DAS Difficult intubation guidelines – overview

Plan A: Facemask ventilation and tracheal intubation
- Laryngoscopy
  - Succeed: Tracheal intubation
  - Failed intubation
- Supraglottic Airway Device
  - Failed SAD ventilation
- Final attempt at facemask ventilation
  - CICO
  - Succeed: Wake the patient up
- Cricothyroidotomy

Plan B: Maintaining oxygenation: SAD insertion
- Supraglottic Airway Device
  - Succeed

Plan C: Facemask ventilation
- Final attempt at facemask ventilation
  - Succeed: Wake the patient up

Plan D: Emergency front of neck access

STOP AND THINK
Options (consider risks and benefits):
1. Wake the patient up
2. Intubate the patient via the SAD
3. Proceed without intubating the trachea
4. Tracheostomy or cricothyroidotomy

This flowchart forms part of the DAS Guidelines for unanticipated difficult intubation in adults 2015 and should be used in conjunction with the text.