NEW SUCTION EQUIPMENT

by

D. J. T. BRINKWORTH

Victoria Hospital, Swindon, England

The problem of clearing the pharynx of vomitus is often complicated by blocking of available suction equipment.

An attempt has been made to provide a sucker-end suitable for the usual requirements and also instantly convertible, by unplugging the Yankauer type end-piece as in figure 1 to give a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (0.95 cm) lumen to the hand reservoir.

Potential injury to mucous membrane is minimized by a circle of small holes near the distal end of the tube and by the open port which requires to be covered by the thumb (as in figure 2) before suction is produced. Solid material is prevented from blocking the small tube attached to the suction source by a perforated plate near the neck of the nylon reservoir.

A small-bore nozzle provides attachment for bronchial suction catheters, etc., and when not in use screws into a block on the cap. It is intended that this small reservoir should be attached to the suction bottle of normal equipment.

When pipeline suction is available a simple form of bottle with quick-release lever has been designed for attachment to anaesthetic trolley or wall, while modification of this provides suction of suitable values for surgical drainage in wards.

This equipment is manufactured by the Longworth Scientific Instrument Co. Ltd., Abingdon, to whom I am indebted for help with prototypes and for the photographs.