



Baska Mask / Baska FESS Mask – Product Testimonial

Having used the first and the second generation SGADs over the years, I was in search of a newer SGAD that would supersede all the currently available SGADs by overcoming their demerits. A device that would consistently have a higher oropharyngeal leak pressure (>30 cm of H₂O) in order to avoid gastric insufflation and subsequent regurgitation leading to aspiration especially in major laparoscopic surgeries and also in emergency settings.

When I learnt about the Baska Mask and its intended uses, I started using them in various Laparoscopic surgeries especially with considerable head down tilt, Nasal Endoscopic surgical procedures such as FESS with Septoplasty and also in Orthopaedic procedures in the day care settings.

I have no doubt that the Baska Mask and Baska FESS Mask would be a perfect choice for the above mentioned procedures, having used on 80 patients.

I am impressed with its unique self 'Sealing Mechanism' of its membranous cuff; ingeniously designed sump cavity on its dorsal aspect which in combination enables the delivery of consistent high intermittent positive pressure ventilation.

Though I had insertion problems in few patients in the initial stages, my success rate is close to 95% currently with an insertion duration of 10 seconds, achieving oropharyngeal leak pressure of >35cm of H₂O (with a maximum of 47cm H₂O).

Visualizing through a FOB during its use, the entire glottis can be seen engulfed by the soft membranous medial cuff, which gets inflated proportionately with increase in airway pressure in majority of patients.

There are other salient features such as the suction and vent (Gastric Tubes) positioned on either side of the oval shaped stem with inbuilt bite block all along (hard enough to prevent a kink but soft enough for the surrounding structures). With a suction elbow attached to the device enables a continuous high pressure suction clearance of the unwanted pharyngeal contents that



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helps prevent aspiration. The tab available on the device enables insertion with ease in fixed neck conditions and finally the device is also a see through one and made out of transparent silicone material.

The Baska FESS Mask has been invented with a rare insight and designed as an ideal SGAD for Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery with all unique features in one device with relatively shorter shaft and detachable 15mm curved connector making surgical access easier. Having used it in many nasal endoscopic surgeries, I would say that Baska FESS Mask is the only available SGAD that can be safely used in airway sharing surgeries with minimal perioperative airway morbidity.

For the beginners the device insertion difficulty score could be initially high. Once the key concept of liberal lubrication of its mask part and also the patient's lips is done, with insertion at adequate depth of anaesthesia avoiding pulling of the lower jaw, the difficulty rate can be easily minimized.

I appreciate the valuable contribution the Baska Mask and the Baska FESS Mask has made in the field of SGA management in Anaesthesia and I would rate Baska Mask as the 3rd Generation SGA better than 'Excellent'.

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