

# Medical Safety Information

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency



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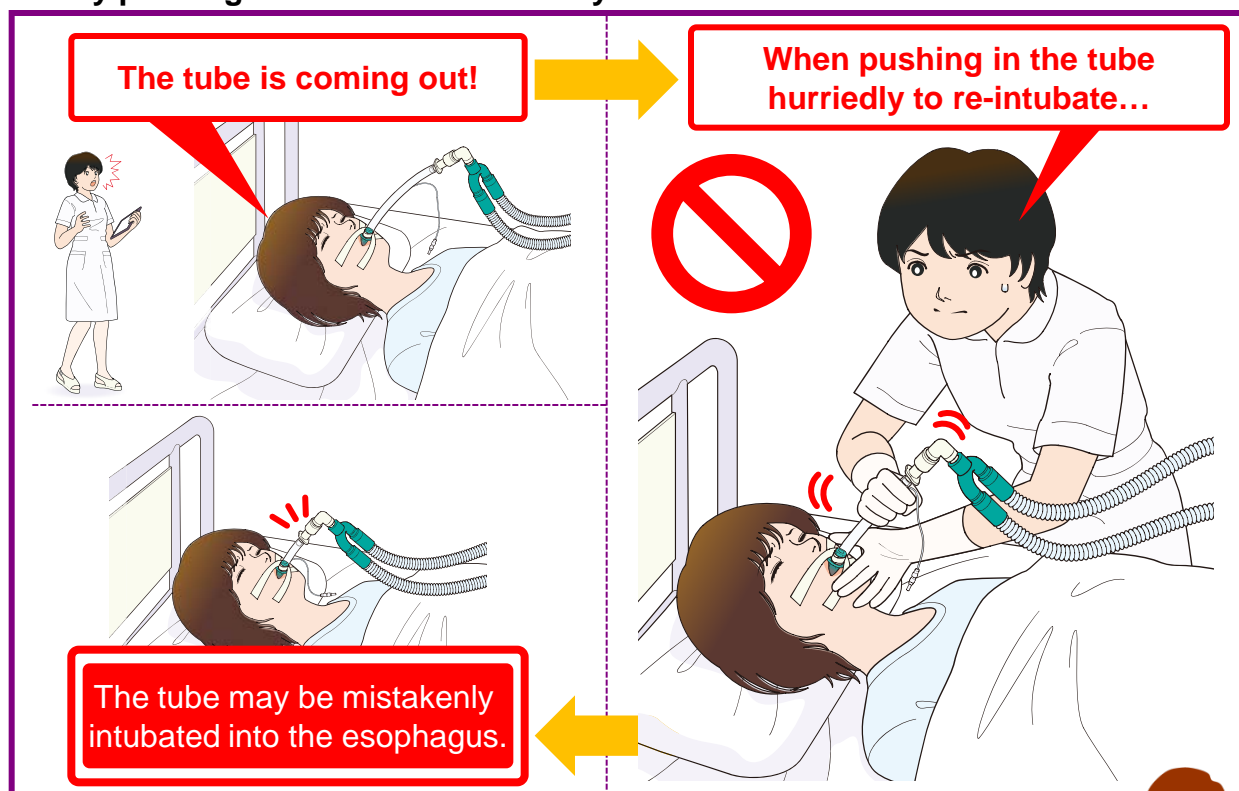
## Precautions in Handling of Endotracheal Tubes

### POINT Key points for safe use

(Case 1) A SpO<sub>2</sub> lower limit alarm in the monitor went off. Medical staff checked the patient and found that the endotracheal tube was mistakenly intubated into the esophagus.

#### 1 Precautions in case the endotracheal tube is coming out

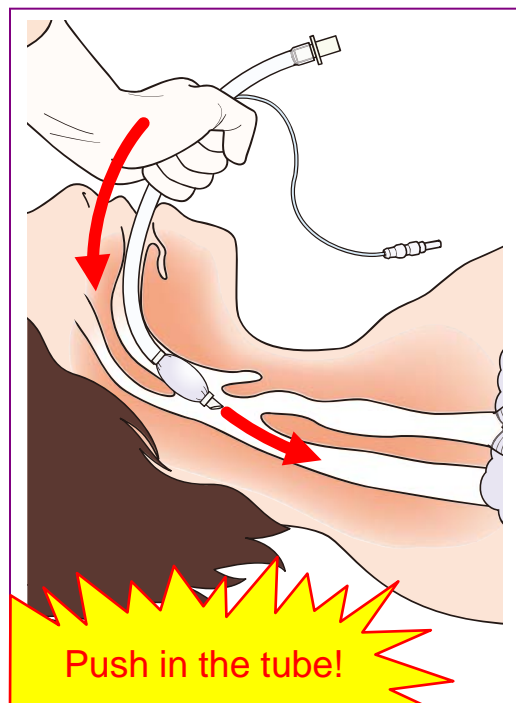
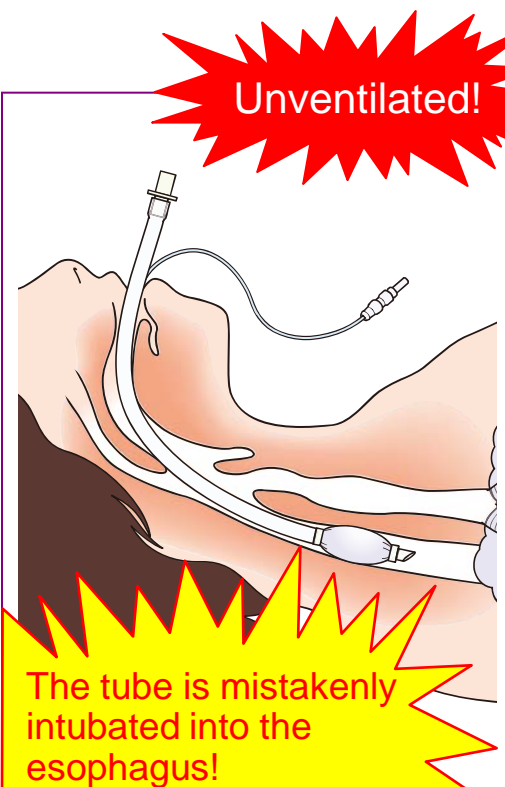
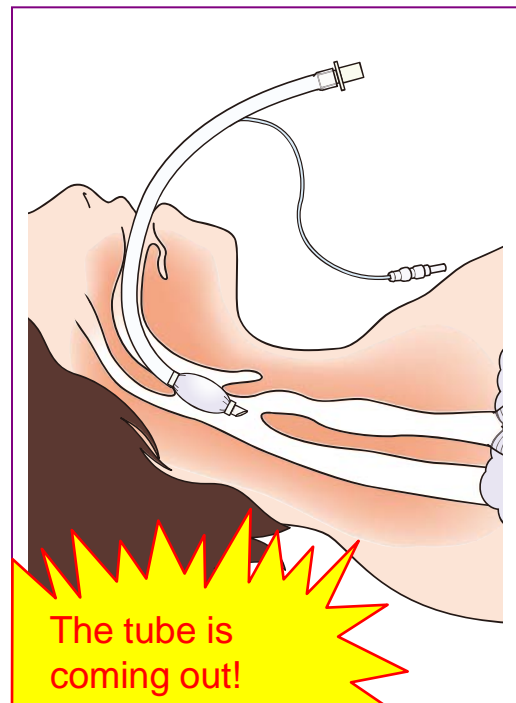
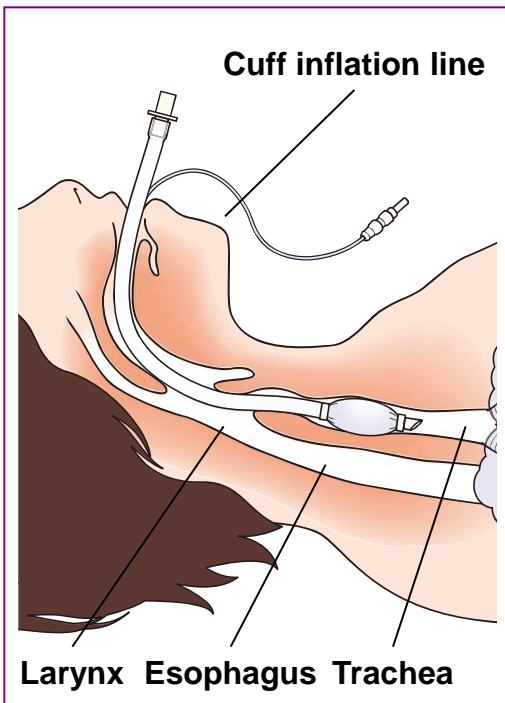
- When you find the endotracheal tube coming out, do not try to re-intubate by pushing in the tube immediately.



When you find the endotracheal tube coming out, please **inform a physician immediately**.  
After re-intubation, **make sure that the tube is placed properly in the trachea** by listening to the patient's breath sounds or by other means.



### Mechanism of esophageal intubation



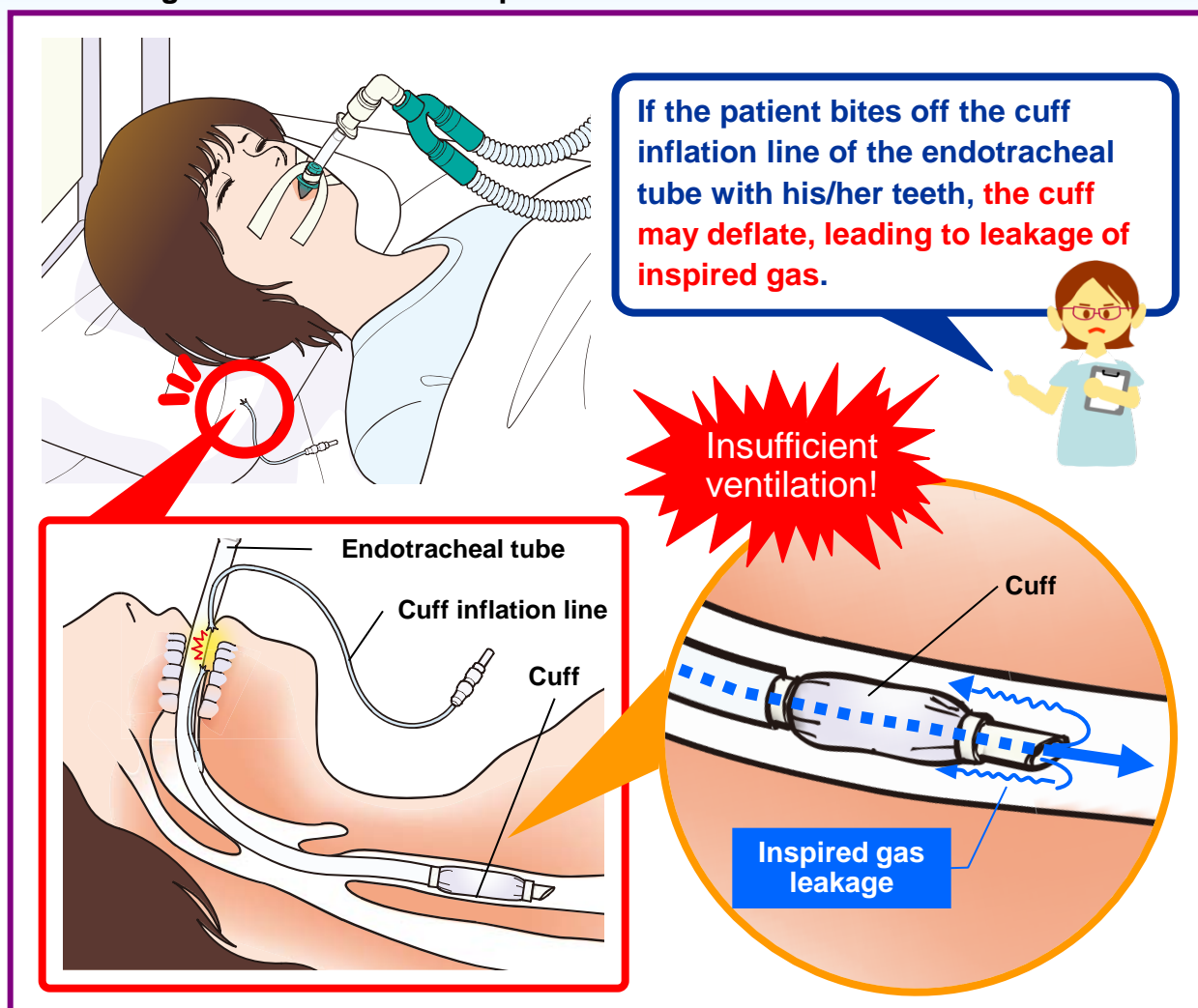
When the endotracheal tube is coming out, the tip of the tube may have been out from the trachea. In this case, if the tube is pushed in, it may accidentally enter into the esophagus.



**(Case 2)** The low minute ventilation alarm of the ventilator went off. Medical staff checked the patient and found out that the cuff inflation line had been bitten off.

## 2 Precautions in endotracheal tube fixation

- When fixing the endotracheal tube, be careful to avoid the cuff inflation line coming into contact with the patient's teeth.



### About this information

- \* PMDA Medical Safety Information is issued by the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency for the purpose of providing healthcare providers with clearer information from the perspective of promoting the safe use of pharmaceuticals and medical devices. The information presented here has been compiled, with the assistance of expert advice, from cases collected as Medical Accident Information Reports by the Japan Council for Quality Health Care, and collected as Adverse Drug Reaction and Malfunction Reports in accordance with the Pharmaceutical Affairs Law.
- \* We have tried to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of its compilation but do not guarantee its accuracy in the future.
- \* This information is not intended to impose constraints on the discretion of healthcare professionals or to impose obligations and responsibility on them, but is provided as a support to promote the safe use of pharmaceuticals and medical devices by healthcare professionals.