INTRODUCTION

Securing patient airway is primary responsibility of the anesthetist. Failure to establish or maintain a patent airway can cause asphyxia and death. Endotracheal intubation is conventionally performed when the patient is in the supine position, it may be sometimes required to secure the airway in the lateral position (1,2). Few surgical procedures are done in lateral position under regional anaesthesia. During the course of surgery action of local anaesthetic can wear off and patient can complain of pain. Then anaesthetist has to induce general anaesthesia in lateral position supraglottic airway devices plays a pivotal role as it is inserted blindly into hypopharynx without use of any airway instrumentation. The aim of this study is to compare two different supraglottic airway devices i.e. classical LMA and I gel regarding ease of insertion and efficacy of ventilation in lateral position.

METHODLOGY – A prospective randomized study was conducted in eighty patients who were posted for various surgical procedures under general anaesthesia who were chosen. They were randomly divided into four groups of 20 patients (right & left lateral position with I gel, right & left lateral position with classic LMA). All the patients were induced in their allotted lateral position by randomization and planned supraglottic airway was inserted in that position. Ease of supraglottic device insertion and adverse effects were assessed.

RESULTS – There was statistical significant difference between supraglottic airway device insertion in right and left lateral positions. (IRL 42 +/-10 sec, ILL 60 +/-9 sec, CRL 48 +/-10 sec , CLL 66 +/- 8 sec) (p= 0.0020). Number of attempts taken for I gel in right lateral position were less than other groups (90% success rate). Trauma was found to be more in I gel group in left lateral position.

CONCLUSION – Insertion of I-gel was significantly easier and more rapid than insertion of Classic LMA in lateral position. It was easier to insert supraglottic airway device in right lateral position than left lateral position and insertion of I gel was easier compared to classic LMA. Supraglottic device was successfully inserted in all the patients. None of our patients had desaturation. But amount of trauma caused by I gel was more than classic LMA.
mg/kg body weight given IV, O2 administered and 3rd attempt LMA insertion was tried again after 30 seconds of Propofol injection. If 3rd attempt unsuccessful patients were excluded from the study and airway secured by alternative method.

Side effects like coughing, movements of head and limbs, desaturation were noted. The device was removed after the patient regained consciousness spontaneously and responded to verbal command to open the mouth. After the removal of LMA, LMA is inspected for blood stain to assess trauma during insertion if any.

Results
Data for 80 patients were analyzed and are presented as mean, SD for quantitative observations and numbers/proportions (%) for qualitative observations. For categorized parameters chi-square test was used, one way ANOVA test using SPSS software version 20 is used to compare variables of all 4 groups.

Demographic data in our study btw the study population showed that there was no statistical significant difference when comparing sex, mean age between the groups (p>0.05).

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<th>TABLE 1 DEMOGRAPHIC DATA</th>
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<td><strong>Characteristics</strong></td>
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<td>Age (yrs)</td>
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<td>Gender</td>
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MEAN DURATION OF TIME REQUIRED FOR INSERTION OF CLASSIC LMA AND I GEL
IRL - 42 +/- 10 sec
ILL - 60 +/- 9 sec
CRL - 48 +/- 10 sec
CLL - 66 +/- 8 sec
Mean duration of time required for LMA insertion in right lateral to left lateral position in both groups were statistically significant with lesser time required for LMA insertion in right lateral position in both groups. (p = 0.0020)

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<tr>
<th>TABLE 2. NUMBER OF ATTEMPTS TAKEN FOR CLASSIC LMA AND I GEL INSERTION</th>
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<td><strong>Group</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>LL</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRL</td>
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<td>CLL</td>
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78% of our patients had LMA being placed in position in 1st attempt successfully. 22% of patients had 2nd attempt of LMA insertion. None of them in any group had 3rd attempt. No failed LMA insertion was noted in any group.

Group IRL had success rate of 90% in 1st attempt i.e. 18 out of 20 patients had successful 1st attempt LMA placement. Two patients(10%) in this group had 2nd attempt of LMA insertion.

Group ILL had 1st attempt success rate of 75% with 15 patients out of 20 patients. 5 patients(25%) needed 2nd attempt for LMA placement Group CRL had success rate of 85% at 1st attempt (n = 17). 3 patients(15%) had LMA insertion in 2nd attempt.

Group CLL had 1st attempt success rate of 65% only (n =13). 35% of patients in this group needed 2nd attempt for successful LMA insertion (n=7).

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<th>TABLE 3. ADVERSE EFFECTS</th>
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<td><strong>Groups</strong></td>
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<td>RL</td>
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Out of 80 patients 8 patients had movements during LMA insertion with CRL group having highest number of patients (n = 3). Coughing was noted in 4 out of 80 patients with CRL group having 2 patients and ILL and CRL group each had 1 patient. No coughing was noted in IRL group. (P >0.05) NS Trauma was noted to be high in I gel group with two patients having trauma of which both belonging to ILL group ( p = 0.46 statistical insignificant) None of our patients had desaturation during LMA insertion.

DISCUSSION
Management of airway in supine/lateral position has seen various developments since introduction of various supraglottic airway devices11. LMA insertion does not requires laryngoscopy as it is blindly inserted into the hypopharynx. LMA has high success rate in hand of inexperienced user also12. And LMA insertion has minimal cardiovascular changes.

I gel has few special features compared to classic LMA (tensile property, a separate gastric channel for Ryles tube). I gel has no cuff to inflate so making it easier to use. The airway seal improves as the device warms to body temperature. The stem is elliptical in cross-section to minimize axial rotation and provide greater stability. It has an integral bite block.16

Our study had a success rate of 90% but in a study conducted by Richex et al insertion success rate was 97% which is higher than our study. In a study conducted by McCaul, the left lateral position resulted in a deterioration of laryngoscopic view in 35% of patients and improvement in none. In the lateral position, failure of airway management occurred in more patients with the endotracheal tube versus LMA (8 of 39 versus 1 of 30; P = 0.03)

In our study group IRL and group CRL had good ease of insertion with 90% and 85% success rate respectively in 1st attempt compared with more patients requiring 2nd attempt 25% and 35% in group ILL and CLL respectively. This may be due to difficulty in inserting airway devices in left lateral position irrespective of type of device used. In the study conducted by Anitha et al out of thirty six patients, Thirty four patients could be intubated in the first attempt in the left lateral position (Group LL) whereas two required a second attempt. In the right lateral position (Group RL), only thirty patients could be intubated in the first attempt and five needed a second attempt.

Coughing was seen in 4 out of 80 patients which is less compared to study conducted by Amr M Helmy which had 8 patients who experienced cough. In our study classic LMA induced coughing in 3 patients, but only 1 patient of I gel group had cough which is in accordance with study conducted by Amr M Helmy which also showed high cough rate in patients in classic LMA group. Also in study conducted by LIAN kah ti et al patients had higher cough rate with LMA use as LMA placement is associated with deglutination and requires suppression of hypopharyngeal sensations which might not have been sufficient enough to suppress cough reflex.

In our study out of 80 patients, 7 patients had head and limb movements which is in accordance with study conducted by where they had approximately 40% patients out of 88 patients with head and limb movements.14

Our study shows that trauma is more in I gel group than in classic LMA group but A study conducted by acott had no trauma in igel group. Our study is in accordance with study conducted by Amr M Helmy who also had two trauma in I gel patients. This may be due to hardness of I gel compared to classic LMA.

CONCLUSION
Supraglottic airway devices can be successfully used for securing airway in lateral position. Both classic LMA and I gel can be used to secure the airway. I gel is a supraglottic airway device with its own advantages which can be successfully used in patients who need...
lateral position for their surgery. It can be positioned safely even by a less experienced person and with less trauma and less chances of accidental extubation.

In our study we have also studied ease of supraglottic device insertion in left and right lateral positions. Anaesthesiologists have been trained to secure airway and also to perform laryngoscopy from right side. In our study also more number of attempts was required to secure airway using supraglottic airway devices with the patient in left lateral position and also time required for successful placement of airway device is more in left lateral position. Of all the airway devices I gel takes comparatively less time for insertion, produces minimal patient response compared to classic LMA and needs less expertise for insertion but I gel produced more trauma compared to classic LMA in our study. Hence we conclude that I gel can be used to secure airway successfully in lateral position compared to classic LMA.

References

15. Success Rate of Airway Devices Insertion: Laryngeal Mask Airway Versus Supraglottic Gel Device Alireza Pournajafian 1,*; Mahzad Alimian 2; Faranak Rokhtabnak 1; Mohammadreza Ghideh 1; Mohzgan Mojt, Anesth Pain Med. 2015 April; 5(2): e22068