COVID-19 Adult Emergency Rapid Sequence Intubation Approach

PPE Check/Team briefing/Checklist review/Pre-oxygenate in designated area/RSI

'Plan A' Primary approach

Optimized suggested primary approach (Macintosh blade VL with bougie)

Failed first attempt

Can oxygenation be maintained (Apneic CPAP, FMV or SGD)?

***Yes* - *Can maintain* oxygenation:**
you **have time** for other options

'Plan B' Alternative approach

One further intubation attempt:
- Untried optimization with same device
- Hyperangulated VL device
- or, proceed directly to exit strategy

Failed intubation ***(but still oxygenated)***

'Plan C' Exit strategy

Exit *Options*
- Place SGD, wait for help and then…
- Consider intubating via SGD with flexible intubating scope or…
- Perform a bougie-assisted cricothyrotomy

***No* - *Can't maintain* oxygenation:**
you have **NO TIME** for other options!

'Plan D' Emergency strategy

Failed oxygenation

Call for help!

Final attempt: optimized FMV or SGD

Succeeds

Fails

Bougie Assisted Cricothyrotomy

FMV = Face Mask Ventilation; SGD = Supraglottic Device. Halifax ED Version 1.4 (16/03/20) Adapted from Can J Anesth (2013) 60: 1089-1118, with permission