

United States Patent [19]

Melker

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[54] **EMERGENCY CRICOTHYROTOMY SYSTEM AND CRICOTHYROTOMY KIT**

[75] Inventor: **Richard J. Melker, Gainesville, Fla.**

[73] Assignee: **University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.**

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 414,680, Sep. 3, 1982, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁴ **A61M 16/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. **128/207.14; 128/343; 604/51**

[58] Field of Search **128/3, 305, 343, 200.26, 128/207.14, 207.15, 207.16, 207.17; 604/164-170, 51-53**

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Primary Examiner—C. Fred Rosenbaum

Assistant Examiner—Gene B. Kartchner

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Kerkam, Stowell, Kondracki & Clarke

[57] ABSTRACT

A method for performing emergency cricothyrotomy ventilation comprising palpating the cricothyroid membrane between the thyroid and cricoid cartilages and thereafter inserting an over-the-needle catheter, needle and syringe into the patient's airway through the incision. Determining that the needle is in the airway by applying gentle back pressure on the plunger of the syringe and, once the catheter, needle and syringe are determined to be in the airway, the needle and the syringe are removed. A guide-wire is fed through the over-the-needle catheter into the airway and, thereafter, the over-the-needle catheter is removed and the cricothyroid membrane is dilated. An air passage catheter is introduced into the dilated membrane along the guide-wire and the guide-wire is thereafter removed and the air passage catheter is secured in its position.

1 Claim, 8 Drawing Figures

