

SMOKE PRODUCTION AND SMOKE REDUCTION IN ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY: PRELIMINARY REPORT

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ABSTRACT

“This paper deals with the hazard of smoke production to patients undergoing endoscopic surgery. A study investigating methaemoglobin levels in a patient group operated on using smoke generating devices as compared to a control group yielded a significantly positive correlation between smoke production and methaemoglobin concentration. The mechanisms controlling methaemoglobin levels in the body and the specific toxic effect of elevated levels are dealt with. It is concluded that smoke production in endoscopic surgery is a factor of concern and should be minimized.”