**TITLE:** Endotracheal Tube with Radiopaque Chevron Shaped Biocompatible Metal Marker at the Distal End  
**INVENTORS:** Whitney Lewis  
**TECHNOLOGY:** Device  

**UTSD:** 3208  

**SUMMARY:**  
This technology describes an endotracheal tube (ETT) with a single radiopaque biocompatible metal chevron/triangular shaped marker in the distal most tip of the bevel important to maintain appropriate positioning of the device in the trachea.  

An ETT is frequently used in the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit and operating room for patients presenting with respiratory distress, are unconscious, or require surgical procedures. The goal of the device is to maintain airway patency, protect the patient from aspirating, and ensure adequate mechanical ventilation. An ETT is made of polyvinylchloride and contains a radiopaque line, which is devised to make the ETT visible on a chest x-ray.  

Unfortunately, in the Emergency Department the radiopaque line on available ETTs is difficult to visualize on a post-intubation chest X-ray secondary to overlying cardiac monitoring lines, oral gastric tubing and clothing, which makes it difficult to identify the distal most tip of the ETT. Physicians need to know where the ETT terminates in order to maintain appropriate positioning of the device in the trachea.  

This invention allows physicians to accurately measure the distance between the ETT and the carina (base of the trachea) in order to determine proper placement in the airway.  

Please contact the Office for Technology Development for more details:  

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