

Appendix 2 Rating of the steps of PDT regarding visualization of tracheal structures inside the trachea, monitoring the PDT, and ventilation, respectively. The rating was: "very good" (1), "good" (2), "difficult" (3) and "impossible" (4) during PDT. A rating of "4" led to change of airway, and also led to a rating of "4" in all the following steps.

Rating of steps of PDT		1 very easy/ very good	2 easy/good	3 Difficult/ poor visualization	4 impossible	P
Inserting LMA	LMA	19 58%	11 33%	2 6%	1* 3%	n.s.
Preparing ETT	ETT	22 73%	8 27%	0	0	
Quality of ventilation before starting PDT (airway in place)	LMA	28 85%	4 12%	0	1* 3%	0.01
	ETT	10 33%	15 50%	5 17%	0	
<u>Degree of difficulty:</u> Introduction of bronchoscope	LMA	25 76%	6 18%	1 3%	1* 3%	n.s.
	ETT	26 86%	4 13%	0	0	
<u>Identification:</u> tracheal structures (cricoid, thyroid, tracheal cartilages)	LMA	29 88%	2 6%	1 3%	1* 3%	< 0.01
	ETT	10 33%	10 33%	8 27%	2* 7%	
<u>Visualization:</u> tracheal circumference	LMA	24 73%	7 21%	1 3%	1* 3%	< 0.01
	ETT	8 27%	9 30%	11 37%	2 7%	
<u>Monitoring puncture:</u> midline + level below 1 st or 2 nd tracheal cartilage	LMA	29 88%	3 9%	0	1* 3%	< 0.01
	ETT	14 47%	9 30%	5 17%	2 7%	
<u>Monitoring dilatation</u> Anterior wall and Pars membranacea	LMA	30 91%	2 6%	0	1* 3%	< 0.01
	ETT	15 50%	8 27%	5 17%	2 7%	
Lowest quality of ventilation for at least	LMA	16 48%	15 46%	1 3%	1* 3%	0.02

2 minutes	ETT	5 17%	15 50%	7 23%	3 10%	
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Data are presented as mean \pm SD; the p value indicates the significance level for the comparison between patients ventilated with laryngeal mask airway (LMA) and endotracheal tube (ETT) (chi² test).