ANAESTHETIC ANTIPOLLUTION DEVICE

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It is suspected that anaesthetists working in poorly ventilated rooms may be inhaling enough effluent vapour to alter metabolic functions, and it is not known what damage may occur as a result of atmospheric contamination over the course of many years by anaesthetic agents. In order to reduce any risk to the anaesthetist, adequate room ventilation is important. Additionally, a simple device is considered worth while, and one has proved to be satisfactory in dealing with low flow spillage from circle systems.

A 50 ml Toomey syringe may be placed over the spill valve and attached to the room vacuum as illustrated in Figure 1. Note that the plastic syringe has been contoured to fit (not too snugly) around the T junction in order to obtain maximal spill extraction.

This device may be adapted to a variety of anaesthetic machines. The remaining task would be to check the level of consciousness of the engine room attendant!

FIGURE 1

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