

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF ANAESTHETISTS

4TH NATIONAL AUDIT PROJECT (NAP4)

Major Complications of Airway Management in the UK

NAP4 will run from 1 September 2008 – 31 August 2009

Please report all cases of major complications of airway management.

Who? Any patient suffering harm from airway management during anaesthesia

Where? During anaesthesia, ICU and emergency departments

What? This project is ONLY designed to collect data on major complications of airway management resulting in:

- **Death/brain damage**
- **Emergency surgical airway or needle cricothyroidotomy**
- **Unanticipated ICU admission: only where airway complications cause admission or lead to an adverse outcome.**

NAP4

In order for the project to be achievable we need to focus only on those cases with a **poor outcome that is clearly identified as caused by difficult airway management.**

How: Anyone can report, but only the following information: *hospital name, the date and time of the event, and the name of the person reporting it.* **The identity of the patient must not be submitted.** Please report to tcook@rcoa.ac.uk. The project team will log the event and contact your hospital's Local Reporter for the project (we have a Local Reporter in every NHS hospital). The Local Reporter will then work with the clinicians involved to submit a full report on the event.



All events will to be treated with total confidentiality and anonymity, for staff and patients.

Additional information: More detailed information can be found on the DAS website (www.das.uk.com/natauditproject) or RCoA website (www.rcoa.ac.uk), or directly from Tim Cook (tcook@rcoa.ac.uk) or Nick Woodall (nicholas.woodall@nnuh.nhs.uk) co-leads for the project.