

CORRESPONDENCE

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Security System for Transducer Holders

To the Editor:—Loss of transducer holders for invasive pressure monitoring to the postanesthesia care unit or intensive care unit is a frequent occurrence in our institution. We have developed the following solution to this problem. With the transducer holder attached to an intravenous pole, the small black screws securing the transducer holder to its mounting clamp are removed and replaced with set screws (size and thread: #10-32, $\frac{3}{8}$ in long), thus preventing separation of the transducer holder from its support bracket. A hexagonal (Allen) wrench ($\frac{3}{32}$ in) is used to tighten the set screws.

Nylon-coated cable ($\frac{3}{16}$ -in diameter) is threaded circumferentially around the intravenous pole and through the transducer support (fig. 1), and is crimped using a loop/sleeve connector and Vise-Grips (Pedersen Manufacturing Co., De Witt, NE), or a crimping tool. (All items are available through the catalog from Small Parts, Inc., Miami Lakes, FL)

The arrangement described prevents removal of the transducer holder from the intravenous pole while allowing vertical movement of the transducer to accommodate different operating room table heights.

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An Easy Formula to Remember the Laryngeal Mask Airway Size—Patient Weight Relationship

To the Editor:—A laryngeal mask airway (LMA) is selected based on patient weight, especially for pediatric patients. However, the LMA size–patient weight relation is difficult to memorize because there are many sizes of LMA (table 1). We developed an easy single formula to determine LMA size based on patient weight as follows:

$$\text{LMA size} \geq (\text{patient weight (kg)/5})^{0.5}$$

With this formula, it is easy to calculate a suitable LMA size for a patient of known weight. In addition, there is little difference between the calculated LMA size–patient weight relation between this formula and the recommended formula.¹ For example, if the patient weighs 15 kg, the calculation would be as follows: $\text{LMA size} \geq (15/5)^{0.5} = (3)^{0.5} = 1.7$. In this case, a No. 2 LMA would be used.

Although some suggest that adult sizes of LMA (No. 4 and No. 5) can

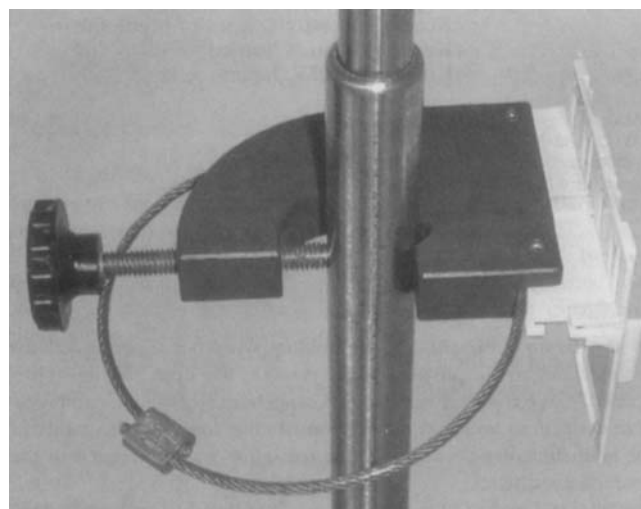


Fig. 1. Lateral view showing loop–sleeve connector and cable assembly securing transducer holder and mounting clamp to intravenous pole.

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Table 1. Laryngeal Mask Airway Size and Patient Weight

Size	Recommended Patient Weight in Textbook (kg) ¹	Range of Patient Weight Based on Our Formula (kg)
1	<5	–5
1.5	5–10	5–11.25
2	10–20	11.25–20
2.5	20–30	20–31.25
3	30–50	31.25–45
4	50–70	45–80
5	>70	80–125