

## Protocol Roundtable Literature Search: Airway and Ventilation

A literature search was conducted on the general subjects of EMS, airway control and ventilation. The search was made by computer using the PaperChase system at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. PaperChase is an interface to the Medline medical bibliographic data base from the National Library of Medicine. The Medline data base indexes the articles from thousands of medical and scientific journals each month. Each article is characterized as to its subject matter with keywords. By using a combination of keywords, title words, and modifiers (such as language of publication), articles related to the general subject are efficiently identified.

The strategy used for the EMS related search on airway control and ventilation is shown in Table 1. During the search process, each keyword, title word or modifier is put on a separate list, labeled A...Z and continuing with 1A, 1B, 1C, et cetera. To the right of each search word in Table 1 is number which represents how many citations were found which satisfy the search word or search word combination. For example, the data base found 5,725 citations under the search word "airway" (List A) and 4,228 were found under "emergency medical services" (List D). List F shows how many citations there are in common between these two, lists A and D, returning 12 citations. This means that the data base has 12 citations which have both "airway" and "emergency medical services" as search words. List 1D compiled all the various lists into one list with 385 citations, excluding duplications. By using the modifier for obtaining English language articles only, that was narrowed to 115 citations, as shown on list 1E. These 115 citations are listed below for individual EMS agencies to use in researching their protocol modifications on the subject or to guide additional reading.

Consult you librarian for assistance in obtaining reprints of the articles. Alternatively, the PaperChase service will obtain reprints upon request for a fee. PaperChase may be accessed by most any computer with a modem via a local telephone number and the CompuServe information network.

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## Search Strategy - EMS, Airway and Ventilation

PaperChase Covers the Entire Medline Database From Jan 1966 thru the Mar 1988 Update.

LIST	REFERENCES	LIST	REFERENCES
A) AIRWAY	5725	Q) *ON C&N	0
B) RESPIRATION, ARTIFICIA	8496	R) *ON L&N	60
C) INTERMITTENT POSITIVE	614	S) CRICOTHYROIDOTOMY	27
D) EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERV	4228	T) AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION	4851
E) AMBULANCES	1188	U) *ON D&T	20
F) *ON A&D	12	V) *ON N&T	21
G) *ON B&E	30	W) PARAMEDIC...	4821
H) *ON C&E	0	X) *ON A&W	15
I) *ON B&D	50	Y) *ON C&W	0
J) *ON C&D	0	Z) *ON B&W	16
K) INTUBATION...	4220	1A) *ON L&W	37
L) INTUBATION...	10981	1B) ENGLISH	3678620
M) *ON D&L	39	1C) *ON T&W	8
N) PREHOSPITAL...	4550	1D) *SUM FGHJIMOPRUVXZ1A1C	385
O) *ON A&N	17	1E) *ON 1B&1D	115
P) *ON B&N	60		

**Table 1 - Search Strategy**

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