

# Faculty Manuscript: Shikani Optical Stylet (S.O.S)

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Airway Workshop – Saturday, March 10, 2007 – 1:30-3:30pm

## **Objectives**

1. Participants will learn about the features of the Shikani Optical Stylet.
2. Participants will learn how to use the Shikani Optical Stylet in different clinical scenarios as a tool for difficult intubation and as a teaching aid.
3. Participants will learn how to optimize their chance of successful intubation using the Shikani Optical Stylet.

## **Summary**

The S.O.S. is a malleable, semi-rigid, intubating fiberoptic stylet for use in children and adults. It features a battery operated light source with a high-resolution eyepiece on the handle to which the stylet is attached easily. The S.O.S. also has the ability to insufflate oxygen into the pharynx via the endotracheal tube that is railroaded over the stylet prior to intubation.

The device is produced with a pediatric and an adult stylet that are interchangeable on the handle that houses the battery and light source, making the S.O.S. a portable and versatile aid to difficult intubation that can be set up in seconds, a useful feature for emergency or unanticipated difficult intubations. The malleable distal end allows configuration for varying intubation angles that may be encountered in different patients, and can be particularly useful for patients with a rigid or unstable cervical spine.

The S.O.S. can be used alone or in conjunction with direct laryngoscopy. If secretions or blood prevent visualization of the vocal cords, intubation may be attempted using it as a light wand instead. The eyepiece accepts a standard endoscope camera that allows demonstration of the procedure for teaching purposes.

Overall, the S.O.S. is a useful aid to intubation that is portable, versatile, and can be used successfully with minimal training and experience.