

The Use of the Laryngeal Mask Airway in Post-Tonsillectomy Haemorrhage— A Case Report

N L S H Lim,*^{MBBS, M Med (Anaes)}

Abstract

Introduction: *The use of the laryngeal mask airway in elective adenotonsillectomy has been well described. However, there is no literature to support its use in post-tonsillectomy haemorrhage.* **Clinical Picture:** *We report a case of a patient who presented with primary post-tonsillectomy haemorrhage, which required general anaesthesia for haemostasis after undergoing bilateral functional endoscopic sinus surgery, uvulopalatopharyngoplasty and tonsillectomy.* **Treatment and Outcome:** *The laryngeal mask airway was used successfully after an initial attempt at endotracheal intubation had failed. There were no complications.* **Conclusions:** *The laryngeal mask airway can be used to secure the airway for haemostasis for post-tonsillectomy haemorrhage if intubation is not possible.*

Ann Acad Med Singapore 2000; 29:764-5

Key words: *Anaesthesia, Difficult airway, Laryngeal mask airway, Primary post-tonsillectomy haemorrhage, Risk factors*

* Registrar

Department of Anaesthesia
Changi General Hospital

Address for Reprints: Dr Noelle Louise Lim Siew Hua, Department of Anaesthesia, Changi General Hospital, 2 Simei Street 3, Singapore 529889.