C - No acupuncture ($n = 33$).

The patients received no sensory stimulation, but the needles (0.3 mm diameter single-use acupuncture needles, at a depth of 2 cm) were continuously stimulated manually.

Groups were homogeneous as to sex, age, body weight, preanaesthetic mean arterial pressure (MAP) and heart rate (HR) and duration of surgery. The extubation of the trachea (time = T_e) was decided by the single anaesthetist in charge of the patients, who was not involved in the study and not aware of its goals. The T_0 - T_e difference among the three groups (one-way analysis of variance: $P < 0.001$), being was respectively 8.41 ± 4.5 (min $\pm$ SD) for Group A, 14.8 ± 4.7 for Group B, and 14.75 ± 5.5 for Group C. Group A differs from Groups B and C (Student-Newman-Keuls test: $P < 0.005$). Only one patient in Group A and two in Group B exhibited leg movements which could have been related to painful stimulation by the needles. Hence, we argue that pain does not explain the "arousal" effect of K1.

Despite some methodological problems these data suggest further study on the "analeptic" effect of acupuncture.

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Polamedco endotracheal tubes

To the Editor:

Thank you for your very fair portrayal of a problem with the Polamedco endotracheal tube reported by Dr. McCaskil in your June issue. I have enclosed a sample of Polamedco's redesigned tube that now includes a stop to limit the connector travel. When contacting the stop, only 0.3 inches of tube can protrude from the connector, not

Figure

TABLE Force to move connector past end flange or down stop

Tube size (mm)	Pull off force (lbs)	Move down force (lbs)
4.0	23.5	26.1
4.5	29.5	30.8
5.0	26.7	22.1
5.5	27.8	23.4
6.0	37.2	35.1
6.5	31.7	30.0
7.0	27.1	21.7
7.5	25.1	22.8
8.0	20.2	18.8
8.5	17.4	18.1
9.0	19.3	16.6

enough to interfere with the fish-mouth valve of the Laerdal bag. An additional stop (flange) is placed at the proximal end of the tube to increase the force needed for connector pull-off (Figure). The connector will still swivel on the tube and allow downward adjustment of approximately 1 inch.

The attached Table shows the force in pounds required for the connector to override the stops. We think you will agree that these forces are more than adequate in even severe usage.

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