

CLINICAL IMAGE

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

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Introduction

Packaging is an important part of transfer medicine.(1) Appropriate packaging in a “layered” manner is widely accepted as a safer way to move patients who may have various cables or tubes attached.(2)

In our practise we use modified ventilator airway tubing, approximately 0.5 metres in length with a slit down the longitudinal axis to contain these cables and/or tubes (Figure 1).

This tubing has become colloquially known as “*Elephant tubing*”. This tubing is typically used to contain ECG wires and medication giving sets.

The oxygen saturation probe wires and one intravenous access is typically left out during the transfer process in order to be able to access same (Figure 2).

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Figure 1. Close up view of “elephant tubing”



Figure 2. Demonstrated placement of “elephant tubing” during transfer.

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