressure drop when venous return is diminished due to enhanced intrathoracic pressure, subcutaneous emphysema, pneumothorax, pneumomediastinum, pneumopericardium and even death has been observed. <sup>2,15,16</sup>

Combined techniques of jet ventilation have also been introduced into clinical practice. The Gas exchange may be improved when two jet streams are applied simultaneously. Adequate gas exchange and the absence of complications were reported when two injectors integrated in special jet laryngoscopes were utilized. However, the superimposed technique makes use of an additional high-frequent jet stream to deliberately generate an intrinsic PEEP and therefore should be used with caution in situations which induce PEEP<sub>i</sub> by other mechanisms.

CONCLUSION: Jet ventilation can be a valuable and highly effective tool to optimize conditions during airway surgery. However, a national survey focused on the use of high-pressure source ventilation and reported severe complications. The authors described serious morbidity and more complications when the technique was utilized less frequently than in medical centers with more clinical experience.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, adherence to guidelines, regular training and clinical experience is a prerequisite in order to apply jet streams safely and to reduce the risk of severe complications. Because patients with severe airway compromise confront specialists with an increased risk of adverse outcome, only well trained personal should consider a complex technique like jet ventilation as an appropriate approach to secure the airway and to maintain oxygenation during airway surgery.

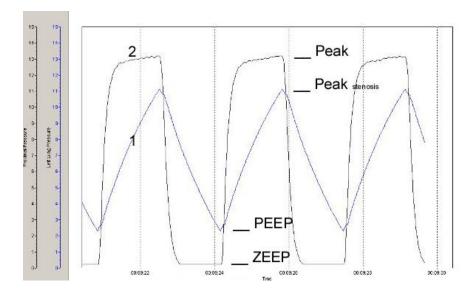


Figure 1. Effect on lung pressures during suprastenotic jet ventilation (in vitro test lung system): Blue graph (1) shows a decrease in peak lung pressure (Peak<sub>stenosis</sub>) but development of intrinsic PEEP in the presence of a tracheal stenosis. Black graph (2) illustrates same system without airway obstruction (Peak, ZEEP = zero PEEP)

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