

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir:

Doctor William Noble informed me of his forthcoming article in the March issue of the Canadian Anaesthetists' Society Journal regarding the effect of back pressure on the vaporization of halothane. Recently it has come to my attention that some Venturi Circulators have gone out with undersize jets, specifically 20/1000 instead of 24/1000 orifices. In comparing notes, Doctor Noble and I have come to the conclusion that the Venturi Circulator which he used was indeed one of those with undersized jets; hence it exhibited an abnormally high back pressure.

Since, as Doctor Noble has shown, the vapour concentration from all halothane vaporizers is uniformly decreased by the magnitude of the back pressure, we both feel that readers should be made aware that with the Standard Venturi Circulator the back pressure is a very moderate 80 mm Hg when a 3 litre anaesthetic gas flow is used. It was so reported in the article on the Venturi Circulator by Neff, Burke, and Thompson, published in *Anesthesiology*, vol. 29, no. 4, July-August 1968.

When a 5 litre anaesthetic gas flow is used, as in Doctor Noble's experiments, the back pressure with the standard 24/1000 jets is only 150 mm Hg.

If a note of explanation could be inserted it would be appreciated by my colleagues and myself, since under the same conditions Doctor Noble's results and ours are identical.

February 20, 1970

WILLIAM B. NEFF, M.D., F.F.A.R.C.S.
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Sir:

"What's In A Name"

In the article by Jenkins *et al.* (*Canad. Anaesth. Soc. J.*, vol. 14, no. 4, July 1967), in the references on page 320, the spelling of my name is incorrect. In the second article by Jenkins *et al.*, appearing in vol. 16, no. 6, November 1969, yet another version of my name is offered in the text on page 468 and in the references on page 476. Such mistakes must surely be a source of irritation to those enthusiastic readers who are prepared to actually check for themselves the references in their original form. If you consider the number of articles that are published and the number that are photocopied, then it is possible that in a very short time some people will be familiar with the incorrect spelling of my name rather than the correct one. In fact, I am seriously considering changing it, but I cannot make up my mind whether to choose the spelling offered in the first article or the second.

I assure you, Sir, that this small matter will not prevent me from continuing to enjoy reading the Canadian Anaesthetists' Society Journal.

February 22, 1970

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