# Did You Know?

Continuous subglottic suctioning and frequent intermittent subglottic suctioning drainage of subglottic secretions, via a cuffed endotracheal tube, are associated with up to a 50 percent decrease in the incidence of gastric aspiration, a potential cause of ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP).1

A 2011 systematic review of 13 trials found the use of subglottic secretion drainage endotracheal tubes contributed to the following benefits:2

* Reduction of VAP cases by 45 percent
* Reduction in length of stay by 1.5 days
* Reduction of time on ventilator by 1.1 days

# What the Evidence Says

## Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

Recommends the use of cuffed subglottic secretion drainage endotracheal tube (SSD-ETT) with inline subglottic suction to prevent aspiration and reduce VAP risk factor.3

## ZAP the VAP: Ventilator Associated Pneumonia

Subglottic secretion drainage is recommended for patients requiring mechanical ventilation for more than 72 hours.4

## American Thoracic Society

Recommends the use of specifically designed SSD-ETT for the continuous aspiration of subglottic secretion.5

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Recommends the use of an SSD-ETT above the endotracheal cuff to allow drainage by continuous or frequent intermittent suctioning of tracheal secretion that accumulates in the patient’s subglottic area.6

# References

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