



DIFFICULT INTUBATION/ AIRWAY

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PATIENT NAME LABEL

Important Patient Information Please Give This Form to the Patient

During your surgery at Mercy, you experienced a problem which is referred to as **difficult intubation** or a **difficult airway**.

What is a difficult airway/intubation? During general anesthesia, an anesthesiologist assists your breathing. For a majority of patients, this is easily done by placing a mask over the nose and mouth and/or inserting a breathing tube into your windpipe. Individual differences in jaw, mouth and tooth structure as well as neck mobility might make the airway difficult to manage with the usual techniques. Special equipment and techniques which are both safe and effective can be used. It is best if the anesthesiologist knows ahead of time in order to prepare this equipment.

The information below gives the details of the problems with your airway/intubation. *It is extremely important that this information is made available to any anesthesia provider who cares for you in the future.* Please save this information and present it whenever you need anesthesia or surgery in the future. If you are ever asked if you had any anesthesia problems, show this information and answer "Yes, there was a problem with my airway."

To be completed by your anesthesiologist:

Airway exam: Expected difficulty Did not expect difficulty

Please note obvious abnormalities: _____

Bag and Mask Ventilation: Easy Fair Poor Unable to perform

Endotracheal Intubation: Easy Fair Poor Unable to perform

Describe important aspects of intubation: _____

What was the outcome? No adverse outcome Case Cancelled Airway Trauma Other (explain):

Considerations for future services: _____

We recommend a MediAlert® bracelet: www.medicalert.org or 1-800-432-5378

Anesthesiologist Signature/Date/24-h time

Anesthesiologist (Print name)

This anesthesiologist can be reached through
Mercy Anesthesia Department at (207) 553-6272 or
Spectrum Medical Group at (207) 482-7800
Mon. thru Fri. 8am to 5pm.

