Awake Fiberoptic Intubation in a Burn Patient: A Case Report

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Learning Objectives

- Discuss the indications for awake flexible fiberoptic intubation
- Discuss our approach to awake flexible fiberoptic intubation



The Case

- ❖54 year old male with full body 3rd degree thermal burns after an accident 26 years prior requiring numerous reconstructive surgeries including extensive facial reconstructive surgery
- ❖Face, neck and mouth extensively scarred
- ❖Limited mouth opening and neck range of motion
- ❖ Presented for penetrating keratoplasty after corneal graft failure
- ❖ History of difficult intubation had several awake fiberoptic intubations in the past
- ❖Otherwise, patient had minimal medical co-morbidities further complicating airway management



Indications for awake FFI

- Gold standard in an anticipated or known difficult airway
- Gold standard in an anticipated or known difficult mask ventilation
- Advancements in airway device technology have made awake FFI a less commonly used airway technique
- Dangerous because skills atrophy



Our Approach to Awake FFI

- ❖Administered glycopyrrolate 30 minutes prior to induction in preop
- ❖ Had patient place a tongue depressor with 2ml lidocaine 5% jelly in mouth during transport
- ❖Topicalized airway with 5 ml atomized lidocaine 4%
- ❖Administered Midazolam 2mg IV and Fentanyl 25mcg IV
- ❖Placed oral airway with channel for bronchoscope
- ❖Used Glidescope Bflex single-use bronchoscope
- ❖ Awake fiberoptic intubation preserves spontaneous ventilation
- ❖ Excellent airway topicalization dramatically improves the tolerability of the procedure



Local anesthetic usage in awake intubation

MAXIMUM DOSE OF LIDOCAINE

4% lidocaine	40 mg/ml
5% lidocaine	50 mg/ml
Max dose (lido w/o epi)	4.5 mg/kg
Patient weight	95 kg
Max dose	427.5 mg
Dose given	300 mg



Thank You!

