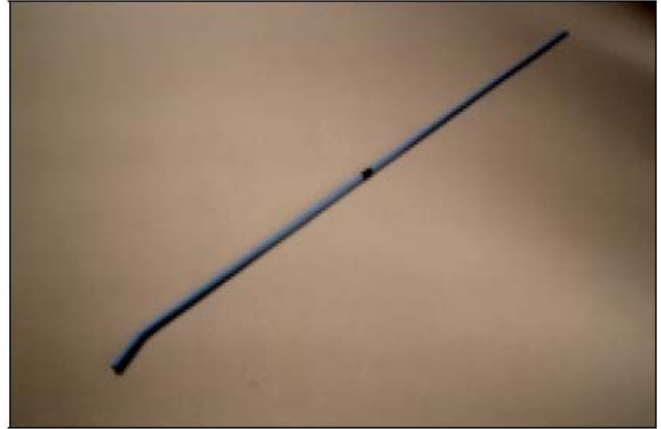


The Flex-Guide™ ET Tube Introducer for Airway Management

The Flex-Guide ET Tube Introducer is a 60cm Length of polyethylene tubing 15 French (5.0mm) in diameter. It has a bend 2cm from its distal end. Both ends of the Flex-Guide are smooth and rounded. The tubing is flexible and can be straightened or bent as required by clinical need. It will remain in the desired shape while it is used. The Flex-Guide has a 1cm band 37cm from its proximal end to help determine the correct placement depth. The Flex-Guide is similar to a “gum-elastic bougie,” only more economical.



The properties of the Flex-Guide ET tube introducer allow the intubator to pass it through the opening in the larynx formed by the arytenoid cartilages even when only a glimpse of the arytenoids are visible. The short, smooth angled end allows the intubator to direct it anteriorly. When supraglottic or laryngeal edema is present it will more easily enter the trachea than a standard ET tube with or without a stylet.

Another useful property is the propensity of the angled end to vibrate over the tracheal rings as the introducer is moved down the trachea. This immediately informs the intubator that it is correctly placed. The length of the Flex-Guide is such that a change in resistance is sensed by the intubator when it encounters the carina of the trachea giving the intubator another indication that it is in the trachea.

The Flex-Guide ET Tube Introducer enables successful orotracheal intubation when an unfavorable anatomy condition or a need to limit neck motion is present. Because a difficult intubation may not be clinically evident prior to insertion of the laryngoscope blade, using the Flex-Guide for every intubation can save time. This practice will also prepare the intubator for the difficult intubations when they do occur.

The Flex-Guide ET Tube Introducer is packaged individually with instructions. It is provided non-sterile, and is designed to be disposable after one time use.

References:

1. Moscati R, Jehle D, Christiansen G, D'Aprix T, Radford J, Connery C, Billittier A IV, Endotracheal Tube Introducer for failed Intubations: A Variant of the Gum Elastic Bougie. *Annals of Emergency Medicine* July 2000;36:52-56.
2. Lew DH, Reed DB, Weinstein G, Gregory M, Brown LH, Paramedic Use of the Endotracheal Tube Introducers for the Difficult Airway. *Prehospital Emergency Care* 2001;5:155-158

<u>Order #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price</u>
GM85110	Flex-Guide ET Tube Introducer 15fr	10 / box	\$92.80

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