Bronchography with Bronchoscopy

To the Editor:

The two communications1,2 dealing with the use of the fiberoptic bronchoscope to help perform bronchographic studies deserve some comment. The “new method” described by Lutch and Ryan2 was described in 1973.1 The use of the word, “serendipitous” (“obtained or characterized by serendipity; “the gift of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for”4), by Wagner and Paidipaty4 is incorrect. If these authors1 had encountered an unexpected situation during the fiberoptic bronchoscopic procedure and subsequently had utilized the instrument in a novel fashion (in this instance, to facilitate bronchographic studies), their usage would be proper.

The employment of the fiberoptic bronchoscope to help perform bronchographic studies is neither new nor serendipitous but should be considered an alternative to the traditional “blind” methods of passing a bronchographic catheter.

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REFERENCES


To the Editor:

My coauthor and I apologize for overlooking the previous report by Schoenbaum et al1 in our search of the literature. We are pleased to agree entirely with the suggestions in that publication, and we wish to encourage the use of the combined bronchoscopic-bronchographic procedure.

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REFERENCE