representative of patients. Similar results were obtained by a recent study,[8] in which more experienced medical staff (senior anesthesiologists) performed the task in a less suitable model of porcine laryngopharynx. Together with these studies, studies in general have indicated that surgical cricothyrotomy is more reliable than cannula cricothyrotomy. I believe that this is why Professor Cook stated in a previous article that "[t]he Difficult Airway Society 2015 guidelines[9] make a case for a standardized approach to front of neck airway with scalpel cricothyroidotomy because it is judged most likely to be the fastest and most reliable method of securing the airway," and that "scalpel cricothyroidotomy should be learned and regularly rehearsed by all anaesthetists."[5] Therefore, I believe that the view of Dr. Kelly and Professor Cook is the same as mine.

As Dr. Kelly and Professor Cook point out, we need to establish an appropriate simulation training program using a suitable model and setting to reduce the incidence of necessitating emergency cricothyrotomy and to increase confidence in performing this task in a rare occurrence of the "cannot intubate, cannot oxygenate" situation.

Competing Interests

The author declares no competing interests.

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You Have a Plan B. Should You Have a Plan C?

To the Editor:

I read with interest the article by Ozawa[1] regarding his sailing adventure. Ozawa compares the unexpected event during a sail to what can occur while administering anesthesia. This sailing metaphor is a perfect opportunity to put in a plug for the value of using cognitive aids in unexpected critical events. Cog aids won't teach what you don't already know, but may remind you to apply it.

Run Aground

When you're sailing along, and the wind goes away,
And your motor won't start when you crank 'er
And the current is pushing you right for the rocks
THAT's when to lower your anchor!

Competing Interests

The author declares no competing interests.

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In Reply:

The esteemed Professor Davis has illuminated one of my key messages embedded into my short story. It goes without saying that having a cognitive aid is half the battle. Practice and proficiency in using the aid is also entirely necessary.

I have not heard the rhyme before that Professor Davis mentions in his letter, but as a cognitive aid it would certainly have been useful during my misadventure!

Competing Interests

The author declares no competing interests.

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