

COVID-19 pandemic  
Training Anesthesiology  
Amsterdam University Medical Centers, location 'AMC'  
March 16, 2020

# Protective Ventilation for ARDS

## 5 do's and 5 don'ts



University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands



Oxford University, Oxford, UK



Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

## Do's

- low  $V_T$
- PEEP as a rescue
- driving pressure/mechanical power
- prone positioning
- lung morphology



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## Don'ts

- targeting 'best oxygenation'
- preventive high PEEP
- targeting the lowest possible driving pressure
- paralysis for 48 hours
- 'other' or special modes than standardly used



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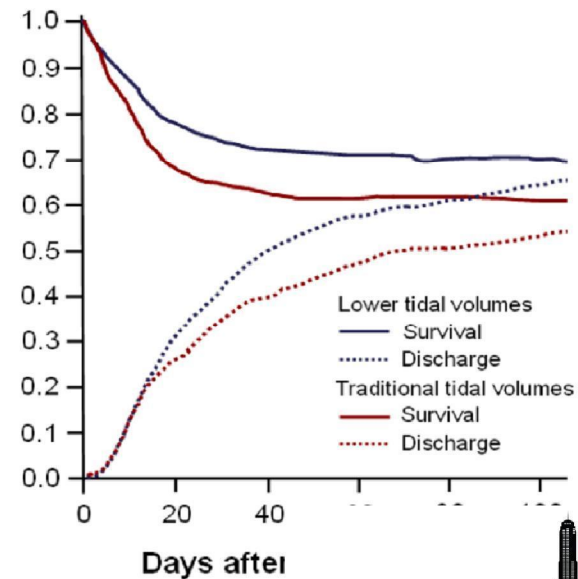


# Ventilation with a low $V_T$ Benefits Patients with ARDS (ARMA)

1

WITH ARDS

- RCT, USA
- 821 patients
- 6 (to 8) vs 12 ml/kg PBW
- **lower mortality, earlier liberation from ventilator**



ARDS Network investigators *New Eng J Med* 2000; **342**:1301



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## Ventilation with a low $V_T$ Benefits Patients with ARDS (ARMA)

- titrate to PBW, function of height
- $V_T < 350$  ml (females) and 450 (males)
- high(er) respiratory rate
- *maybe* more sedation
- permissive hypercapnia, permissive hypoxemia

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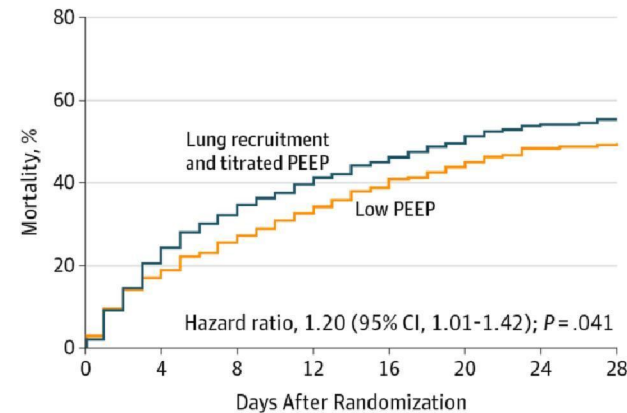
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## Ventilation with High PEEP + RM Harms ICU Patients with ARDS

# 2

WITH ARDS

- RCT, SA + EU Europe
- 1,010 patients
- LRM + PEEP vs standard PEEP
- **better oxygenation, but higher mortality – more barotrauma**



ART investigators *JAMA* 2017; 318:1335



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## Ventilation with High PEEP + RM Harms ICU Patients with ARDS

- PEEP is used to rescue
- PEEP may recruit, but also overdistends
- RM is a dangerous intervention
- RM affect hemodynamics

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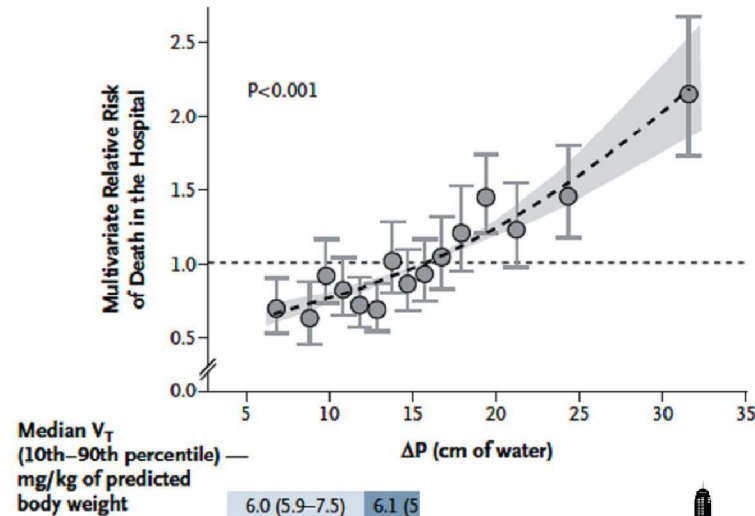


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## Driving Pressure is Associated with Outcome in Patients with ARDS

3

- IPD metaanalysis
- 3,562 ARDS patients
- 9 trials of diverse MV strategies
- **increased mortality with higher  $\Delta P$**



Amato M *N Engl J Med* 2015; 372:747



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## Driving Pressure is Associated with Outcome in Patients with ARDS

- driving pressure = biomarker
- no RCTs
- caution! some studies that partially used this approach showed harm

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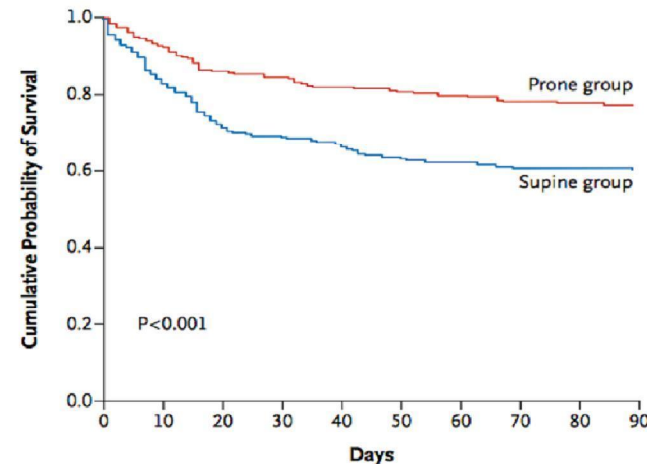


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## Prone Positioning Benefits Patients with Severe ARDS (PROSEVA)

4

- RCT, France
- 466 patients
- at least 16 hours prone
- **better outcomes, and better oxygenation**



PROSEVA investigators *N Engl J Med* 2013; **368**:2159



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## Prone Positioning Benefits Patients with Severe ARDS (PROSEVA)

- at least 16 hours, longer may be better
- safe in experienced hands
- no need for additional sedation (or sedation at all)
- forget the words 'responder' and 'non-responder'

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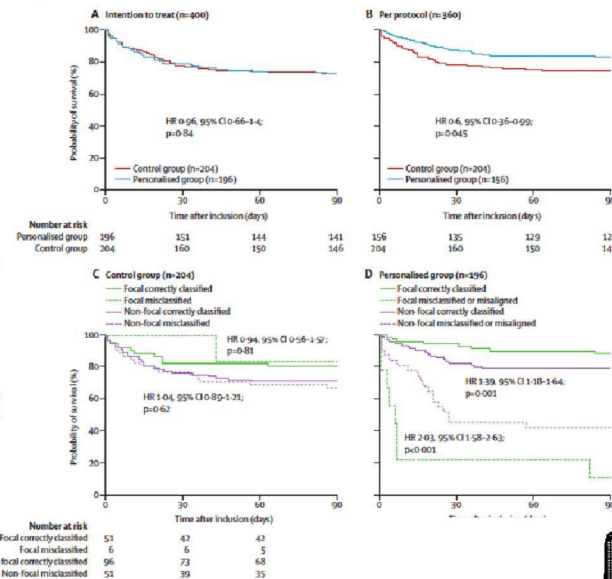
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# Morphology Approach – Focal vs Non-focal ARDS

5

WITH ARDS

- RCT; France
- 420 patients with ARDS
- low PEEP vs low PEEP (focal) or high PEEP (non-focal)
- **did not decrease mortality in ITT–, but did in PP–analysis**

LIFE investigators *Lancet RM* 2019; 7:870

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## Morphology Approach – Focal vs Non-focal ARDS

- if 'focal', i.e., not recruitable: low  $V_T$ , standard PEEP without RM, ASAP prone positioning
- if 'non-focal', i.e., recruitable: lower  $V_T$ , higher PEEP, prone positioning as a rescue

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## Targeting 'Best Oxygenation' (A.K.A. targeting 'physiology')

1

- $\text{PaO}_2 > 8 \text{ kPa}$  is enough, really!
- permissive hypercapnia
- if  $\text{PaO}_2 < 8 \text{ kPa}$ , rescue ... PEEP, maybe RM, prone positioning

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## Preventive High PEEP

# 2

- is 'old school', forget the adage 'open up the lungs and keep the lung open'

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## Preventive High PEEP

# 3

- driving pressure = biomarker
- accept high driving pressure in patients with non–recrutable lungs

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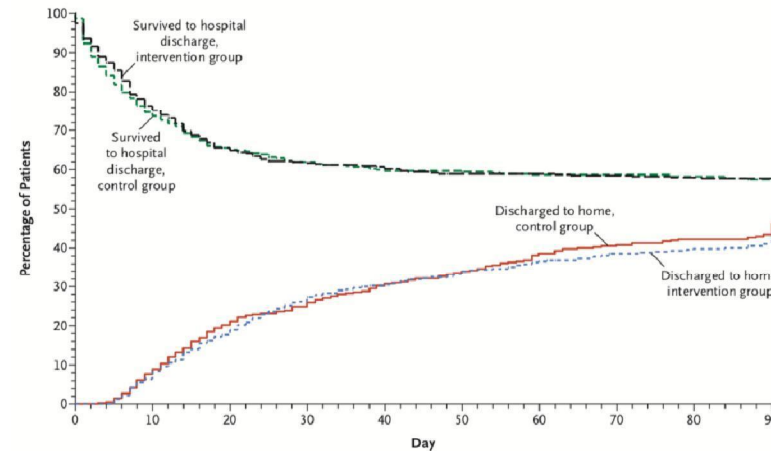


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## Early Neuromuscular Blockade in Moderate-to-severe ARDS

4

- RCT, USA
- 1,006 patients
- 48 h cisatracurium cont. vs usual care
- **no difference in mortality**

ROSE investigators *N Eng J Med* 2019

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## Early Neuromuscular Blockade in Moderate-to-severe ARDS

- rejects findings of earlier studies
- simply no added value
- (asynchronies can be solved in other ways)

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## Conclusions

### BENEFIT

- low  $V_T$
- rescue PEEP
- low driving pressure
- prone positioning
- lung morphology

### NO BENEFIT

- physiology targets
- preventive high PEEP
- lowest possible driving pressure
- paralysis
- 'special mode'



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