

ing a fiberoptic together with a videolaryngoscope [8], but this way is cheaper and easier to perform.

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Always check anaesthetic equipment

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Sir,

Foreign bodies in the breathing system causing critical incidents and even the death of a patient have been a topic for publicity and recommendations [1–4].

Usually inert small items such as caps, bungs (plastic stoppers) and metal pieces have been reported.

We would like to emphasise the importance of checking all parts of the circuit individually. Finding an insect is rather rare.

During our routine pre-operative check, we were surprised to find this dead fly in the HME filter, which had just been taken out of a new packet (Fig. 1 A–C).

Foreign bodies can enter the equipment during wrapping, decontamination or storage. There are case reports of wrapping material or manufacturing material, such as plastic causing obstruction [5]. We believe it may have got trapped inside before packing.

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Figure 1A–C

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