



## Post-Mortem Intubation

Richard M Ratzan, MD

Hartford Hospital, Department of Emergency Medicine  
Hartford, CT, USA

**Corresponding Author:**

Richard M. Ratzan, MD

Hartford Hospital, Department of Emergency Medicine, Hartford, CT, USA

email: rmratzan at yahoo dot com

Received: 01-APR-2014

Accepted: 04-MAY-2014

Published Online: 09-MAY-2014

Life is over Class has begun  
Note the landmarks as we proceed  
Pay attention young doctors Approach  
The bed. The path to  
Salvation snakes through the Gates  
Of the Recently Dead

No no no, you're holding it wrong  
The stylette fits thus Put your  
Left hand here Are the curtains all  
Drawn? Try it again and try it again  
It's meet and proper for rites to rehearse  
On subjects who do not dissent.

The ticket to life is shrouded in  
Practice The rights of the dead  
Are ours to dissect.  
If one doesn't refuse who are we  
To deny the Gift of Teaching  
A starring role? Check the blade

Check the light A laryngoscope with a  
Dead light leaves one cold  
Try it again Do you see your mistake?  
Don't be bashful It often takes  
Three or four times to

Cite this article as: Ratzan RM. Post-Mortem Intubation. RHiME [Internet]. 2014;1:27-28.

get it right.

A mistake on the dead is not a mistake

A mistake on the dead is a break

For the living Do you all see the cords?

The epiglottis? There shouldn't be anyone

Here among us Who hasn't intubated

This man just once. Any questions? Has everyone gone?

Don't be bashful The next time's for real

Watch me do it Then you do it

Now's the time to work out your fears No muss

No fuss No pressure No pain

This body can't feel

HE would have wanted

Your practice behind you

HE'd have agreed

Had we but asked him.

Give it your best shot.

You can't hurt the dead.

Next time – chest tubes.

---