

CLINIPICS

Bougie related airway incident

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Airway incident following use of a Bougie to exchange a tube. A 35 year old male, intubated with 7 mm ID ETT for respiratory distress (Gr IIb view). He remained on the ventilator a week following his admission and was not expected to be weaned off in the next one week. I decided to proceed with tracheostomy. To facilitate bronchoscopic facilitation of the tracheostomy, it was decided to change the tube to a 8.0 mm ID over a bougie (rather than an Airway Exchange Catheter). The exchange was uneventful and did not encounter any resistance.

As the team was preparing for the tracheostomy, the PIP alarm kept going off. There was also dropping P/F. Insertion of a suction catheter yielded blood. Large clots were noted in the airway on FOB. Oxygenation or ventilation issue did not improve despite removal of multiple small clots. The patient continued to saturate around 90% with FiO₂ of 1.0.

The tube was removed and another tube inserted over an Airway Exchange Catheter. We were surprised to see the clot at the end of the ETT.

Following placement of the new tube above the carina, we had no further issues. We could clear out the airway. We proceeded with the tracheostomy the next day. Following tracheostomy, we performed a bronchoscopy to identify site of bleeding, but found nothing.

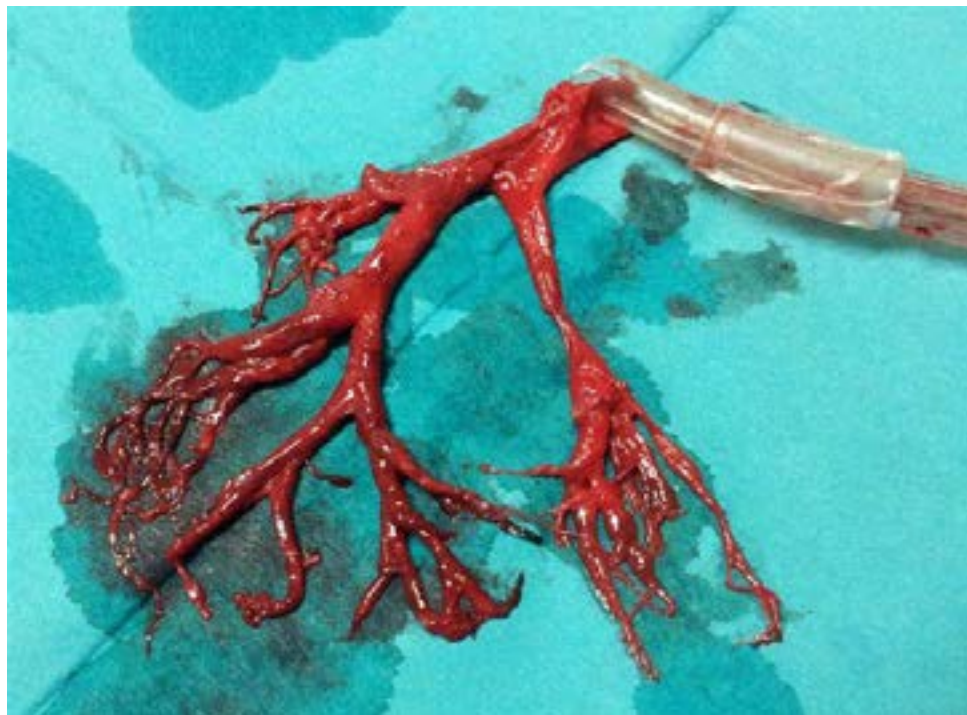


Figure: Blood clot removed with ETT after a bougie induced injury to the tracheal wall

Professor Azra Iffat Malik, MBBS, DARCS



Azra Iffat Malik was probably born in 1933. Nothing is known about her early years of life. She passed her matriculation examination in first division from LMH School, Lahore in 1949. She qualified intermediate examination in 1951 from Lahore College for Women, Lahore. She got admission to MBBS class in Fatima Jinnah Medical College, Lahore and graduated in 1956. In the same year she joined Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Lahore as house officer and later as Casualty Medical Officer. In 1959, she joined Pakistan Army as general duty medical officer in the rank of captain. After one year, she left army service and went to UK for higher studies, where she served as house officer in Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. 1963 was lucky for her and she qualified DARCS exam from Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of England, London. She served as senior house surgeon in anaesthetics

at Cheltenham Group of Hospitals, Cheltenham. Later on she was promoted to anaesthetics registrar, and served at Windsor Group of Hospitals, Windsor, England. After returning from England she joined Lady Willingdon Hospital, and later on WAPDA Hospital at Lahore as anaesthetist. Later on she took charge as Chief of Anaesthesia Department, Holy Family Hospital, Rawalpindi, and with the commissioning of Rawalpindi Medical College, served in various faculty positions including as professor of anaesthesiology. In June 1984, she was posted to King Edward Medical College Lahore, and served there for a long period of nine years. Her last appointment was at Lahore Medical & Dental College, Lahore as professor of anaesthesiology.

Professor **Azra Iffat Malik** departed us for her heavenly abode in 20 April 2018.

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