



ARDS

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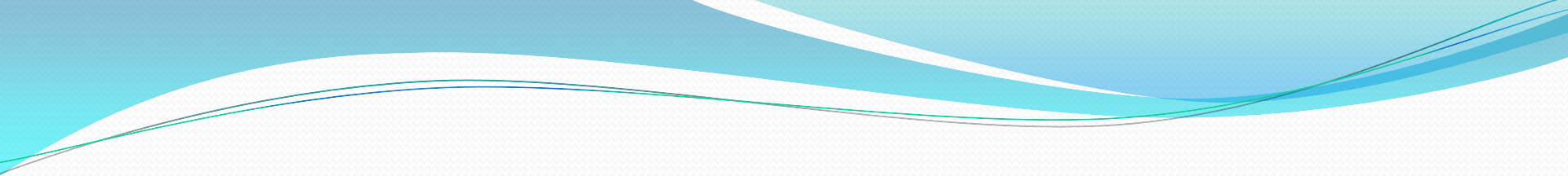
MS.c. internal and pulmonary medicine

Ph.D. critical care medicine

3-10-2024

ARDS

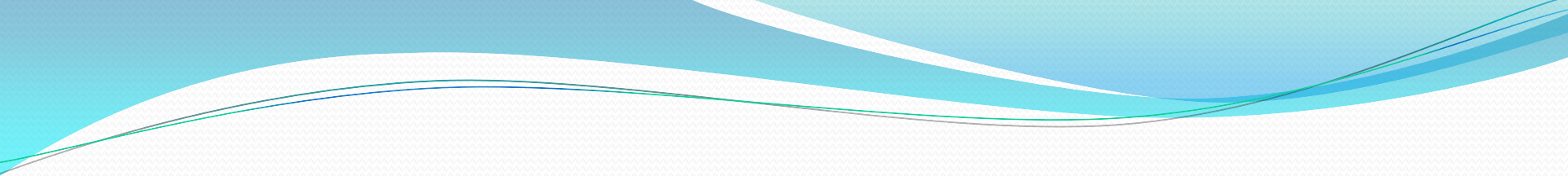
- life-threatening form of respiratory failure
- characterized by
 1. acute hypoxemia
 2. bilateral radiographic infiltrates

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- ARDS management remains largely **supportive** focusing on strategies intended to **limit further lung injury**
 - high mortality rates persist, with those who survive often facing long-term impairments



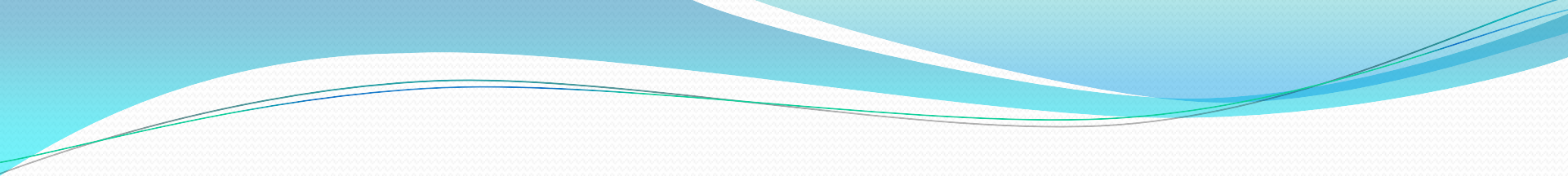
Question 1

- Should Patients with ARDS Receive Systemic Corticosteroids?

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- Recommendation. We suggest using corticosteroids for patients with ARDS
 - (conditional recommendation, moderate certainty of evidence).

Background

- Corticosteroids are **anti-inflammatory** medications that inhibit the synthesis of proinflammatory mediators present in ARDS.
- They are widely administered to patients with ARDS for the management of ARDS specifically and for concurrent conditions such as septic shock or pneumonia

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- More recently, corticosteroids have been found to reduce mortality in COVID-19–related acute hypoxemic respiratory failure and severe community-acquired pneumonia

- May be associated with increased risk of harm when initiated after > 14 days of mechanical ventilation
- Monitor more closely for adverse effects in patients with immunosuppressed conditions, metabolic syndrome, or known or increased risk of fungal, parasitic, or mycobacterial infections

- Optimal regimen, including type of corticosteroid, is unknown
- For patients with corticosteroid-responsive etiologies, regimen should be tailored to the specific condition
- For other patients, regimens used in prior RCTs may be used
- For patients that improve rapidly, consider discontinuation at time of extubation

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- Dexa Ards trial

Original Article

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March 2023



The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

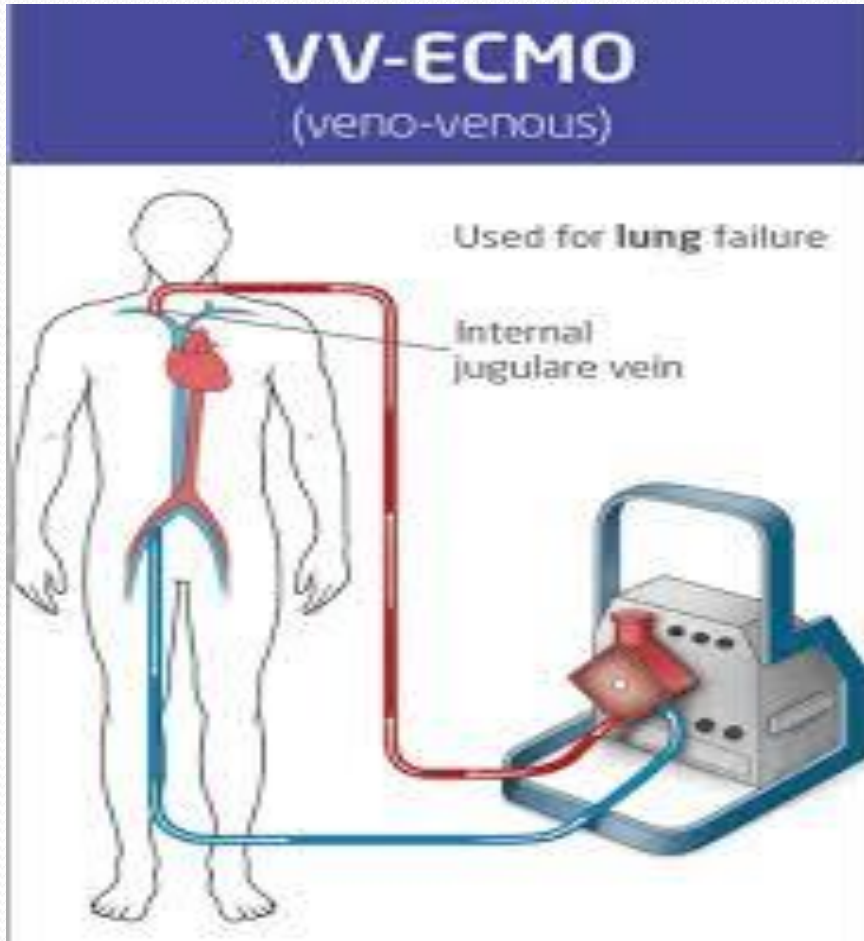
Conclusions

- Among patients with severe community-acquired pneumonia being treated in the ICU, those who received hydrocortisone had a lower risk of death by day 28 than those who received placebo.



Question 2

- Should Patients with ARDS Receive VV-ECMO?



Recommendation

- We suggest the use of VV-ECMO in selected patients with severe ARDS
 - (conditional recommendation, low certainty of evidence)

- Less invasive therapies, including lung protective ventilation, prone positioning, and neuromuscular blockade, should be initiated prior to ECMO consideration
- Resource limitations should be considered, with an emphasis on maximizing access for patients most likely to benefit from ECMO
- For patients meeting these criteria at hospitals without ECMO capabilities, consider transfer to ECMO centers when feasible

Conditions associated with increased risk for futility of treatment

- Irreversible etiology of respiratory failure
- Mechanical ventilation > 7 days
- Immunosuppression
- Multi-organ failure
- Older age
- Systemic bleeding or other contraindication to anticoagulation
- Chronic medical condition and life expectancy <1yr
- CNS hemorrhage or irreversible and incapacitating CNS pathology

Question 3

- Should Patients with ARDS Receive Neuromuscular Blockade?

Recommendation

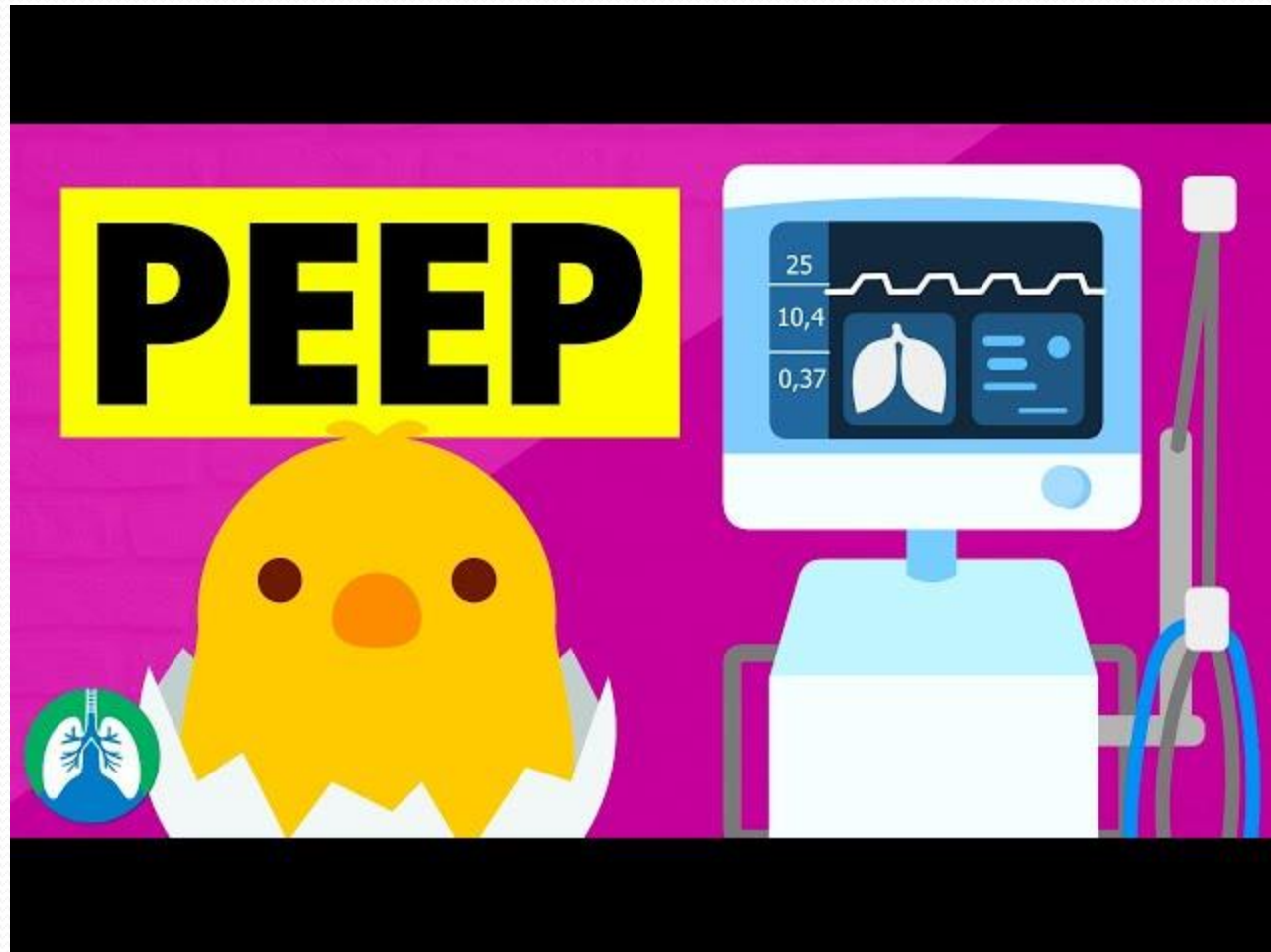
- We suggest using neuromuscular blockade in patients with early severe ARDS - (conditional recommendation, low certainty)

- Unknown and potentially increased incidence of neuromuscular weakness with infusions of > 48 hours duration
- Use caution in patients with prior neuromuscular conditions

- Reduced mortality when compared to deep sedation. No mortality benefit when compared to light sedation
- May have greater utility in patients with ventilator dyssynchrony not mitigated by ventilator changes
- Either bolus dosing or continuous infusion may be appropriate
- Consider cessation after 48 hours or earlier for patients that are improving rapidly
- Cisatracurium most frequently used in clinical trials; optimal agent unknown

Question 4

- Should Patients with ARDS Receive Higher Compared with Lower PEEP, with or without LRMs?



Recommendation

- We suggest using higher PEEP without LRMs rather than lower PEEP in patients with moderate to severe ARDS (conditional recommendation, low-moderate certainty).
- We recommend against using prolonged (PEEP >35 cm H₂O for .60 s) LRMs in patients with moderate to severe ARDS (strong recommendation, moderate certainty).

- Respiratory mechanics, hemodynamics, and response to PEEP should be continuously monitored
- Use additional caution in patients with severe hemodynamic instability or increased risk of barotrauma
- Prolonged recruitment maneuvers should be avoided

- Optimal strategy is unknown; selected strategy should be tailored to clinician expertise
- Potential strategies may include oxygenation-based titration or titration to maximal compliance or maximal safe plateau pressure
- Deleterious clinical response to higher PEEP (i.e. worsened oxygenation, dead space, compliance, or hemodynamics) should prompt re-evaluation of PEEP level



**Strong
Recommendation
Against**



Prolonged Recruitment Maneuvers*



High Frequency Oscillatory Ventilation†



**Conditional
Recommendation
in Favor**



**Neuromuscular
Blockade***



VV-ECMO*



Systemic Corticosteroids*



High PEEP*



**Strong
Recommendation
in Favor**



Prone Positioning†



Lung Protective Ventilation†

Goal V_T 6 mL/kg PBW (range 4-8) + $P_{Plat} \leq 30$ cm H₂O

300

Mild

200

Moderate

100

Severe

PaO₂/FiO₂

Severity of ARDS



Thank you



حكاية لا تنتهي .. سورية

