

Letters to the editor

Kinking of a tube in the pharynx

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To the editor: We read with interest the letter by Drs. Kuroiwa and Hoka in the February 2006 issue of the *Journal of Anesthesia* [1]. In the letter, the authors suggest that a CobraPLA tube may kink in the pharynx when the patient's neck is in fixed flexion. We would like to point out that this matter has been previously reported [2,3], and is seen with both ordinary tracheal tubes and with the new supraglottic devices. Incidentally, concerning terminology, the phrase "reinforced tube" or "armored tube" should be used instead of the phrase "spiral tube" [4].

References

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In reply: As you pointed out, "spiral tube" was not an appropriate technical term. The term "spiral tube" has been used for items such as the "Rusch spiral tube", which is a conventional name or a brand name. Hence, we should describe it as a "flexible spiral-wound tracheal tube" [1,2], or a more appropriate technical term would be "reinforced tube" or "armored tube" [3].

References

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