**Cricothyrotomy:**

**Indication:** inability to secure the airway by noninvasive techniques in a patient with impending or ongoing hypoxia. Considerations: marked obesity, trauma, deformity of the face and neck, macroglossia, edema, or hemorrhage in and around the airway.

**Technique** vertical skin incision and a No.4 Shiley (i.e. small) tracheal tube or 6-0 ETT.

Note that the initial spreading motion with the Trousseau dilator is vertical, followed by a 90° rotation with a horizontal dilation as pictured.

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