

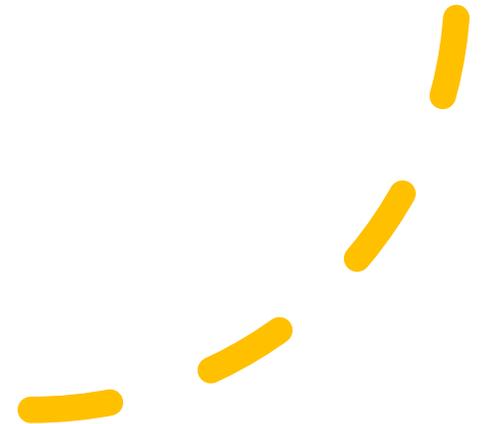
Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome – The Past, Present and Future

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Assistant Clinical Professor – UC Irvine School of Medicine

Agenda

- The ARDS Story
- Current state of management
 - ESICM 2023 Guideline
- What maybe coming up



The Story of ARDS

- World War I
 - Chlorine gas
 - Phosgene gas

The New York Times

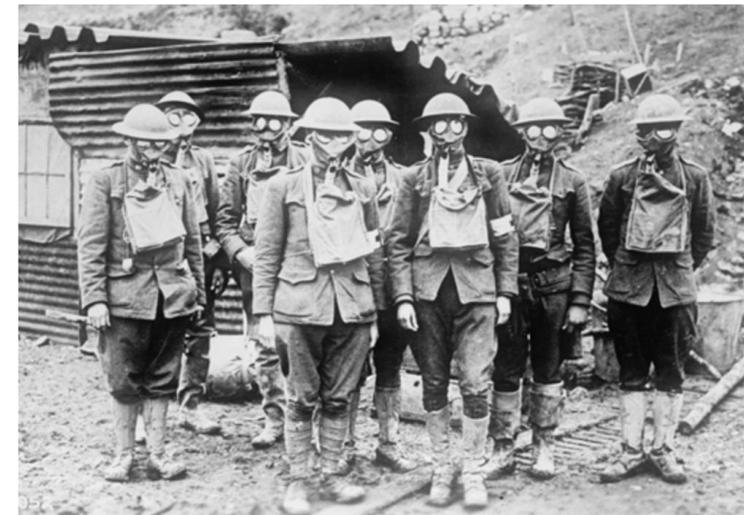
DEADLY LUNG AILMENT HAS BATTLEFIELD ORIGINS

 Give this article



By **Lawrence K. Altman, M.D.**

April 9, 1985





The Vietnam War: 'Da Nang Lung'



Men of the 101st airborne call in helicopters to evacuate their wounded comrades. Medical evacuation from the battlefield reached its zenith in the Vietnam war with unexpected consequences.

[Clin Transl Med](#). 2017; 6: 19.

Published online 2017 Jun 2. doi: [10.1186/s40169-017-0149-2](https://doi.org/10.1186/s40169-017-0149-2)

PMCID: PMC5457389

PMID: [28577109](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28577109/)

Phosgene-induced acute lung injury (ALI): differences from chlorine-induced ALI and attempts to translate toxicology to clinical medicine

[Wenli Li](#)¹ and [Juergen Pauluhn](#)^{1,2}

The Story of ARDS

ARDS

- 1967
 - 12 patients
 - Acute onset
 - Tachypnea
 - Hypoxemia
 - Loss of compliance
 - Cyanosis
 - Diffuse infiltrates
 - Does not respond to ordinary methods of respiratory therapy
- Mortality: 60%

The Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome: Clinical Features, Factors Influencing Prognosis and Principles of Management*

THOMAS L. PETTY, M.D., F.C.C.P.

Associate Professor of Medicine and Head, Division of Pulmonary Diseases, University of Colorado Medical Center, Denver, Colorado

DAVID G. ASHBAUGH, M.D.

Associate Professor of Surgery, University of Colorado Medical Center, Denver, Colorado

Story of ARDS

Research Article | Thomas L Petty Memorial Lecture

Thomas L Petty's Lessons for the Respiratory Care Clinician of Today

David J Pierson

Respiratory Care August 2014, 59 (8) 1287-1301; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4187/respcare.03495>

> [Am J Respir Crit Care Med.](#) 2001 Mar;163(3 Pt 1):602-3. doi: 10.1164/ajrccm.163.3.16331.

In the cards was ARDS: how we discovered the acute respiratory distress syndrome

T L Petty ¹

> [Lancet Respir Med.](#) 2017 Jun;5(6):474. doi: 10.1016/S2213-2600(17)30182-0. Epub 2017 May 26.

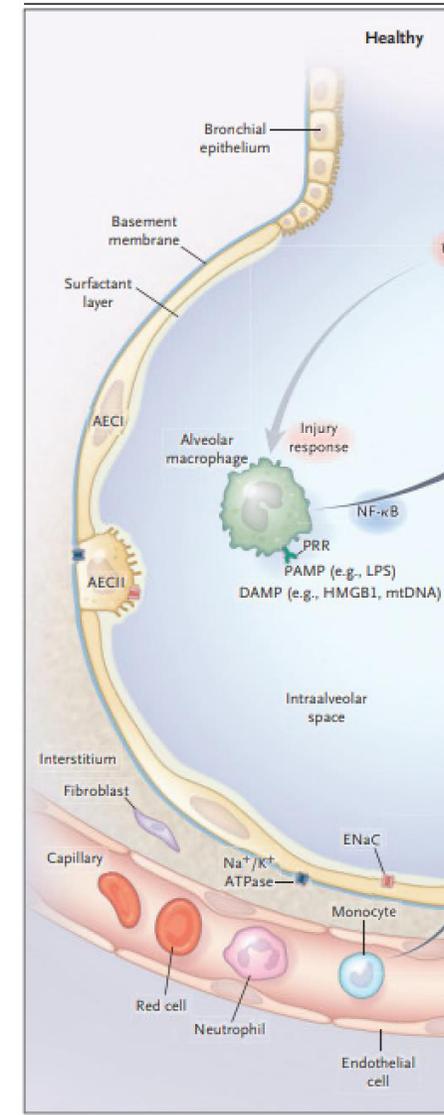
David Ashbaugh reminisces

David Ashbaugh

PMID: 28664849 DOI: [10.1016/S2213-2600\(17\)30182-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600(17)30182-0)

Normal Lung

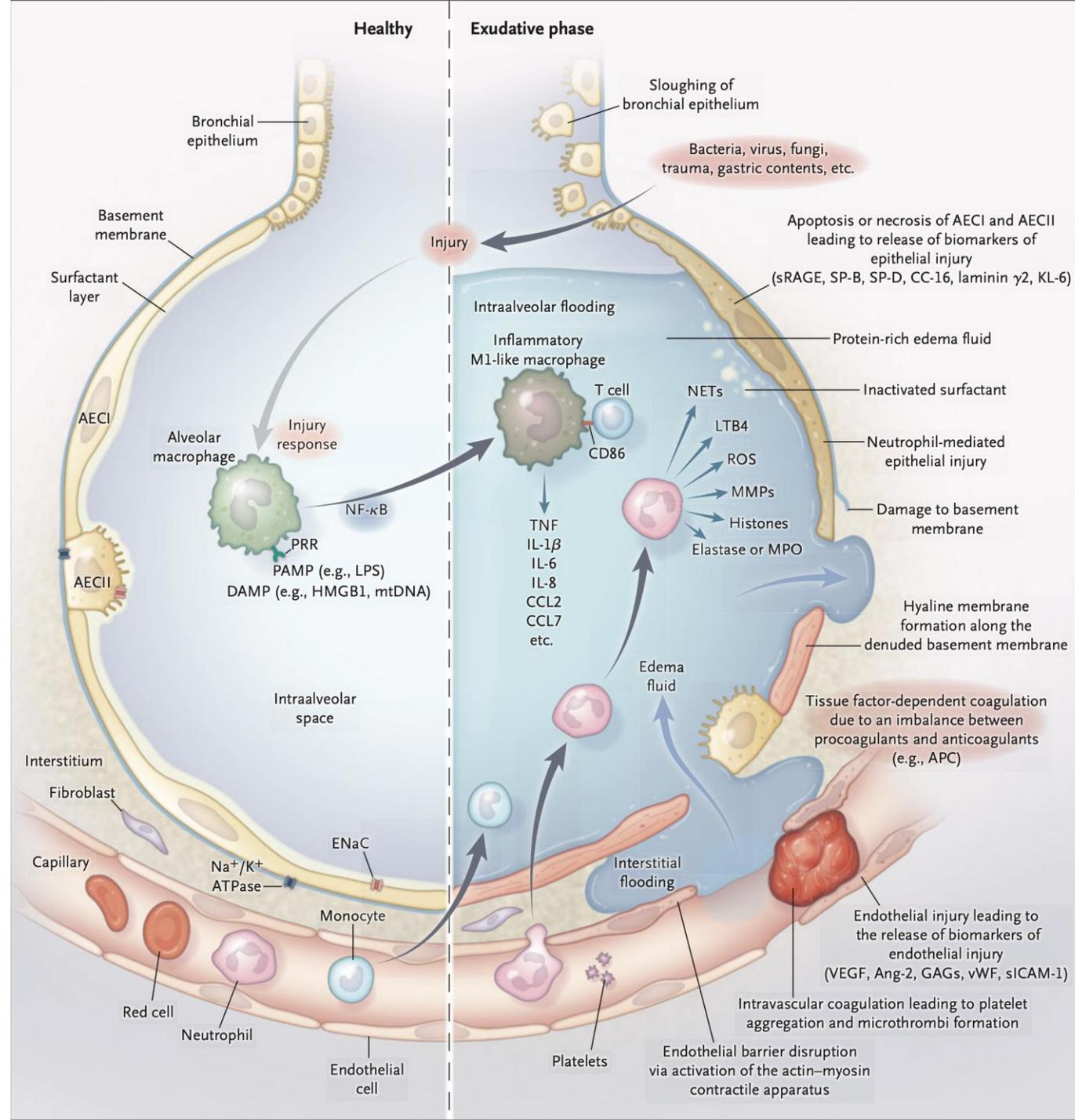
- Ventilation
- Oxygenation

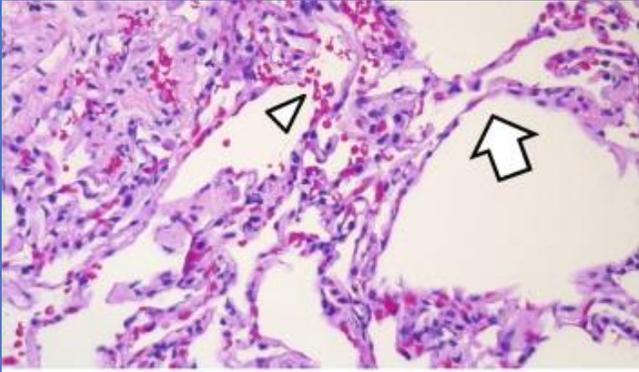


ARDS

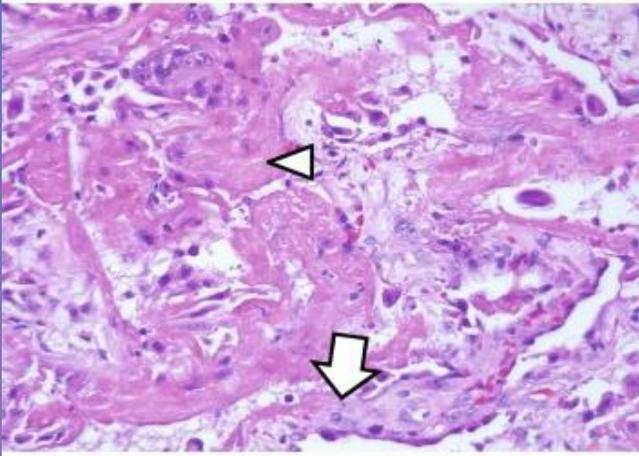
• Prevalence

- 10% of ICU admits
- 23% of mechanically ventilated patients
- 46% mortality (in severe)

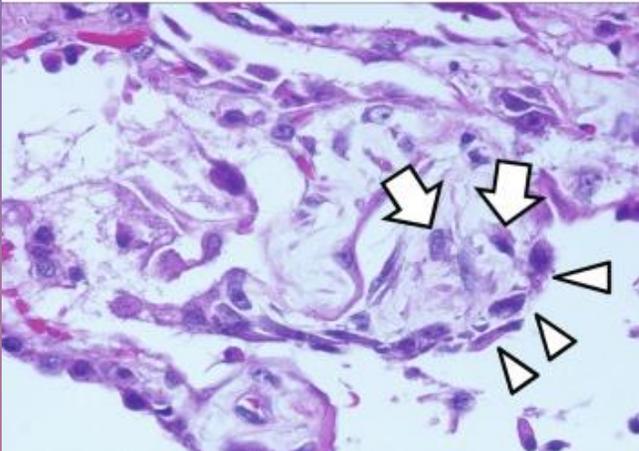




Normal human lung. Alveoli are aerated with thin septae (arrow); a mild amount of surgical (biopsy-induced) hemorrhage (arrowhead) is apparent



Exudative phase of human ARDS ('diffuse alveolar damage'). There is near-complete alveolar filling by an eosinophilic proteinaceous edema fluid ('hyaline membrane,' arrowhead). Thickening of the alveolar septae is noted (arrow)



Organizing (resolution) phase of human ARDS. Histology is notable for an organizing pattern, marked by thickened septae with embedded macrophages (arrows). Septae are lined by proliferating, reactive type II epithelial cells (arrowheads)



Where are we now

- 1988: Lung Injury Score
- 1994: American-European Consensus Conference
- 2012: Berlin Criteria
- 2017: ATS/ESICM Clinical Practice Guideline
- 2023: ESICM Guidelines on ARDS

[Ann Intensive Care](#). 2014; 4: 4.

Published online 2014 Feb 18. doi: [10.1186/2110-5820-4-4](https://doi.org/10.1186/2110-5820-4-4)

PMCID: PMC3931496

PMID: [24533450](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24533450/)

Is there still a role for the lung injury score in the era of the Berlin definition ARDS?

[Kirsten Neudoerffer Kangelaris](#),¹ [Carolyn S Calfee](#),^{2,3} [Addison K May](#),⁴ [Hanjing Zhuo](#),³ [Michael A Matthay](#),^{2,3} and [Lorraine B Ware](#)⁵

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Definition – Berlin Criteria

“Mr. Justice, you will know it when you see it”

1. Why one week?
2. Non cardiogenic pulm edema vs opacities not full explained by cardiac failure?
3. Why the break down of Mild, Moderate, Severe at those cut offs?

Berlin Criteria for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome ☆

Provides diagnostic criteria for acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

IMPORTANT

Launched during COVID-19 crisis.

When to Use ▾

Required criteria

Must have all three of the following:

- Timing within 1 week of clinical insult or new/worsening respiratory symptoms
- Chest XR shows bilateral opacities not fully explained by effusions, lobar/lung collapse, or nodules
- Respiratory failure not fully explained by cardiac failure/fluid overload

Risk factor

Select one of the following:

Risk factor

- Risk factor for ARDS present (e.g. pneumonia, trauma, sepsis, pancreatitis)
- Objective assessment (Echo) excludes hydrostatic edema if no risk factor present
- None of the above

Severity

Based on oxygenation, select one of the following:

Oxygenation

- Mild: $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 >200$ to ≤ 300 mmHg with PEEP OR CPAP ≥ 5 cm H₂O
- Moderate: $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 >100$ to ≤ 200 mmHg with PEEP ≥ 5 cm H₂O
- Severe: $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 \leq 100$ mmHg with PEEP ≥ 5 cm H₂O
- None of the above

Causes

- Common:

- Pneumonia
- Sepsis
- Aspiration of gastric content
- Shock
- Trauma
- High risk surgery
- Drug overdose
- Ischemic-reperfusion injury

- Less common

- Smoke inhalation
- Drowning
- Vaping
- Blood transfusions
- Burns

-
- My patient appears to have ARDS and meets the Berlin criteria. He is desaturating on low flow oxygen. What to do next?
 - HFNC?
 - BiPAP?
 - Invasive mechanical ventilation?

Conference Reports and Expert Panel | [Open Access](#) | [Published: 16 June 2023](#)

ESICM guidelines on acute respiratory distress syndrome: definition, phenotyping and respiratory support strategies

[Giacomo Grasselli](#) , [Carolyn S. Calfee](#), [Luigi Camporota](#), [Daniele Poole](#), [Marcelo B. P. Amato](#), [Massimo Antonelli](#), [Yaseen M. Arabi](#), [Francesca Baroncelli](#), [Jeremy R. Beitler](#), [Giacomo Bellani](#), [Geoff Bellingan](#), [Bronagh Blackwood](#), [Lieuwe D. J. Bos](#), [Laurent Brochard](#), [Daniel Brodie](#), [Karen E. A. Burns](#), [Alain Combes](#), [Sonia D'Arrigo](#), [Daniel De Backer](#), [Alexandre Demoule](#), [Sharon Einav](#), [Eddy Fan](#), [Niall D. Ferguson](#), [Jean-Pierre Frat](#), the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine Taskforce on ARDS

[+ Show authors](#)

[Intensive Care Medicine](#) **49**, 727–759 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

76k Accesses | **4** Citations | **676** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)



Definition update

- What about HFNC ?
- ESICM 2023:
 - Acute Hypoxemic Resp Failure (AHRF) not otherwise explained by preexisting lung disease or heart failure

Berlin Criteria for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome ☆

Provides diagnostic criteria for acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

IMPORTANT

Launched during COVID-19 crisis.

When to Use ▾

Required criteria

Must have all three of the following:

- Timing within 1 week of clinical insult or new/worsening respiratory symptoms
- Chest XR shows bilateral opacities not fully explained by effusions, lobar/lung collapse, or nodules
- Respiratory failure not fully explained by cardiac failure/fluid overload

Risk factor

Select one of the following:

Risk factor

- Risk factor for ARDS present (e.g. pneumonia, trauma, sepsis, pancreatitis)
- Objective assessment (Echo) excludes hydrostatic edema if no risk factor present
- None of the above

Severity

Based on oxygenation, select one of the following:

Oxygenation

- Mild: $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 >200$ to ≤ 300 mmHg with PEEP OR CPAP ≥ 5 cm H₂O
- Moderate: $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 >100$ to ≤ 200 mmHg with PEEP ≥ 5 cm H₂O
- Severe: $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 \leq 100$ mmHg with PEEP ≥ 5 cm H₂O
- None of the above



HFNC vs conventional O2

- Intubation risk:
 - lower
- Mortality:
 - unclear
- Verdict: use HFNC over conventional O2

Recommendation 3.1

We **recommend** that non-mechanically ventilated patients with AHRF not due to cardiogenic pulmonary edema or acute exacerbation of COPD receive HFNO as compared to conventional oxygen therapy to reduce the risk of intubation

Strong recommendation; moderate level of evidence in favor

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against the use of HFNO over conventional oxygen therapy to reduce mortality

No recommendation; high level of evidence of no effect

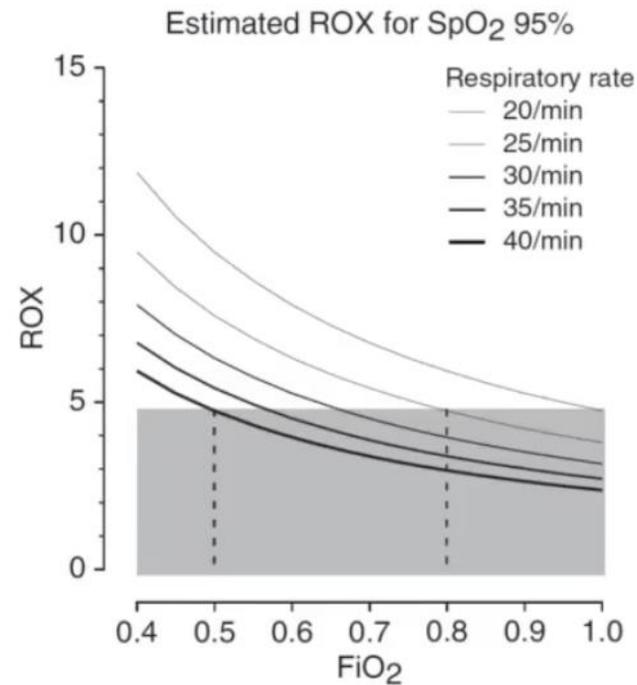
This recommendation applies also to AHRF from COVID-19

Strong recommendation; low level of evidence in favor for intubation and no recommendation; moderate level of evidence of no effect for mortality, for indirectness.

How to know if HFNC will work

- If you are breathing OK, you will be ok
- Watch work of breathing
- Tele ICU is bad is much worse in this case
- Bad specificity and sensitivity

Predicting HFNC Success: ROX Index



$$\text{ROX} = \frac{\text{SpO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 (\%)}{\text{Respiratory rate}}$$

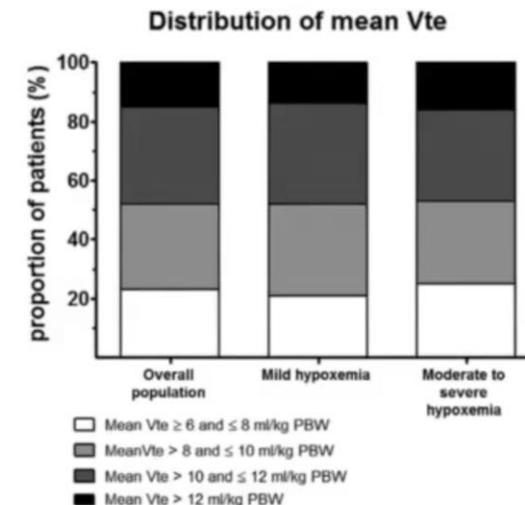
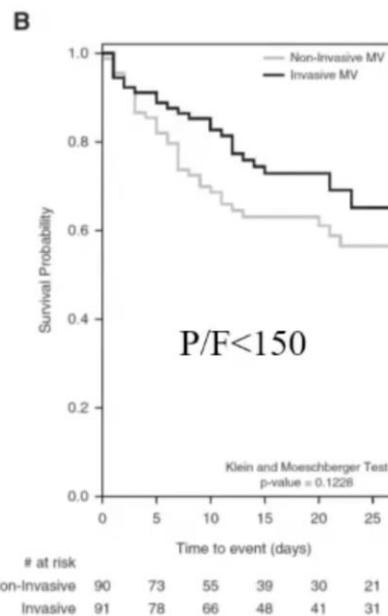
- ROC curve AUC = 0.75
- Sensitivity = 0.67
- Specificity = 0.72
- Better with C-19
- Cutoff >5 at 6 hours was best

AJRCCM 2019; 200:115
Resp Res 2022; 23:33



Should we use NIV

- Patient-self induced lung injury (P-SILI)



Exhaled Vt > 9.5 cc/kg predicted NIV failure

AJRCCM 2017; 195:67
Crit Care Med 2016; 44:282

HFNC vs NIV

- Intubation risk: unclear
- Mortality: unclear
- Consider CPAP/NIV over HFNC in COVID-19 (low quality)
 - If you use it, close monitoring
 - Patient comfort/values?

Recommendation 3.2

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against the use of HFNO compared to continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)/NIV to reduce intubation or mortality in the treatment of unselected patients with acute hypoxemic respiratory failure not due to cardiogenic pulmonary edema or acute exacerbation of COPD.

No recommendation; moderate level of evidence for mortality, low level of evidence for intubation, not in favor nor against.

We **suggest** that CPAP/NIV can be considered instead of HFNO for the treatment of AHRF due to COVID-19 to reduce the risk of intubation (*weak recommendation, high level of evidence*), but **no recommendation** can be made for whether CPAP/NIV can decrease mortality compared to HFNO in COVID-19.

No recommendation; high level of evidence of no effect.

NIV vs conventional O2

- Would a patient benefit from using NIV earlier?
- Mortality: unclear
- Reducing intubation: unclear
 - COVID-19: maybe
- Verdict: clinician judgment needed

Recommendation 4.1

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against the use of CPAP/NIV compared to conventional oxygen therapy for the treatment of AHRF (not related to cardiogenic pulmonary edema or acute exacerbation of COPD) to reduce mortality or to prevent intubation.

No recommendation; high level of evidence for mortality, moderate level of evidence for intubation.

We **suggest** the use of CPAP over conventional oxygen therapy to reduce the risk of intubation in patients with acute hypoxemic respiratory failure due to COVID-19.

Weak recommendation; low level of evidence in favor.

In this population, we are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against the use of CPAP over conventional oxygen therapy to reduce mortality.

No recommendation; moderate level of evidence of no effect.

NIV via Helmet vs face mask

- Not enough evidence to make a recommendation

Recommendation 4.2

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against the use of helmet interface for CPAP/NIV as compared to face mask to prevent intubation or reduce mortality in patients with acute hypoxemic respiratory failure.

No recommendation; very low level of evidence in favor.



CPAP vs BiPAP

- Pressure swings lower in CPAP
- Lower P-SILI?

- Not enough evidence to make a recommendation
 - No data

Recommendation 4.3

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against the use of NIV compared to CPAP for the treatment of AHRF.

No recommendation; no evidence.

Awake Prone



Recommendation 7.3

We **suggest** awake prone positioning as compared to supine positioning for non-intubated patients with COVID-19-related AHRF to reduce intubation.

Weak recommendation; low level of evidence in favor.

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against APP for non-intubated patients with COVID-19-related AHRF to reduce mortality.

No recommendation; moderate level of evidence of no effect.

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against APP for patients with AHRF not due to COVID-19.

No recommendation; no evidence.

Summary for AHRF

- Conventional O2 vs HFNC: HFNC may lower intubation risk
- HFNC vs CPAP/NIV: unclear, CPAP/NIV seemed to help with COVID-19 – intubation risk
 - Monitor closely if used
- Conventional O2 vs CPAP/NIV: CPAP seemed to help in COVID-19 – intubation risk
 - Monitor closely if used
- CPAP vs NIV: no evidence yet
- Face mask vs Helmet: unable to make a recommendation
- Awake prone positioning vs supine: suggest awake prone

Mechanical ventilation

Tidal volume

- Resp acidosis is well tolerated if well oxygenated
- Overdistention feeds a positive feedback loop of VILI
- “Baby lung”

	Vt (ml/kg)		Paw Limit (cmH ₂ O)		Notes
	Interventional Arm	Control Arm	Interventional Arm	Control Arm	
Villar et al. [28]	5–8 PBW	9–11 PBW	PIP 35–40	PIP < 35–40	
Brochard et al. [95]	6–10 ABW	10–15 ABW	Pplat ≤ 25–30	PIP ≤ 60	
Amato et al. [96]	< 6 ABW	12 ABW	PIP < 40 and ΔP < 20	–	RM allowed – Explicit sedation protocol
Stewart et al. [97]	≤ 8 IBW	10–15 IBW	PIP ≤ 30	PIP ≤ 50	
Brower et al. [98]	5–8 PBW	10–12 PBW	Pplat < 30	Pplat < 45–55	
ARDS Net [99]	4–8 PBW	12 PBW	Pplat ≤ 30	Pplat ≤ 50	PP allowed – Explicit weaning protocol
Orme et al. [100]	4–8 PBW	10–15 PBW	Pplat < 40	Pplat < 70	Explicit sedation and weaning protocol

Tidal volume



Recommendation 5.1

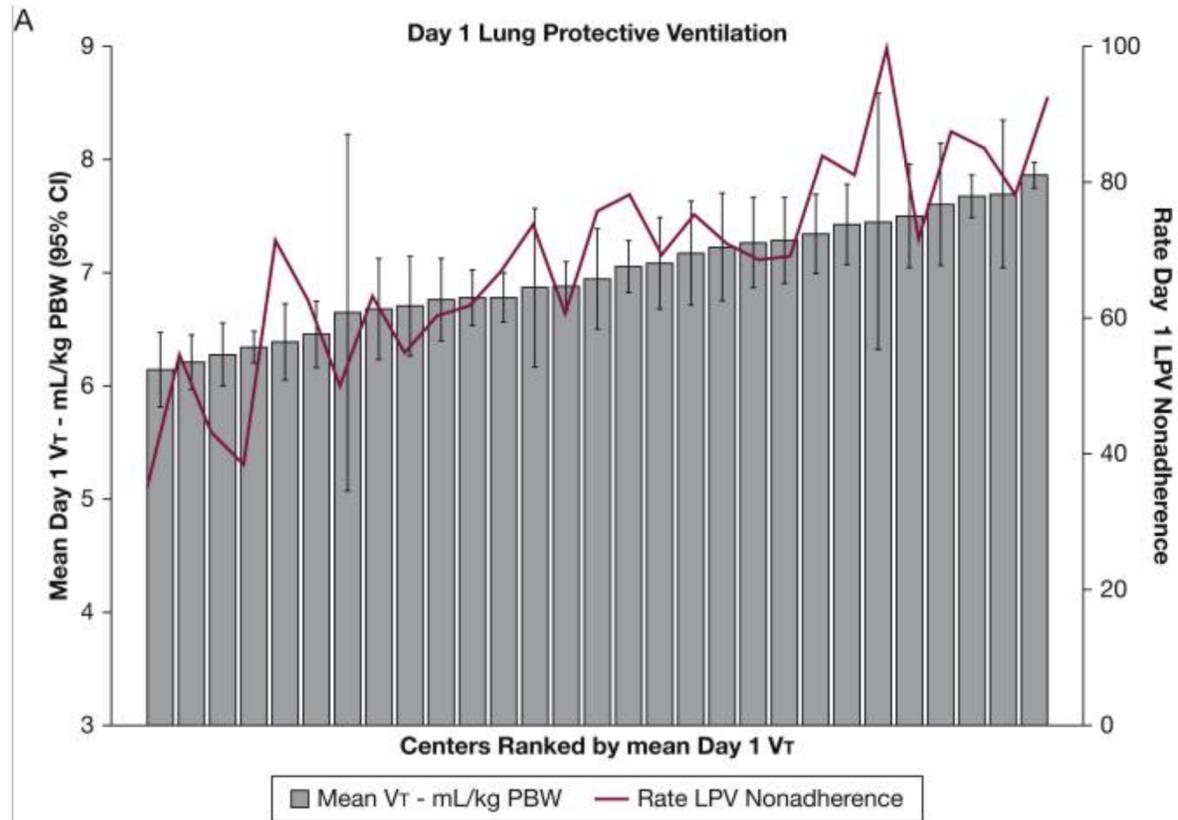
We **recommend** the use of low tidal volume ventilation strategies (i.e., 4–8 ml/kg PBW), compared to larger tidal volumes (traditionally used to normalize blood gases), to reduce mortality in patients with ARDS not due to COVID-19.

Strong recommendation based on expert opinion despite lack of statistical significance; high level of evidence.

This recommendation applies also to ARDS from COVID-19.

Strong recommendation; moderate level of evidence for indirectness.

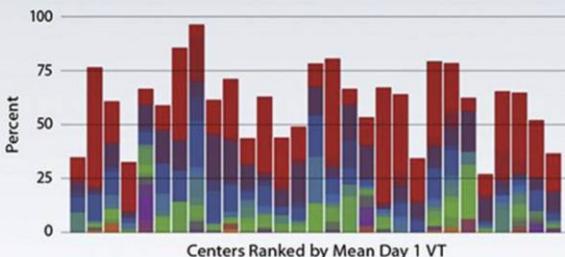
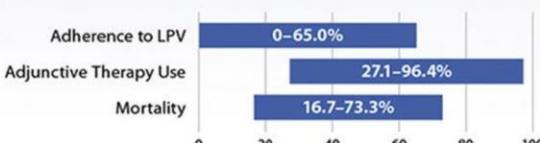
Lung Protective Ventilation (LPV): How are we doing?



- Multicenter observational cohort study across 29 centers



What Is the Impact of Treatment Variability on Mortality in Patients With Moderate-to-Severe ARDS?

STUDY DESIGN	RESULTS
<p>Multicenter, observational cohort study of 125 ICUs in 29 US centers between October 1, 2016, and April 30, 2017</p> <p>Included 2,466 mechanically ventilated adults with ARDS and $Pao_2/FIO_2 < 150$ on PEEP > 5 cm H₂O</p> <p>Assessed adherence to lung protective strategies (LPV) and standardized mortality ratios (SMR)</p>	<p>Substantial center-to-center variability in ARDS management</p>   <p>Of the treatment-level factors explored, only center adherence to early (day 1) LPV correlated with SMR</p>
<p>Early adherence to LPV was associated with lower center mortality and may be a surrogate for overall quality of care processes.</p>	

Park P, et al. *CHEST* October 2021 | @journal_CHEST | <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chest.2021.05.047>
 Copyright © 2021 American College of Chest Physicians



PEEP/FiO2



Randomized Controlled Trial > JAMA. 2008 Feb 13;299(6):646-55.

doi: 10.1001/jama.299.6.646.

Positive end-expiratory pressure setting in adults with acute lung injury and acute respiratory distress syndrome: a randomized controlled trial

Alain Mercat ¹, Jean-Christophe M Richard, Bruno Vielle, Samir Jaber, David Osman, Jean-Luc Diehl, Jean-Yves Lefrant, Gwenaël Prat, Jack Richecoeur, Ania Nieszkowska, Claude Gervais, Jérôme Baudot, Lila Bouadma, Laurent Brochard; Expiratory Pressure (Express) Study Group

Clinical Trial > N Engl J Med. 2004 Jul 22;351(4):327-36. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa032193.

Higher versus lower positive end-expiratory pressures in patients with the acute respiratory distress syndrome

Roy G Brower ¹, Paul N Lancken, Neil MacIntyre, Michael A Matthay, Alan Morris, Marek Ancukiewicz, David Schoenfeld, B Taylor Thompson; National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute ARDS Clinical Trials Network

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 15269312 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa032193

Free article

Randomized Controlled Trial > JAMA. 2008 Feb 13;299(6):637-45.

doi: 10.1001/jama.299.6.637.

Ventilation strategy using low tidal volumes, recruitment maneuvers, and high positive end-expiratory pressure for acute lung injury and acute respiratory distress syndrome: a randomized controlled trial

Maureen O Meade ¹, Deborah J Cook, Gordon H Guyatt, Arthur S Slutsky, Yaseen M Arabi, D James Cooper, Andrew R Davies, Lori E Hand, Qi Zhou, Lehana Thabane, Peggy Austin, Stephen Lapinsky, Alan Baxter, James Russell, Yoanna Skrobik, Juan J Ronco, Thomas E Stewart; Lung Open Ventilation Study Investigators

High vs Low PEEP



NIH NHLBI ARDS Clinical Network
Mechanical Ventilation Protocol Summary

INCLUSION CRITERIA: Acute onset of

1. $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 \leq 300$ (corrected for altitude)
2. Bilateral (patchy, diffuse, or homogeneous) infiltrates consistent with pulmonary edema
3. No clinical evidence of left atrial hypertension

PART I : VENTILATOR SETUP AND ADJUSTMENT

1. Calculate predicted body weight (PBW)
Males = $50 + 2.3$ [height (inches) - 60]
Females = $45.5 + 2.3$ [height (inches) - 60]
2. Select any ventilator mode
3. Set ventilator settings to achieve initial $V_T = 8$ ml/kg PBW
4. Reduce V_T by 1 ml/kg at intervals ≤ 2 hours until $V_T = 6$ ml/kg PBW.
5. Set initial rate to approximate baseline minute ventilation (not > 35 bpm).
6. Adjust V_T and RR to achieve pH and plateau pressure goals below.

OXYGENATION GOAL: PaO_2 55-80 mmHg or SpO_2 88-95%
Use a minimum PEEP of 5 cm H₂O. Consider use of incremental FiO_2 /PEEP combinations such as shown below (not required) to achieve goal.

Lower PEEP/ higher FiO_2

FiO_2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7
PEEP	5	5	8	8	10	10	10	12

FiO_2	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
PEEP	14	14	14	16	18	18-24

Higher PEEP/ lower FiO_2

FiO_2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
PEEP	5	8	10	12	14	14	16	16

FiO_2	0.5	0.5-0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0
PEEP	18	20	22	22	22	24

PLATEAU PRESSURE GOAL: ≤ 30 cm H₂O

Check Pplat (0.5 second inspiratory pause), at least q 4h and after each change in PEEP or V_T .

If Pplat > 30 cm H₂O: decrease V_T by 1ml/kg steps (minimum = 4 ml/kg).

If Pplat < 25 cm H₂O and $V_T \leq 6$ ml/kg: increase V_T by 1 ml/kg until Pplat ≥ 25 cm H₂O or $V_T = 6$ ml/kg.

If Pplat < 30 and breath stacking or dys-synchrony occurs: may increase V_T in 1ml/kg increments to 7 or 8 ml/kg if Pplat remains ≤ 30 cm H₂O.

Recommendation 6.1

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against routine PEEP titration with a higher PEEP/ FiO_2 strategy versus a lower PEEP/ FiO_2 strategy to reduce mortality in patients with ARDS.

No recommendation; high level of evidence of no effect.

This statement applies also to ARDS from COVID-19.

No recommendation; moderate level of evidence of no effect for indirectness.

PEEP titration

- Pplat modulation
- Driving pressure
- Excessive PEEP

Recommendation 6.2

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against PEEP titration guided principally by respiratory mechanics, compared to PEEP titration based principally on PEEP/FiO₂ strategy, to reduce mortality in patients with ARDS.

No recommendation; high level of evidence of no effect.

This statement applies also to ARDS from COVID-19.

No recommendation; moderate level of evidence for indirectness.

Recruitment Maneuvers

- > 35 cmH₂O for a min or more or less than a min
- Risks
- When to use it

Recommendation 6.3

We **recommend against** use of prolonged high-pressure recruitment maneuvers (defined as airway pressure maintained ≥ 35 cmH₂O for at least one minute) to reduce mortality of patients with ARDS.

Strong recommendation; moderate level of evidence against.

This recommendation applies also to ARDS from COVID-19.

Strong recommendation; low level of evidence against for indirectness.

Recommendation 6.4

We **suggest against** *routine* use of brief high-pressure recruitment maneuvers (defined as airway pressure maintained ≥ 35 cmH₂O for less than one minute) to reduce mortality in patients with ARDS.

Weak recommendation; high level of evidence of no effect.

This suggestion applies also to ARDS from COVID-19.

Weak recommendation; moderate level of evidence of no effect for indirectness.

Prone Position

- PROSEVA 2013
 - 28 day mortality benefit
 - 90 day mortality benefit

Recommendation 7.1

We **recommend** using prone position as compared to supine position for patients with moderate-severe ARDS (defined as $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 < 150$ mmHg and $\text{PEEP} \geq 5$ cmH_2O , despite optimization of ventilation settings) to reduce mortality.

Strong recommendation, high level of evidence in favor.

This recommendation applies also to ARDS from COVID-19.

Strong recommendation; moderate level of evidence in favor for indirectness.

Recommendation 7.2

We **recommend** starting prone position in patients with ARDS receiving invasive mechanical ventilation early after intubation, after a period of stabilization during which low tidal volume is applied and PEEP adjusted and at the end of which the $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2$ remains < 150 mmHg; and proning should be applied for prolonged sessions (16 consecutive hours or more) to reduce mortality.

Strong recommendation; high level of evidence in favor.

This recommendation applies also to ARDS from COVID-19.

Strong recommendation; moderate level of evidence in favor for indirectness.

Neuromuscular Blockade

- ACURASYS 2010
 - 48 hour NMB
 - Positive for mortality and VFD
 - Control group and deep sedation
- ROSE 2019
 - No mortality benefit seen
- A necessary evil

Recommendation 8.1

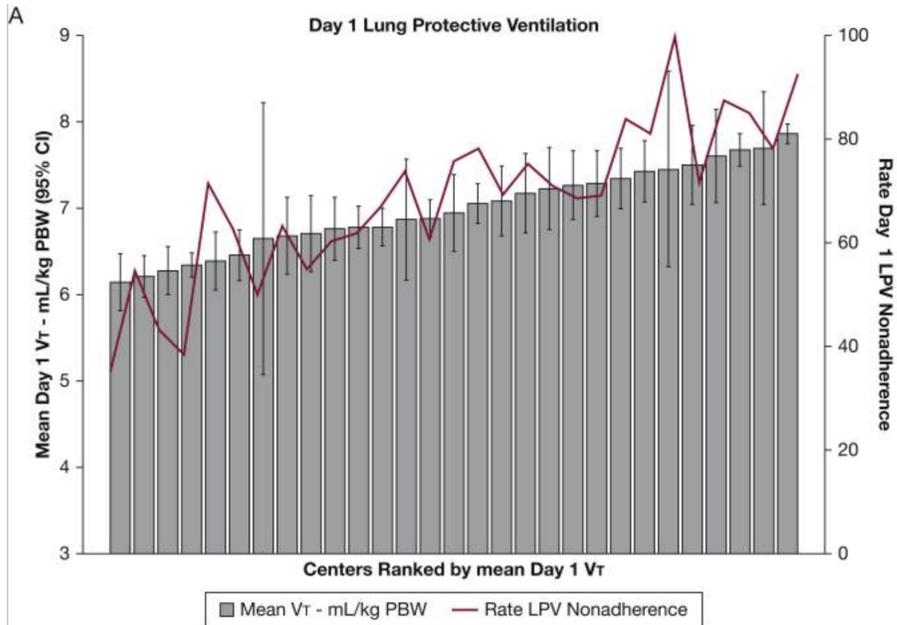
We **recommend against** the *routine* use of continuous infusions of NMBA to reduce mortality in patients with moderate-to-severe ARDS not due to COVID-19.

Strong recommendation, moderate level of evidence.

We are **unable to make a recommendation** for or against the *routine* use of continuous infusions of NMBA to reduce mortality in patients with moderate-to-severe ARDS due to COVID-19.

No recommendation; no evidence.

VV ECMO



Recommendation 9.1

We **recommend** that patients with severe ARDS not due to COVID-19 as defined by the EOLIA trial eligibility criteria, should be treated with ECMO in an ECMO center which meets defined organizational standards, adhering to a management strategy similar to that used in the EOLIA trial.

Strong recommendation, moderate level of evidence in favor

This recommendation applies also to patients with severe ARDS due to COVID-19.

Strong recommendation; low level of evidence in favor for indirectness.

Summary for IMV

- Low tidal volume ventilation vs high:
 - LTVV
- PEEP titration using high PEEP/FiO₂ vs low PEEP/FiO₂
 - Unable to make recommendation re mortality benefit
- PEEP titration guided by respiratory Mechanics
 - Unable to make recommendation re mortality benefit
- Prolonged RM
 - Recommend against, mortality
- Brief RM
 - Suggest against, mortality
 - De-recruiting events

Summary for IMV

- Prone position
 - Recommend proning, mortality benefit
 - After a stabilization period
- NMB
 - Recommend against routine use
 - PTX risk reduction
- VV ECMO
 - Recommend for ECMO eval and treatment in an ECMO center

What are we missing

- Non-intubated
 - Avoiding intubation
 - Mortality
- Intubated
 - Mortality
- Are there other important factors to consider?



The future

- ARDS is heterogenous
- How can we group patients and target the appropriate treatment ?
- Subphenotype classification in prospective studies likely requires: (1) on-site, real-time testing and rapid results, and (2) operator independence.
 - Based on biomarkers
 - Can that influence
 - Anti inflammatory use
 - PEEP use
 - Fluid strategy
 - Prognosis



Take Home

- COVID-19 highlighted the heterogeneity in response to therapy
 - Steroids
 - IMV
- HFNC seems to have a role in delaying intubation
- Mechanical ventilation is not a benign intervention
 - Do no harm
- Lung protective ventilation
 - LTVV
 - Pplat
 - Driving pressure
 - Liberate the TV if you are meeting your goals