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A Modified Uterine Displacement Device

To the Editor:—Left uterine displacement during cesarean section usually is accomplished with a stationary uterine displacement device or a preformed wedge or roll under the right hip. Redick¹ described the use of an inflatable polyvinyl chloride bag (container for sterile urologic irrigation fluids) to which was attached a rubber tubing and a sphygmomanometer bulb and control valve. While obtaining the necessary parts for such a bag, it was suggested that an easier approach would be to use the bladder from a large blood pressure cuff. This device (fig. 1) has been used in the obstetric department at our hospital for nearly two years and has been found to provide an acceptable degree of left uterine displacement.

Proper placement under the patient is necessary and we agree with Redick that the caudal edge of the bag should be at the level of the greater trochanter and the medial edge at the patient's midline. Placement under a draw sheet which is then tucked under the mattress at the edge of the table secures the balloon under the patient. The inflating bulb can be brought to the head of the table and the degree of uterine displacement adjusted without disturbing the obstetrician, the patient, or the sterile field.

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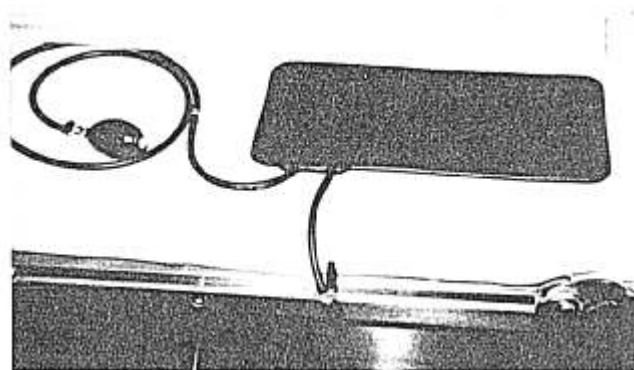


FIG. 1. A modified uterine displacement device.

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