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### Anesthesia

**TRENDELENBERG POSITION** To ascertain if the use of Trendelenberg's position (defined as 20 degrees or greater head down) contributed to serious complication or death during gynecologic surgery, a questionnaire was sent to 266 chiefs of service in this country as to frequency of use of the position, incidence of serious complications or death, and any additional comments. Of 240 replies, very few reported serious difficulty because of the position. Those who used it often reported few complications, and those who used it infrequently reported the largest incidence of serious complications (50 per cent). Serious complications included respiratory embarrassment, brachial plexus palsy (11 patients), cardiac failure, and air embolism. The author concluded that since a majority of the respondents used the position, since a minority reported serious complication, and since all complications except brachial palsy were insignificant, that objections of anesthesiologists to the position are invalid. (*Mengcr, W. E.: Trendelenburg's Position: Current Usage, Obstet. Gynec.* 29: 734 (May) 1967.) **ABSTRACTOR'S NOTE:** The conclusions from this retrospective study, obtained from a group with undoubted bias, are of questionable validity.