FEEDBACK TO THE FIELD (FT2F) #1:
Misplaced Emergency Cricothyroidotomy Device *

AFMES: COL (Ret) H.T. Harcke, MC, USA**
       Lt Col E. L. Mazuchowski, USAF, MC

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Misplaced Emergency
Cricothyroidotomy Device

H T Harcke, COL, MC, USA
Chief, Forensic Radiology
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology

Edward Reedy, CDR, MC, USN
Deputy Medical Examiner
Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner
CASE OVERVIEW:

• Individual in a vehicle hit by an EFP

• Catastrophic injury to the lower abdomen and pelvis, to include transection of the abdominal aorta

• Emergency treatment included combitube, cricothyroidotomony device, sternal IO-IV

• Postmortem MDCT showed the cricothyroidotomony device outside the trachea, this was confirmed at autopsy
Cricothroidotomy device in situ at postmortem exam
Postmortem axial MDCT images of the neck show the device outside the trachea (arrows).

Note combitube in the esophagus.
Layered neck dissection at autopsy confirms the device outside the trachea and shows entry point through muscle.
Cricothroidotomy device with airway cannula in place after removal
CAUTION:
The clinical circumstances and specific details surrounding the delivery of emergency treatment in this case are unknown.
NOTES of CAUTION:

• The clinical circumstances and details surrounding emergency treatment in these cases is unknown
• This presentation makes no association between device placement and outcome of treatment
• This case series is drawn from cases with fatal injuries, which may skew data
For FT2F Comments / Questions / Requests:
Contact the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System (AFMES)

Contact Information:
Lt Col Edward L Mazuchowski, USAF, MC
Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner

edward.l.mazuchowski.mil@mail.mil
(302) 346-8648