

The Airway Carnival: Topicalization of the Airway

Anatomy

Nasopharynx:

- anterior ethmoid nerve
- sphenopalatine ganglion

Techniques:

- Pledgetts to area
- Nasal trumpets

Oropharynx:

- glossopharyngeal nerve

Techniques:

- Sprays, atomizers, nebulizers

Hypopharynx:

- superior laryngeal nerve

Techniques:

- Nerve block
- Application of anesthetic to piriform fossae

Trachea:

- vagus nerve

Techniques:

- Translaryngeal injection
- "Spray as you go" through the fiberoptic scope
- "Drip from above" via nasopharynx, nebulization

Local Anesthetic Agents

Lidocaine:

- 2% viscous solution (swish through mouth, coat nasal trumpets)
- 5% ointment (apply to tongue, oropharynx using tongue blade)
- 4% solution (spray, atomize, nebulize, inject into trachea)
- 2% solution (superior laryngeal, glossopharyngeal nerve block)

Cocaine:

- 4% solution (soak q-tips, pledgetts for nasal application/vasoconstriction)

Benzocaine, other oral sprays:

- apply to tongue, oropharynx