

WHAT MAKES A DIFFICULT AIRWAY

- the mnemonic **LEMON**:
 - **L**ook for external factors, eg. fat neck, small jaw, fish mouth
 - **E**valuate with the 3-3-2 rule:
 - 3 fingers in the open mouth
 - 3 fingers from chin to hyoid
 - 2 fingers from floor of mouth to thyroid cartilage
 - **M**allampati score:
 - Grade 1 = see everything;
 - Grade 2 = see behind the uvula
 - Grade 3 = only see the base of uvula
 - Grade 4 = only see the hard palate
 - **O**bstruction? Eg. trauma, tonsillitis, abscess?
 - **N**eck mobility – virtually absent in the collared trauma patient