



A Neurosurgeon's Guide to Pulmonary Critical Care for COVID-19

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Introduction

As the number of people infected with the novel **coronavirus** rapidly increases, some neurosurgeons are being asked to participate in the **care of critically ill patients**, even those without neurological involvement. This presentation is meant to be a basic guide to help neurosurgeons achieve this mission.

Disclaimer

- The protocols discussed in this presentation are from the Mission: Possible program at **University Hospitals of Cleveland**, based on guidelines and recommendations from several medical societies and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
- Please check with your own hospital or institution to see if there is any variation from these protocols before implementing them in your own practice.

COVID-19

- Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory tract infection caused by a newly emergent coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, that was first recognized in Wuhan, China, in December 2019.
- Genetic sequencing of the virus suggests that SARS-CoV-2 is a betacoronavirus closely linked to the SARS.

Personal Protective Equipment

When taking care of COVID-19 patients, please adhere to all of your institution's policies regarding personal protective equipment (PPE)

To help others, you must **stay healthy** yourself!

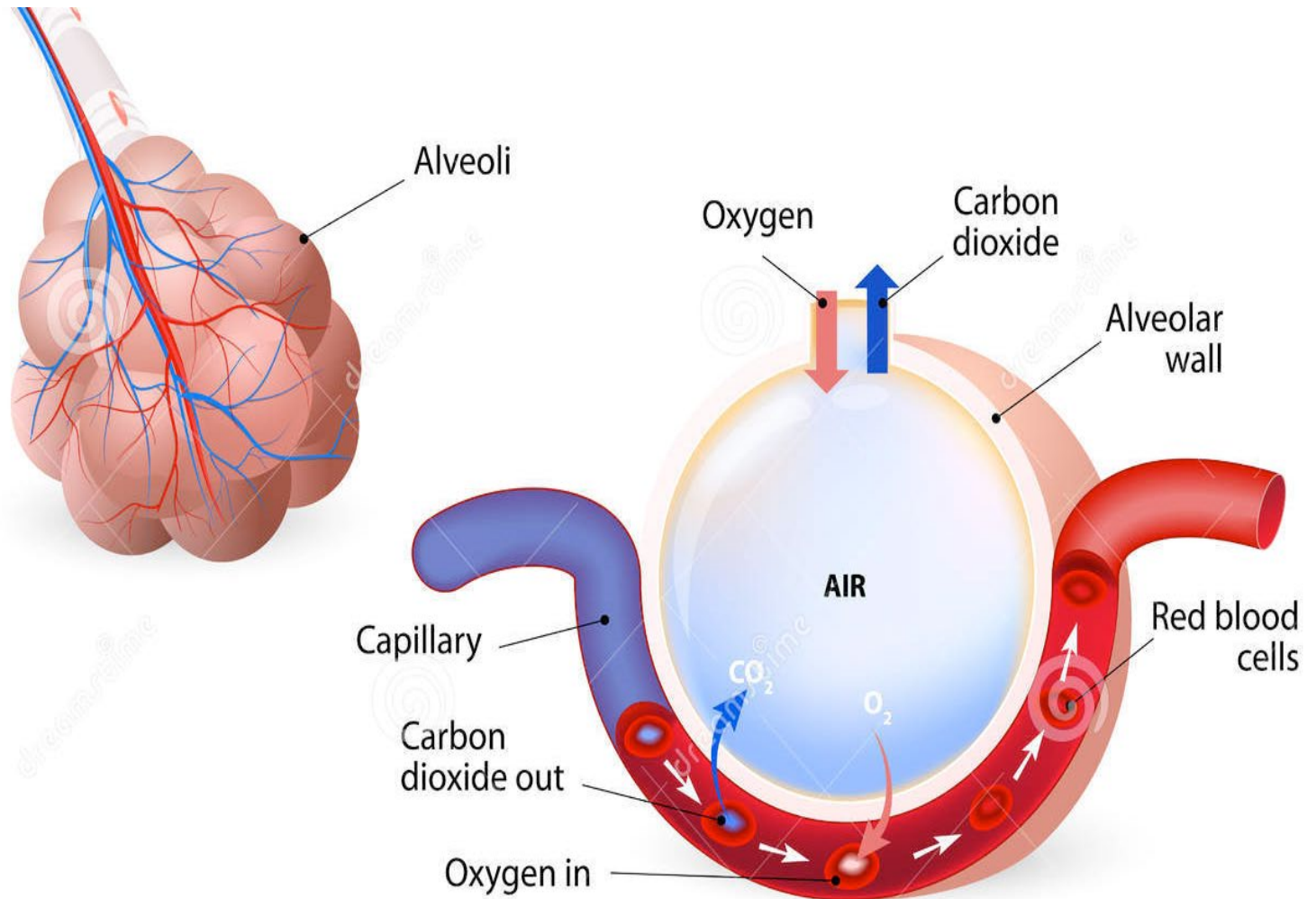
Our Isolation Protocols

- Admit to negative pressure room if available; if not enough negative pressure rooms available for all admitted COVID patients, preference given to non-intubated patients since their respiration is in an open system and they may require intubation
- Patient requires surgical mask when out of room for tests/procedures and when on HFNC
- Patient must remain in room with door closed
- No visitors unless comfort measures are being implemented – then, provide visitors with PPE and educate on procedures – one visitor at a time
- Use clear cassette drape/probe covers for portable imaging to minimize equipment contamination
- Staff require strict contact and droplet precautions
- Nurses to perform lab draws from lines to minimize contact among staff
- Minimize number of staff interacting with patients
- Bundle patient care duties to minimize number of interactions with patient by nurse (medications, vitals, I/Os, lab draws, meal service, etc)

ICU Admission for COVID-19

- Pneumonia
- Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS)
- Sepsis
- Septic shock

Pulmonary System



Pulmonary Function

- Gas exchange occurs in the alveoli of the lung
 - Respiration: oxygen exchange
 - Ventilation: CO_2 exchange
- Acid-base balance: Because CO_2 is in equilibrium with H^+ , ventilation effects pH

Causes of Respiratory Symptoms

- Inflammation or fluid in the alveoli preventing gas exchange
- Airway sections
- Airway inadequacy
- Reactive airway disease
- Gas trapping

Hypoxia

- $\text{SpO}_2 \leq 90\%$ in non-pregnant adults
- $\text{SpO}_2 \leq 92-95\%$ in pregnant patients

Managing Hypoxia

- **Standard supplemental oxygen therapy** immediately to patients with SARI (severe acute respiratory infection) and respiratory distress, hypoxemia, or shock.
- **Initiate oxygen therapy** at 6L/min low flow nasal cannula or with face mask with or without reservoir bag (flow rates of 10-15 L/min, which is typically the minimum flow required to maintain bag inflation; FiO_2 0.60-0.95)

Managing Hypoxia

High-flow nasal oxygen (HFNC) can be used in selected patients in negative pressure rooms or rooms with added HEPA filter

- Keep flow at 15-30 Liters (instead of 50-60L)
- Use a face mask on top of the HFNC
- Patient should be closely monitored. If the patient acutely deteriorates or does not improve after a short trial (about 1 hr) then resort to mechanical ventilation

Managing Hypoxia

Non-invasive ventilation (NIV) to be used only temporarily for 1-2 hours in selected group of patients in negative pressure rooms or rooms with added HEPA filter

- Don't transfer on NIV
- If used, all personnel in room have to use N95
- If used- duration is to be limited- very low threshold to initiate mechanical ventilation

Bronchodilators

Avoid nebulizing medications

- Increases risk of droplet production

Use inhaler with spacer

- On mechanical ventilation it is **4 puffs** per treatment

Mechanical Ventilation

Mechanical ventilation is to be implemented early in patients with COVID-19 pneumonia in respiratory failure

Positive pressure ventilation (PPV)

Most common mode is Volume Control

- Delivers a **set volume** with each breath
- Lung pressures may vary, must be monitored

Goals Of Mechanical Ventilation

Oxygenation - PaO_2 55-80 mmHg or oxygen saturation (SpO_2) 88-95%

I:E ratio- Duration of inspiration \leq duration of expiration as long as tolerated hemodynamically

Ventilator Parameters

- FiO_2 - percent inspired oxygen
- RR- respiratory rate
- V_T tidal volume
- PEEP- positive end-expiratory pressure

$$\text{Minute ventilation} = \text{RR} \times V_T$$

Initiating Mechanical Ventilation

Calculate predicted body weight (PBW) in kg

- **Males** = $50 + 2.3 [\text{height (inches)} - 60]$
- **Females** = $45.5 + 2.3 [\text{height (inches)} - 60]$

Select ventilator mode as volume control/assist control.

Set ventilator settings to achieve initial $V_T = 8 \text{ ml/kg PBW}$

Reduce V_T by 1 ml/kg at intervals $\leq 2 \text{ hours}$ until $V_T = 6 \text{ ml/kg PBW}$.

Set initial rate to approximate baseline minute ventilation (not $> 35 \text{ breaths/min}$).

Initiating Mechanical Ventilation

- Start PEEP at 5 cm H₂O. Titrate PEEP/FiO₂ as guided by chart below (Low PEEP/High FiO₂)
- If patient develops hypotension associated with increased PEEP do not continue to increase PEEP

Lo	FiO ₂	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
	PEEP	5	5	8	8	10	10	10	12	14	14	14	16	18	18-24
Hi	FiO ₂	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0
	PEEP	12	14	14	16	16	16	18	20	20	20	20	22	22	22-24

Hemodynamic Effects of PPV

✦ Decreased preload

- Positive alveolar pressure → ↑ lung volume → compression of the heart by the inflated lungs → the intramural pressure of the heart cavities rises (e.g., ↑ RAP) → venous return decreases → preload is reduced → stroke volume decreases → cardiac output and blood pressure may drop.
- This can be **addressed with i.v. fluid**, which helps restore adequate venous return and preload.
- Patients who are very sensitive to change in preload conditions (e.g., presence of hypovolemia, tamponade, PE, severe air trapping) are particularly prone to hypotension when PPV is initiated.

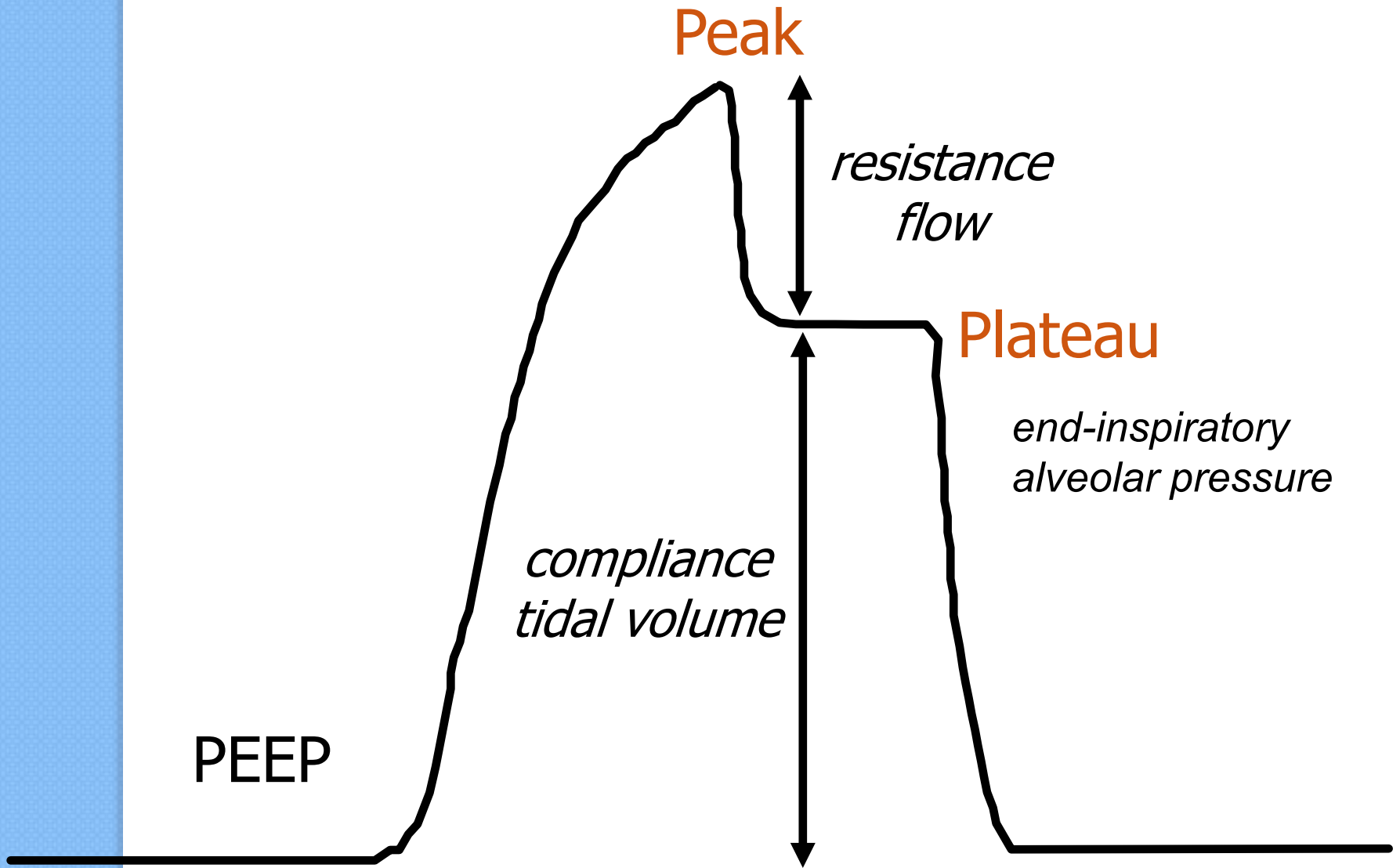
Hemodynamic Effects of PPV

➤ Reduced afterload

- Lung expansion increases extramural pressure (which helps pump blood out of the thorax) and thereby reduces LV afterload.
- When the cardiac performance is mainly determined by changes in afterload than in preload conditions (e.g., hypervolemic patient with systolic heart failure), PPV may be associated with an improved stroke volume. PPV is very helpful in patients with cardiogenic pulmonary edema, as it helps to reduce preload (lung congestion) and afterload. As a result stroke volume tends to increase.

Ventilator Pressures

- **Peak pressure**
 - Maximal airway pressure any time during inspiration
 - Amount of pressure necessary to overcome airway resistance and expand the thoracic cage
- **Plateau pressure**
 - Amount of pressure necessary to overcome the elastic recoil of the lung and thoracic cage
 - Measured at the end of an **Inspiratory Hold** maneuver



Goals Of Mechanical Ventilation

Plateau pressure goal: ≤ 30 cm H₂O

Check P_{plat} (0.5 second inspiratory pause)
at least q 4h and after each change in PEEP
or tidal volume (V_T)

- **If $P_{\text{plat}} > 30$ cm H₂O:** decrease V_T by 1 ml/kg steps (minimum = 4 ml/kg)
- **If $P_{\text{plat}} < 25$ cm H₂O and $V_T < 6$ ml/kg,** increase V_T by 1 ml/kg until $P_{\text{plat}} > 25$ cm H₂O or $V_T = 6$ ml/kg.
- **If $P_{\text{plat}} < 30$ and breath stacking or dyssynchrony occurs:** may increase V_T in 1 ml/kg increments to 7 or 8 ml/kg if P_{plat} remains < 30 cm H₂O

Acid-Base Management

Arterial blood gas

- pH, PaO₂, PaCO₂, calculated bicarbonate level

Comprehensive metabolic panel

- measured bicarbonate level, anion gap

Baseline pH and CO₂ levels may be altered in patients with chronic conditions such as COPD and kidney disease. Adjustments to treatment goals may be necessary.

Acid-Base Management

Respiratory acidosis

- $\text{pH} < 7.4$, $\text{PaCO}_2 > 40$
- Treat by increasing minute ventilation (avoid increasing V_T if barotrauma is a concern)

Metabolic acidosis

- $\text{pH} < 7.4$, $\text{PaCO}_2 < 40$
- Anion gap acidosis: consider elevated lactate from hypoperfusion or sepsis, ketoacidosis, etc.
- Non-anion gap acidosis: often from renal dysfunction
- Treat underlying condition

Acid-Base Management

Respiratory alkalosis

- $\text{pH} > 7.4$, $\text{PaCO}_2 < 40$
- Treat by decreasing minute ventilation

Metabolic alkalosis

- $\text{pH} > 7.4$, $\text{PaCO}_2 > 40$
- Contraction alkalosis (hypovolemia)
 - Treat with intravascular volume resuscitation
- Loss of acid such as gastric suctioning

Acid-Base Management

pH goal: 7.30-7.45

Acidosis Management: (pH < 7.30)

- **If pH 7.15-7.30:** Increase RR until pH > 7.30 or $\text{PaCO}_2 < 25$ (Maximum set RR = 35)
- **If pH < 7.15:** Increase RR to 35.
- If pH remains < 7.15, V_T may be increased in 1 ml/kg steps until pH > 7.15 (Pplat target of 30 may be exceeded)

Alkalosis Management: (pH > 7.45) Decrease vent rate if possible

Berlin Definition of ARDS

- **Timing:** Within 1 week of a known clinical insult or new or worsening respiratory symptoms
- **Chest imaging:** Bilateral opacities not fully explained by effusions, lobar/lung collapse, or nodules
- **Origin of edema:** Respiratory failure not fully explained by cardiac failure or fluid overload. Need objective assessment (e.g., echocardiography) to exclude hydrostatic edema if no risk factor present
- **Oxygenation**
 - Mild $200 \text{ mmHg} < \text{PaO}_2/\text{FIO}_2 \leq 300 \text{ mmHg}$ with PEEP or CPAP $\geq 5 \text{ cmH}_2\text{O}$
 - Moderate $100 \text{ mmHg} < \text{PaO}_2/\text{FIO}_2 \leq 200 \text{ mmHg}$ with PEEP $\geq 5 \text{ cmH}_2\text{O}$
 - Severe $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FIO}_2 \leq 100 \text{ mmHg}$ with PEEP $\geq 5 \text{ cmH}_2\text{O}$

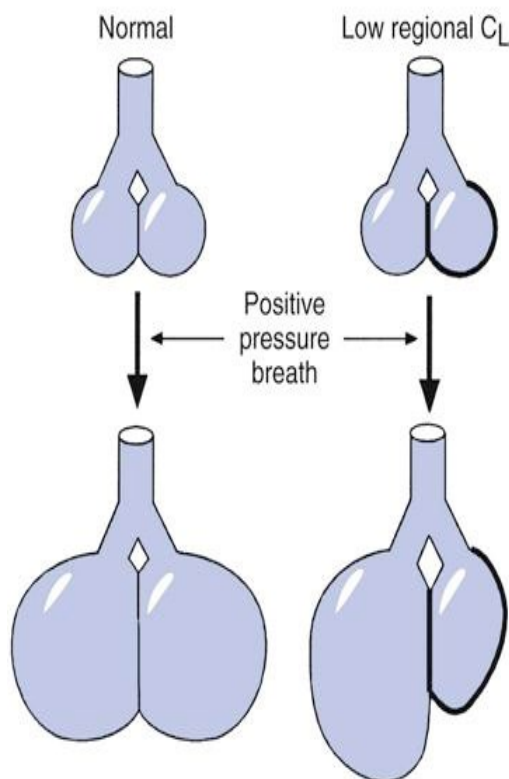
Barotrauma

Inflammation and fluid accumulation may result in stiffening of alveoli and inability to expand. When this occurs, positive pressure is shunted away from these alveoli into healthy alveoli. This can result in over-distention and injury, known as **barotrauma**.

An Official American Thoracic Society/European Society of Intensive Care Medicine/Society of Critical Care Medicine Clinical Practice Guideline: Mechanical Ventilation in Adult Patients with Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

Avoid Barotrauma: lung-protective measures

- 4-8 ml/kg tidal volumes (ideal body weight based on height)
- Higher positive end-expiratory pressure (**PEEP**) in patients with moderate or severe ARDS
- Plateau pressures <30 cm H₂O



Rescue Therapy

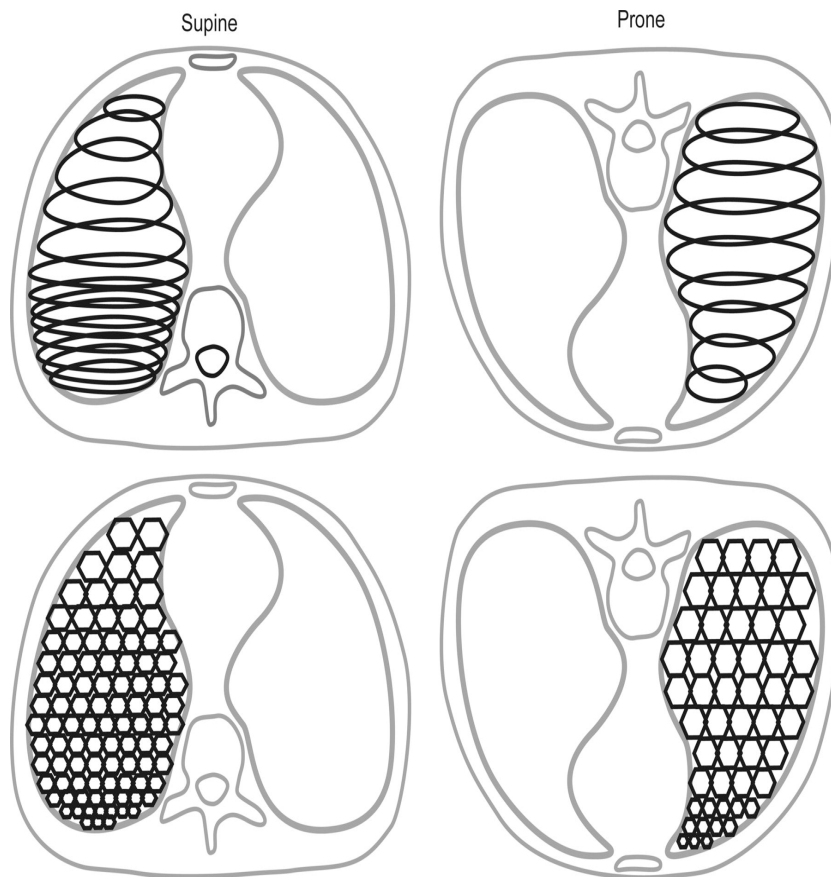
For patients requiring $\text{FiO}_2 > 70\%$ with optimal PEEP

- Proning
- Recruitment maneuvers
- Airway Pressure Release Ventilation (APRV)
- Inhaled Epoprostenol
- ECMO

An Official American Thoracic Society/European Society of Intensive Care Medicine/Society of Critical Care Medicine Clinical Practice Guideline: Mechanical Ventilation in Adult Patients with Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

Proning

- **Prone positioning** for 12-16 hours/day in severe ARDS is an option



Proning- Contraindications

Shock (eg. Mean arterial pressure < 65 mmHg)

Acute bleeding (eg. Hemorrhagic shock, massive hemoptysis)

Multiple fractures or trauma (eg. unstable fractures of femur, pelvis, face)

Spinal instability

Pregnancy

Raised intracranial pressure > 30 mmHg or cerebral perfusion pressure < 60 mmHg

Tracheal surgery or sternotomy within two weeks.

Proning- Relative Contraindications

Recent DVT treated for < 2days

Anterior chest tube(s) with air leaks

Recent pacemaker

Clinical conditions limiting life expectancy
(eg. Oxygen or ventilator dependent
respiratory failure)

Severe burns

Lung transplant recipient

Prior use of rescue therapies

Proning- Immediate Interruption

Inadvertent extubation

ETT obstruction

Hemoptysis

SpO₂ < 85% or PaO₂ < 55 for more than 5 minutes

Cardiac arrest

HR < 30 for more than 1 minute

SBP < 60 mm Hg for more than 5 minutes

Proning- Technique

Prepare patient

Have sheet under patient

Enteral feedings off for 1 hour

Pad face and contact points

Lubricate eyes

Proning- Technique

Prepare patient

Account for all lines and catheters

Remove ventral EKG leads

Have emergency airway equipment on hand
in case of unplanned extubation

Pre-oxygenate with 100% O₂

Sedate to RAS -4 to -5

Neuromuscular blockade **after** sedation

Proning- Technique

Proning

Place second sheet (remove wrinkles) over patient

Place 3 pillows over the chest, pelvis, and shins

Place third sheet over pillows

Roll all sheets toward the patient until the patient is tightly held between them

Proning- Technique

Proning

Account for all lines and catheters, avoid placing under tension

Disconnect ventilator

Slide patient away from ventilator

Roll patient toward ventilator

Proning- Technique

After Proning

Turn head to one side

Reconnect ventilator

Remove sheet on back

Place dorsal EKG leads

Monitor for hemodynamic instability and treat (may last up to 10 minutes after proning)

Proning- Technique

After Proning

Place patient in swimmer's pose

- Arm up on the side to which the head is turned
- Other arm at the patient's side
- Alternate head position every 2 hours

May place patient in reverse Trendelenburg position if hemodynamically stable

Reverse technique to place supine

Proning- Complications

Nerve Compression (eg. Brachial plexus injury)

Crush injury

Venous stasis (eg. Facial edema)

Dislodging endotracheal tube

Diaphragm limitation

Pressure sores (eg. facial)

Dislodging vascular catheters or drainage tubes

Retinal damage

Transient reduction in arterial oxygen

Vomiting

Transient arrhythmias

Proning Non-Ventilated Patients

There may be a role for proning patients not on mechanical ventilation to improve oxygenation and possibly prevent intubation

Please check with your local institution for their protocol regarding non-invasive ventilation strategies

Recruitment Maneuvers

Ensure Cuff is well inflated and patient hemodynamically stable

Set PEEP according to ARDSnet table

Switch to CPAP at 35-40 cm H₂O for 20-40 seconds

Return to original settings and PEEP

- **STOP** if hypotension, arrhythmias or desaturation $< 85\% \text{ O}_2$
- **Recruitability criteria** - SpO_2 increase $> 5\%$ Or compliance increase $> 10\% \text{ O}_2$
- **Contraindications** - Obstructive lung disease (bullous disease, COPD, Asthma) - Unilateral disease - Pneumothorax - Hemodynamic instability - Increased intracranial pressure

Other Rescue Therapies

Consult your pulmonologist regarding the need for:

- Airway Pressure Release Ventilation (APRV)
- Inhaled Epoprostenol
- Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)

Hemodynamic Goals in COVID-19

- Goal is **euvolemia** – WHO and ARDSnet recommended FACTT Algorithm
- Attempt de-resuscitation within 24-48 hours of achieving stability
- Point of care ultrasound of IVC and cardiac output maybe utilized in selected patients
- Pharmacy to concentrate all IV medications
- Enteral fluids to be determined on case by case basis by intensivist

ICU Procedures

Aerosol generating procedures – Maximal Precautions

Intubation	Extubation
suctioning	Bronchoscopy
Hi flow O2	Procedures in agitated patients
NIV	Tracheostomy
CPR prior to intubation	

Shock

	Intravascular Volume Status	Cardiac Output	Systemic Vascular Resistance
Distributive	↓	↑	↓
Hypovolemic	↓	↑	↑
Cardiogenic		↓	↑
Neurogenic		↓	↓



Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock: 2016

Andrew Rhodes^{1*}, Laura E. Evans², Waleed Alhazzani³, Mitchell M. Levy⁴, Massimo Antonelli⁵, Ricard Ferrer⁶, Anand Kumar⁷, Jonathan E. Sevransky⁸, Charles L. Sprung⁹, Mark E. Nunnally², Bram Rochwerf³, Gordon D. Rubenfeld¹⁰, Derek C. Angus¹¹, Djillali Annane¹², Richard J. Beale¹³, Geoffrey J. Bellingham¹⁴, Gordon R. Bernard¹⁵, Jean-Daniel Chiche¹⁶, Craig Coopersmith⁸, Daniel P. De Backer¹⁷, Craig J. French¹⁸, Seitaro Fujishima¹⁹, Herwig Gerlach²⁰, Jorge Luis Hidalgo²¹, Steven M. Hollenberg²², Alan E. Jones²³, Dilip R. Karnad²⁴, Ruth M. Kleinpell²⁵, Younsuk Koh²⁶, Thiago Costa Lisboa²⁷, Flavia R. Machado²⁸, John J. Marini²⁹, John C. Marshall³⁰, John E. Mazuski³¹, Lauralyn A. McIntyre³², Anthony S. McLean³³, Sangeeta Mehta³⁴, Rui P. Moreno³⁵, John Myburgh³⁶, Paolo Navalesi³⁷, Osamu Nishida³⁸, Tiffany M. Osborn³¹, Anders Perner³⁹, Colleen M. Plunkett²⁵, Marco Ranieri⁴⁰, Christa A. Schorr²², Maureen A. Seckel⁴¹, Christopher W. Seymour⁴², Lisa Shieh⁴³, Khalid A. Shukri⁴⁴, Steven Q. Simpson⁴⁵, Mervyn Singer⁴⁶, B. Taylor Thompson⁴⁷, Sean R. Townsend⁴⁸, Thomas Van der Poll⁴⁹, Jean-Louis Vincent⁵⁰, W. Joost Wiersinga⁴⁹, Janice L. Zimmerman⁵¹ and R. Phillip Dellinger²²

2016 Sepsis Guidelines

- Obtain cultures before starting antibiotics
- Start broad-spectrum i.v. antibiotics within one hour
- Volume resuscitation with i.v. crystalloids > 30 mL/kg within the first 3 hours
- Colloid fluids may also be given if large amounts of crystalloids are being used

Treatment of Septic Shock

- Initial target **MAP >65** mmHg in patients with septic shock requiring vasopressors
- **Norepinephrine** is the first choice vasopressor for septic shock
- Vasopressin or epinephrine may be added if necessary

Treatment of Septic Shock

- Hemodynamic/cardiac assessment may be necessary (echo, cardiac output monitoring) if clinical examination does not reveal the cause of the shock
- Hydrocortisone may be used as a supplement to pressors
- Lactate measurement can be used to guide extent of resuscitation with the goal of returning to normal lactate levels.

General Critical Care

- GI prophylaxis
 - H2 blocker
 - Proton pump inhibitor
- DVT prophylaxis
- Nutrition
- Glycemic control
 - Goal blood glucose levels 140-180 g/dL



You May As Well Get Credit For This

Neurosurgeons are certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery to provide critical care for patients.

Critical Care Billing

Based on time spent delivering critical care

- Examining the patient
- Reviewing laboratory, imaging, and other data
- Communicating and carrying out care plan

99291 - 30-75 minutes of critical care

99292 - each additional 30 minutes of critical care

Critical Care Documentation

Consider organizing notes by organ systems

- Pulmonary
- Cardiovascular
- Neurologic
- Renal
- GI
- Fluids/Electrolytes/Nutrients
- Hematologic
- Endocrine
- Infectious Disease
- Prophylaxis
- Code Status

Critical Care Billing

Requires documentation of **critical illness diagnosis**:

“The patient is critically ill with...”

Common diagnoses may include:

- Acute respiratory failure (document hypoxia, hypercapnea, ARDS, etc.)
- Respiratory distress
- Pneumonia
- Sepsis
- Septic shock

Critical Care Billing

Requires attestation of **time and involvement**:

“I have seen and examined the patient. I have reviewed the relevant clinical, laboratory, and imaging data. I have spent **(insert time)** minutes providing critical care for this patient.”

The End

Special thanks to Rana Hejal, M.D.
Director, Medical Intensive Care Unit
University Hospitals of Cleveland

Remember:

Follow your local protocols

Stay safe and healthy

Appendix I: Vasoactive Drugs

ADULT PATIENTS ONLY

Dosing and Titration Recommendations for Vasoactive Agents							
ALL titration endpoints need to be double-checked with the prescriber.							
Drug (infusion rate)	Concentration (EMR available concentrations listed)	Starting Dose	Upper Dosing Range	Bidirectional Titration Frequency	Bidirectional Titration Dose	Titration Endpoint/Goal	Alaris Min/Max
Clevidipine (mg/hr)	25mg/50mL Premix (fat emulsion)	1-2 mg/hr	1-21 mg/hr	1.5 min -10 min	≤ 50% hourly dose	MAP or SBP	1-16 mg/hr Hard Max: 32
Diltiazem (mg/hr)	125mg/125mL D5W/NS 250mg/250mL D5W/NS	Bolus ₁ : 0.25 mg/kg (Avg. 20 mg) Bolus ₂ : 0.35 mg/kg (Avg. 25 mg) Infusion: 5 mg/hr	10-15 mg/hr	2-5 min	5 mg/hr	HR between 80 to 100 bpm	1-15 mg/hr Hard Max: 20
Dobutamine (mcg/kg/min)	1000mg/250mL D5W Premix	2.5-5 mcg/kg/min	20 mcg/kg/min	5-10 min	2.5 mcg/kg/min	CI ≥ 2.5 L/min/m ² or MAP	0.5-20 mcg/kg/min Hard Max: 40
Dopamine ^V (mcg/kg/min)	400mg/250mL ^P D5W Premix 800mg/250mL ^C D5W/NS	5 mcg/kg/min	>20 mcg/kg/min not beneficial	2-5 min	0.5-2.5 mcg/kg/min	MAP between 60 and 70 mmHg	0.5-20 mcg/kg/min
Epinephrine ^V (mcg/kg/min)	4mg/250mL ^C D5W/NS 10mg/250mL ^C D5W/NS	0.01-0.05 mcg/kg/min	0.5-1 mcg/kg/min	1-5 min	0.01-0.05 mcg/kg/min	MAP between 60 and 70 mmHg	0.01-1 mcg/kg/min
	Peripheral administration: 4mg/250mL at a MAX rate of 0.2 mcg/kg/min for MAX of 8 hours						
Esmolol ^V (mcg/kg/min)	2500mg/250mL NS 2000mg/100mL NS (premixed)	Bolus ₁ : 500 mcg/kg Infusion: 50 mcg/kg/min	200-300 mcg/kg/min	4 min	50 mcg/kg/min	HR between 80 to 100 bpm	50-300 mcg/kg/min
Isoproterenol (mcg/kg/min)	1mg/250mL D5W	0.01 mcg/kg/min	0.01-0.2 mcg/kg/min	1-2 min	0.01 mcg/kg/min	HR between 60 and 80	0.01-0.09 mcg/kg/min Hard Max: 0.2
Labetalol (mg/min)	300mg/300mL D5W/NS 500mg/100mL(undiluted)	Bolus ₁ : 10-20 mg Infusion: 0.5-2 mg/min (0.1 mg/min after 300 mg infused)	6-8 mg/min	5-15 min	0.5-1 mg/min	MAP or SBP	1-6 mg/min Hard Max: 8

Appendix I: Vasoactive Drugs

ADULT PATIENTS ONLY

Drug (infusion rate)	Concentration (EMR available concentrations listed)	Starting Dose	Upper Dosing Range	Bidirectional Titration Frequency	Bidirectional Titration Dose	Titration Endpoint/Goal	Alaris Min/Max
Milrinone (mcg/kg/min)	20mg/100mL D5W Premix	0.1 (Heart Failure) - 0.375 mcg/kg/min	0.5-0.75 mcg/kg/min	2 hours	0.1 mcg/kg/min	CI \geq 2.5 L/min/m ² or MAP	0.15-0.75 mcg/kg/min Hard Max: 0.75
Nitroprusside (mcg/kg/min)	50mg/100mL NS Premix	0.25-0.5 mcg/kg/min	3-5 (Max 5mcg/kg/min for 10 min., if BP not controlled switch agents)	3-5 min	0.5 mcg/kg/min	MAP or SBP	0.1-3 mcg/kg/min Hard Max: 5
Norepinephrine ^v (mcg/kg/min)	8mg/250mL ^c 16mg/250mL ^c D5W/NS	0.01-0.05 mcg/kg/min	0.5-1 mcg/kg/min Add VP around 0.2; > 0.5 mcg/kg/min not recommended	1-5 min	0.01-0.05 mcg/kg/min	MAP between 60 and 70 mmHg	0.01-3 mcg/kg/min Hard Max: 3.3
	Peripheral administration: 8mg/250mL at a MAX rate of 0.2 mcg/kg/min for MAX of 8 hours						
Phenylephrine ^v (mcg/kg/min)	10mg/250mL ^p 80mg/250mL ^c D5W/NS	0.5-1 mcg/kg/min	2 mcg/kg/min (Standard conc.) 9 mcg/kg/min (High conc.)	1-5 min	0.5 mcg/kg/min	MAP between 60 and 70 mmHg	0.1-4 mcg/kg/min Hard max: 9.1
Vasopressin ^v (units/min)	20units/100mL ^c D5W/NS	0.03 units/min	0.03 units/min	Titration per provider request in certain patient populations		MAP between 60 and 70 mmHg	0.01-0.06 units/min Hard max: 0.1
	Peripheral administration: MAX rate of 0.03 units/min for MAX of 8 hours						
Nicardipine (mg/hr)	40mg/200mL ^p NS Premix	2.5-5 mg/hr	10-15 mg/hr	5-15 min	2.5-5 mg/hr	MAP or SBP	0.5-15 mg/hr
Nitroglycerin (mcg/min)	50mg/250mL D5W Use PVC Free tubing	5 mcg/min	200 mcg/min	3-5 min	5-10 mcg/min	MAP or SBP or chest pain relief	1-200 mcg/min

^v = "vesicant", ^p = "peripheral line", ^c = "central line"

Appendix 2: Sedative Drugs

ADULT PATIENTS ONLY

Dosing and Titration Recommendations for Analgesia, Sedation and Paralysis							
ALL titration endpoints need to be double-checked with the prescriber							
Drug (infusion rate)	Concentration (EMR available concentrations listed)	Starting Dose	Upper Dosing Range	Bidirectional Titration Frequency	Bidirectional Titration Dose	Titration Endpoint/Goal	Alaris Min/Max
Fentanyl (mcg/hr) <small>*use Sedation Algorithm</small>	1000 mcg/100mL NS 2500 mcg/250mL NS	Bolus: 25-50 mcg Infusion: 25 mcg/hr	200-300 mcg/hr	30 min	25 mcg/hr	RASS of 0 to -2 and/or CPOT	10-300 mcg/hr*
Propofol (mcg/kg/min) <small>*use Sedation Algorithm</small>	1000 mg/100mL Premix (fat emulsion)	5 mcg/kg/min	50-100 mcg/kg/min	5 min	5 mcg/kg/min	RASS of 0 to -2	5-50 mcg/kg/min Hard max: 600
Midazolam (mg/hr) <small>*use Sedation Algorithm</small>	100 mg/100mL DSW/NS	Bolus: 2-4 mg Infusion: 2 mg/hr	15-20 mg/hr	30 min – 1hr	25%	RASS of 0 to -2	0.5-20 mg/hr*
Dexmedetomidine (mcg/kg/hr) <small>*use Sedation Algorithm</small>	400 mcg/100mL NS Premix	0.2 mcg/kg/hr	1-1.4 mcg/kg/hr	30 min	25%	RASS of 0 to -2	0.1-1.4 mcg/kg/hr Hard max: 2.5
Lorazepam (mg/hr) <small>*use Sedation Algorithm</small>	50 mg/50mL DSW	Bolus: 2-4 mg Infusion: 1 mg/hr	5-10 mg/hr	30 min – 1 hr	25%	RASS of 0 to -2	0.5-10 mg/hr
Ketamine [†] (mg/kg/hr) Doses vary highly based on indication	500mg/250 mL NS	Bolus: 0.1 mg/kg Infusion: 0.05 mg/kg/hr	1-2 mg/kg /hr	15 min	25%	RASS of 0 to -2	0.05-6 mg/kg/hr
Morphine (mg/hr) <small>*End of Life ONLY, use Withdrawal of LST Algorithm or End of Life Ordersets</small>	100 mg/100mL NS	Bolus: 2-4 mg Infusion: 2 mg/hr	20-30 mg/hr	15-30 min	1 mg/hr	RDOS < 3*	0.5-10 mg/hr
Cisatracurium (mcg/kg/min) <small>*use Paralysis Algorithm</small>	200 mg/100mL DSW/NS	Bolus: 0.1 mg/kg Infusion: 3 mcg/kg/min	7.5-10 mcg/kg/min	30 min- 1 hr	25%	TOF 2-3 out of 4	0.5-10 mcg/kg/min Hard max: 10
Rocuronium (mcg/kg/min) <small>*use Paralysis Algorithm</small>	1000/250mL DSW/NS	Bolus: 0.6 mg/kg Infusion: 8 mcg/kg/min	12 mcg/kg/min	30 min-1 hr	25%	TOF 2-3 out of 4	1-12 mcg/kg/min

+ = High concentration drips available for patients with high dose requirements, call local pharmacy for assistance

[†] Respiratory Distress Observation Scale [†] Separate dosing regimens available for Chronic Pain and Status Epilepticus, Depression and Migraine.

Appendix 3: Surviving Sepsis Campaign: Guidelines for the Management of COVID-19

I. Infection Control

- For aerosol-generating procedures, use fitted respirator masks (N95 respirators, FFP2, or equivalent) (best practice).
- Perform aerosol-generating procedures in negative pressure room (best practice).
- For usual care for non-ventilated patients, use surgical/medical masks (weak recommendation).
- For non-aerosol-generating procedures on ventilated patients, use surgical/medical masks (weak recommendation).
- For intubation, use video-guided laryngoscopy over direct laryngoscopy (weak recommendation).
- Intubation should be performed by provider most experienced with airway management (best practice).

II. Laboratory Diagnosis and Specimens

- For intubated and mechanically ventilated adults:
 - Obtain lower respiratory tract over nasopharyngeal/oropharyngeal samples (weak recommendation).
 - Obtain endotracheal aspirates over bronchial wash/bronchoalveolar lavage samples (weak recommendation).

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III. Supportive Care

- Use dynamic parameters, skin temperature, capillary refilling time, and/or serum lactate over static parameters to assess fluid responsiveness (weak recommendation).
- Use conservative over liberal fluid strategy (weak recommendation).
- Use crystalloids over colloids (strong recommendation).
- Use buffered/balanced crystalloids over unbalanced crystalloids (weak recommendation).
- Do not use hydroxyethyl starches (strong recommendation).
- Do not use gelatins (weak recommendation).
- Do not use dextrans (weak recommendation).
- Do not routinely use albumin for initial resuscitation (weak recommendation).
- Use norepinephrine as first-line vasoactive agent (weak recommendation).
- If norepinephrine not available, use vasopressin or epinephrine (weak recommendation).
- Do not use dopamine if norepinephrine is available (strong recommendation).
- Add vasopressin as second-line agent if target MAP can't be achieved by norepinephrine alone (weak recommendation).
- Titrate vasoactive agents to target MAP of 60-65 mmHg (weak recommendation).
- For cardiac dysfunction and persistent hypoperfusion despite fluid resuscitation and norepinephrine, add dobutamine (weak recommendation).
- For refractory shock, use low-dose corticosteroid therapy (weak recommendation).
- Start supplemental O₂ if SPO₂ is < 92% (weak recommendation) and if SPO₂ is < 90% (strong recommendation).

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- Maintain SPO₂ no higher than 96% (strong recommendation).
- For acute hypoxemic respiratory failure despite conventional O₂ therapy, use HFNC (weak recommendation).
- In acute hypoxemic respiratory failure, used HFNC over NIPPV (weak recommendation).
- If HFNC not available and no urgent indication for intubation, trial NIPPV with close monitoring (weak recommendation).
- No recommendation regarding use of helmet NIPPV compared with mask NIPPV.
- Recommend close monitoring for worsening of respiratory status (best practice).
- Use low tidal volume ventilation (V_t 4-8 mL/kg) (strong recommendation).
- Target plateau pressures (P_{plat}) of < 30 cm H₂O (strong recommendation).
- For moderate to severe ARDS, use higher PEEP strategy (weak recommendation).
- For ARDS, use conservative fluid strategy (weak recommendation).
- For moderate to severe ARDS, use prone ventilation for 12 to 16 hours (weak recommendation).
- For moderate to severe ARDS:
 - Use intermittent boluses of neuromuscular blocking agents over continuous infusion (weak recommendation).
 - If persistent ventilator dyssynchrony, use continuous NMBA infusion for up to 48 hours (weak recommendation).
- Do not routinely use inhaled nitric oxide (strong recommendation).
- In severe ARDS and hypoxemia, trial inhaled pulmonary vasodilator; if no rapid improvement, treatment should be tapered off (weak recommendation).
- For hypoxemia despite optimizing ventilation, use recruitment maneuvers (weak recommendation).
- For recruitment, do not use staircase (incremental PEEP) recruitment maneuvers (strong recommendation).
- In refractory hypoxemia despite optimizing ventilation, rescue therapies, and proning, use venovenous ECMO (weak recommendation).

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IV. COVID-19 Therapy

- In respiratory failure (without ARDS), do not routinely use systemic corticosteroids (weak recommendation).
- In ARDS, use systemic corticosteroids (weak recommendation).
- In respiratory failure, use empiric antimicrobials/antibacterial agents (weak recommendation).
- For fever, use acetaminophen for temperature control (weak recommendation).
- Do not routinely use IVIG (weak recommendation).
- Do not routinely use convalescent plasma (weak recommendation).
- In critically ill adults:
 - Do not routinely use lopinavir/ritonavir (weak recommendation).
 - Insufficient evidence on the use of other antiviral agents.
- Insufficient evidence on the use of recombinant rIFNs.
- Insufficient evidence on the use of chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine.
- Insufficient evidence on the use of tocilizumab.