

AN EASY METHOD TO BUILD UP A SUCTION-IRRIGATION

HANDLE FOR SURGICAL USE. A NEW TECHNIQUE

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In Oral and Maxillofacial surgery irrigation and/or suction of the surgical field for either one or both, it is an everyday practice to work mainly on bony or dentomaxillary structures. Many procedures have been described, perhaps due to the fact that this subject has not been solved sufficiently yet. It also is very expensive to do and often the devices are not developed enough or the craftsmanship involved is too complex.

We have developed the next method with the aim of reducing costs and obtaining -quickly and easily- a suction-irrigation handle and here again, the Foley catheter has the main role.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

1. Conventional suction handle
2. Foley catheter
3. Suction-irrigation device obtained (see figure).

First a suitable suction handle is chosen, then, a Foley catheter of an appropriate gauge is passed through this handle, until the anchorage ball can be seen in front of the tip of the handle. Then, the catheter tip is cut just at the handle end and after the ball.

In this way we have two openings within the handle, one belonging to the catheter and the other that was to be used to inflate the small anchorage ball, now rejected.

The catheter and the handle are fixed with sterile tape at the connection joint, to avoid the possibility of being detached by a movement during the surgical task.

After this easy job, the connections for suction and irrigation can be applied and thus, this device can be controlled by the assistant nurse from his/her own table.

DISCUSSION

It is a simple and easy procedure to do and suction and irrigation is provided by only one instrument.

We can also use this technique to control suction and irrigation with our trompomaniplulator (see References).

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