

# Acute Respiratory Failure



Sanda-Maria Copotoiu



# Respiratory failure

- **Definition**
- **Classification**
- **Physiology recall**
- **Diagnosis**
- **Respiratory monitoring**
- **Management**



# Aims

1. **Diagnose – rapid & accurate**
2. **Manage in due time the syndrome**
3. **Understand**



# Respiratory failure

## Definition

**Acute or chronic impairment of respiratory system function to maintain normal O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> values when breathing room air.**

## Oxygenation failure

**paO<sub>2</sub> < normal predicted values for age & altitude**

**↓ Inspired O<sub>2</sub> concentration**

**V/P mismatch**



# Respiratory failure

## Ventilatory failure

↓ CO<sub>2</sub> elimination → ↑ paCO<sub>2</sub> >45mmHg

### Most common causes:

- Exacerbation of COPD
- Asthma
- Neuromuscular fatigue

Dyspnoea, tachypnoea, tachycardia,  
accessory muscles of ventilation, altered  
consciousness



# PaCO<sub>2</sub> variations

Increased PCO <sub>2</sub>	Decreased PCO <sub>2</sub>
Fever	Pulmonary embolism
Sepsis	Cardiac arrest
Malignant hyperthermia	Hypothermia
Hypoventilation	Hyperventilation
Bicarbonate bolus	Hypometabolic states
Venous carbon dioxide embolism	Hypotension
Increased cardiac output	Decreased cardiac output
Restoration of pulse with cardiopulmonary resuscitation	Esophageal intubation
Chronic obstructive lung disease	Disconnection from ventilator
	Extubation



# Classification criteria

## Pathophysiology

## Time

## Etiology



# Classification criteria

## Pathophysiology

### Hypoxemic = type I

$\text{PaO}_2 \leq 60\text{mmHg}$

$\text{PaCO}_2 \leq 40\text{mmHg}$

### Hypercapnic = type II

$\text{PaCO}_2 \geq 50\text{mmHg}$

$\text{PaO}_2 \leq 60\text{mmHg}$





# Classification criteria

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$\text{PaO}_2 \leq 60\text{mmHg}$

↑CO<sub>2</sub> production

↑metabolism

↓CO<sub>2</sub> exhalation

# Classification criteria

## Pathophysiology

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$\text{PaCO}_2 \leq 40\text{mmHg}$

Hypercapnic = type II

$\text{PaCO}_2 \geq 50\text{mmHg}$

$\text{PaO}_2 \leq 60\text{mmHg}$

## Time

Acute – min, hrs

Chronic - years

## Etiology



# Classification criteria

## Etiology

- **CNS**
- **Spinal cord**
- **Neuromuscular system**
- **Chest wall**
- **Airways – upper, lower**
- **Lung parenchyma**
- **CV system**



# Pathophysiology

$$\text{Air } P_A = P_{A}O_2 + P_{A}CO_2 + P_{A}H_2O + P_{A}N_2$$

$$P_{A}O_2 = F_iO_2 \times (BP - P_{H_2O}) - P_{A}CO_2/R$$

R = respiratory exchange ratio  $\approx$  0.8 at rest

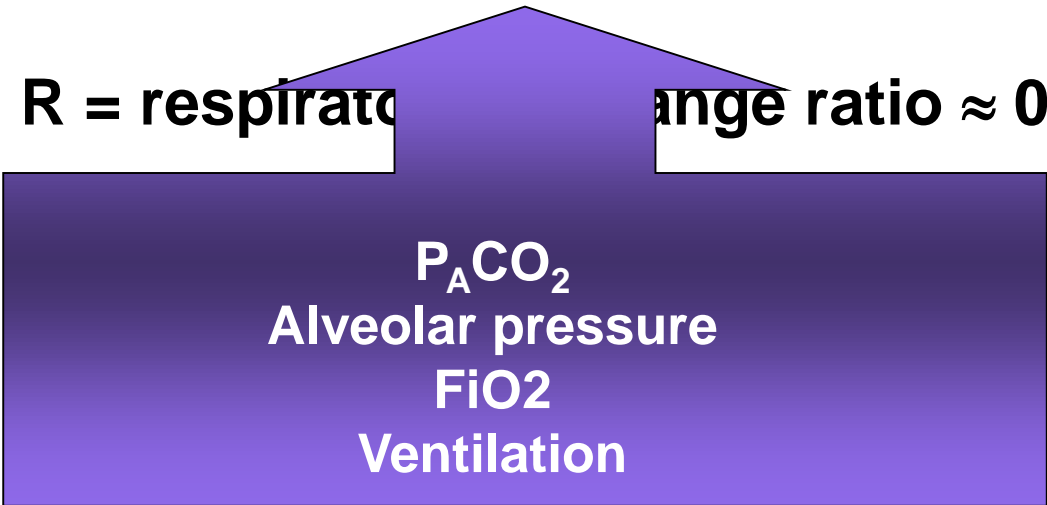


# Pathophysiology

$$\text{Air } P_A = P_{A}O_2 + P_{A}CO_2 + P_{A}H_2O + P_{A}N_2$$

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R = respiratory exchange ratio  $\approx 0.8$  at rest



$P_{A}CO_2$   
Alveolar pressure  
 $FiO_2$   
Ventilation



# Oxygen cascade

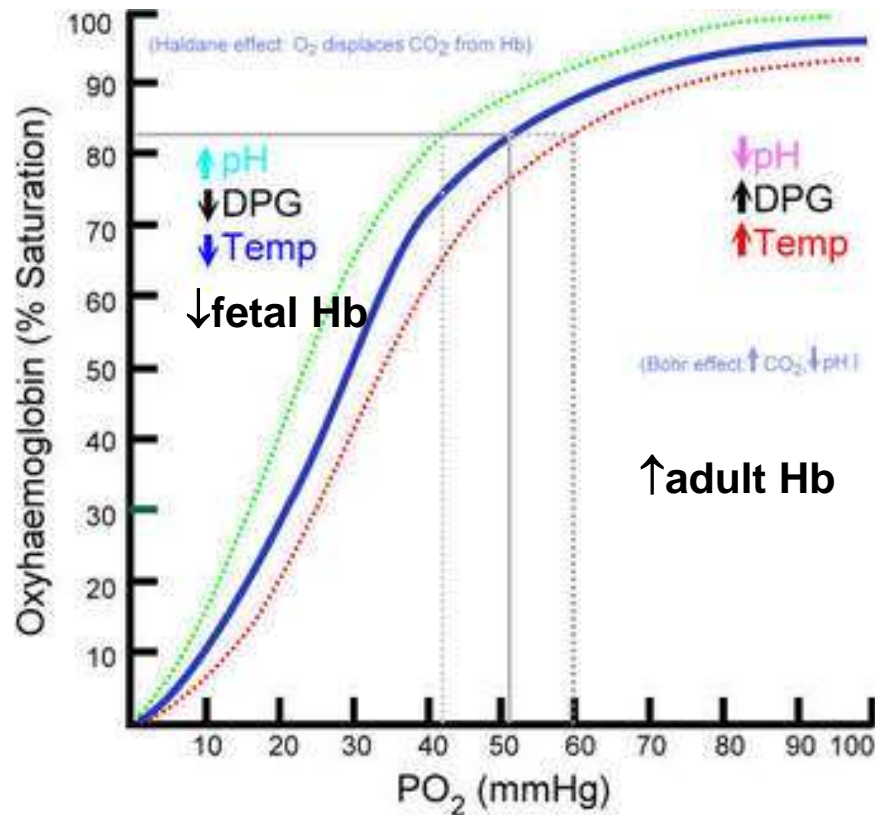


# Oxygen transport

- **Bound**
  - 20mlO<sub>2</sub>/100ml arterial blood
  - 15mlO<sub>2</sub>/100ml venous blood
- **Free – dissolved in blood**
  - 0.023ml/kPa/100ml blood



# Oxyhemoglobin dissociation curve





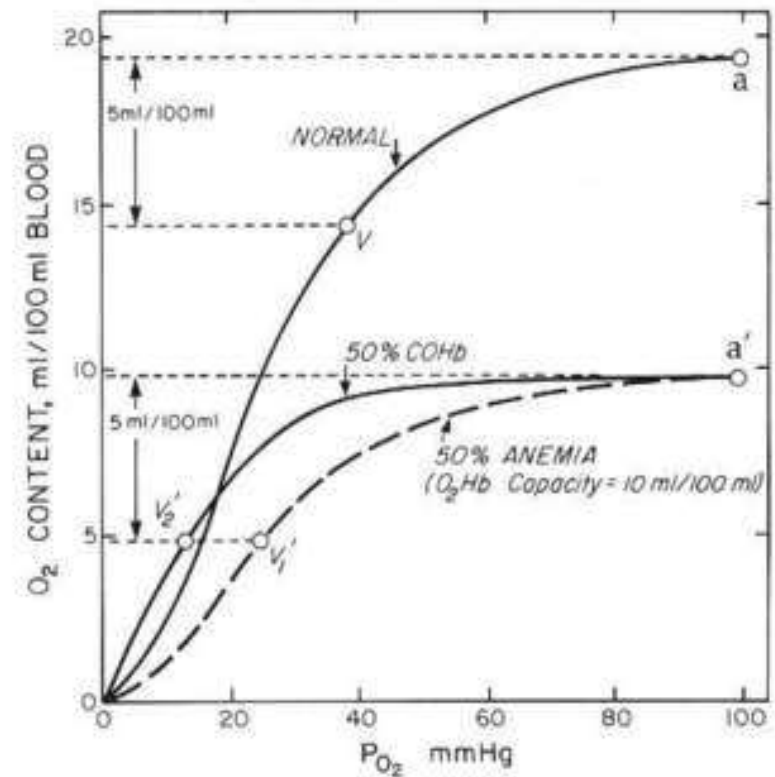
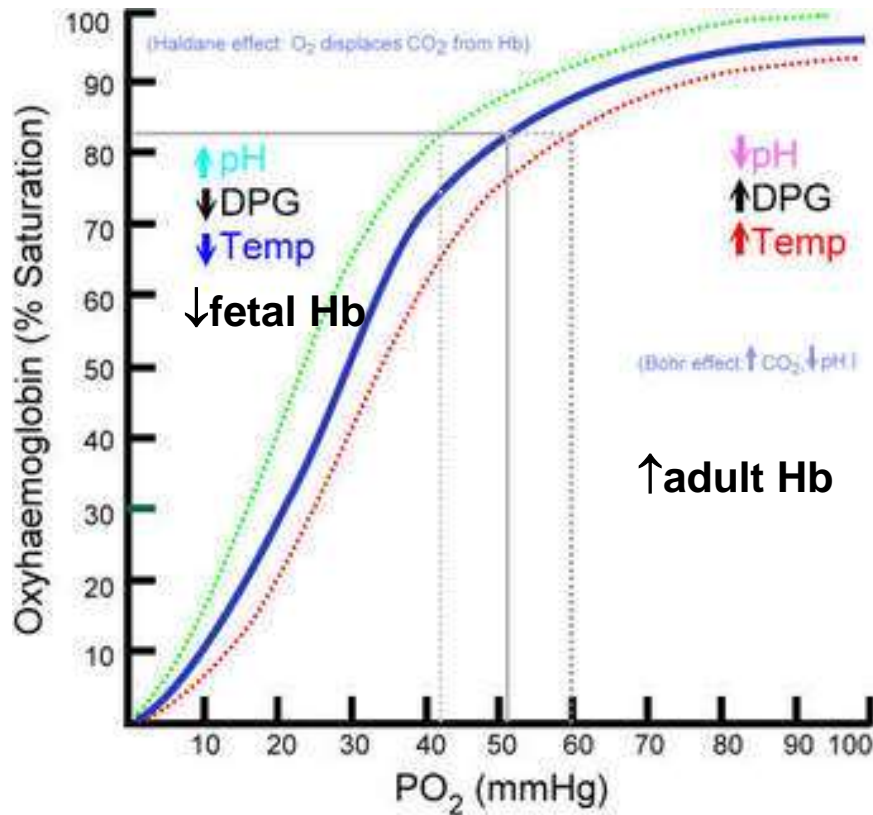
# Oxygen transport

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  - 0.023ml/kPa/100ml blood

$$CaO_2 = Hb \times SaO_2 \times 1.4 + 0.003 \times PaO_2 \quad 100\text{ml blood}$$



# Oxyhemoglobin dissociation curve



# Oxygen content of the blood

<b>Substance</b>	<b>Arterial Blood</b>	<b>Arterial Blood</b>	<b>Venous blood</b>
<b>Oxygen</b>	<b>HbO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>18-20ml%</b>	<b>?</b>
<b>Oxygen</b>	<b>Dissolved</b>	<b>0,3ml%</b>	<b>0,11- 0,18ml%</b>
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>HbCO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>5%of CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>4-8ml% 30% of CO<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>Dizolvat</b>	<b>5%dinCO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>2,7ml% 10% of CO<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>Bicarbonate</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>90%din CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>50ml 60% of CO<sub>2</sub></b>

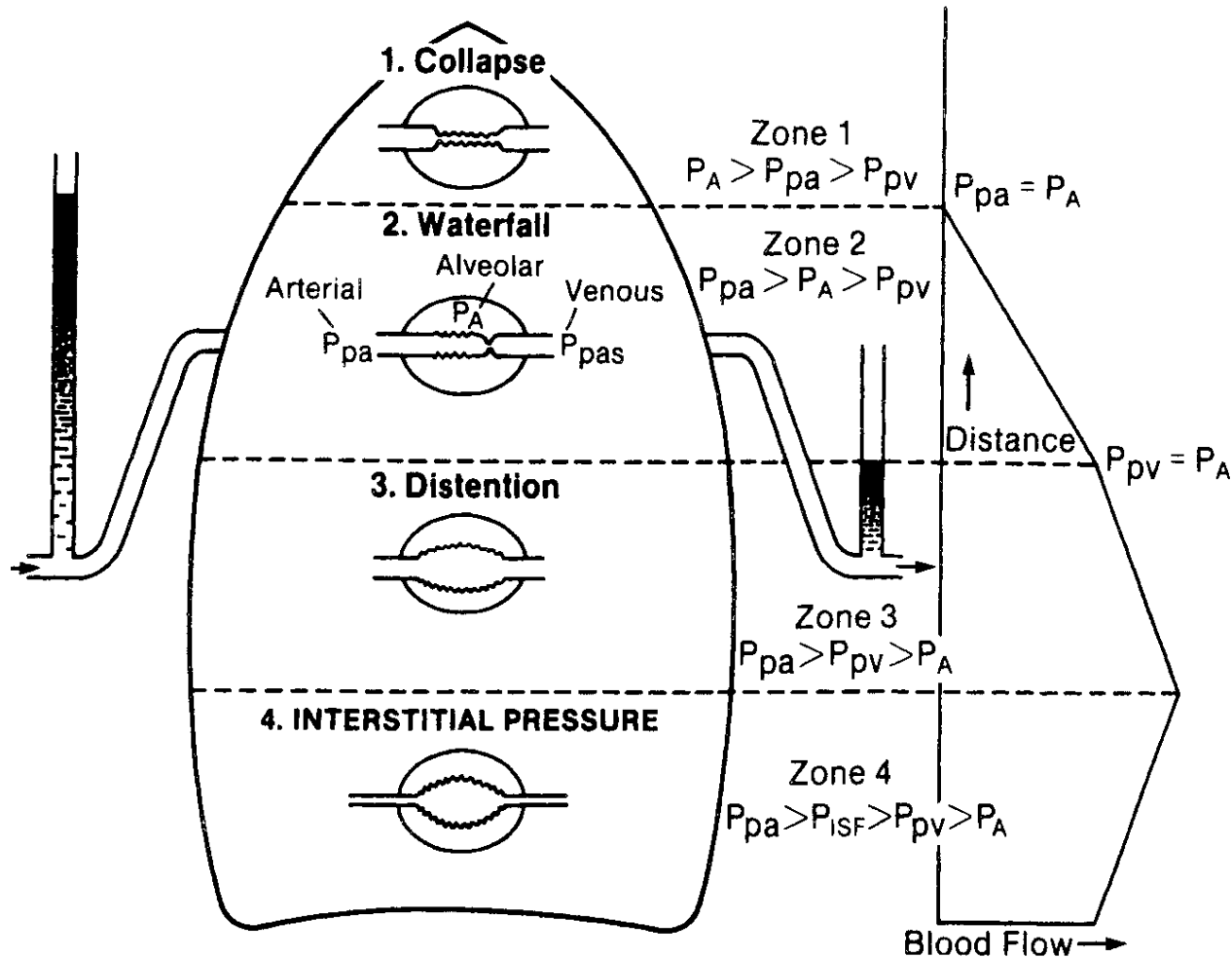
# Gas exchange

**Lung units: alveoli + capillaries**

**Diffusion abnormalities**



# The West zones



**V/P**

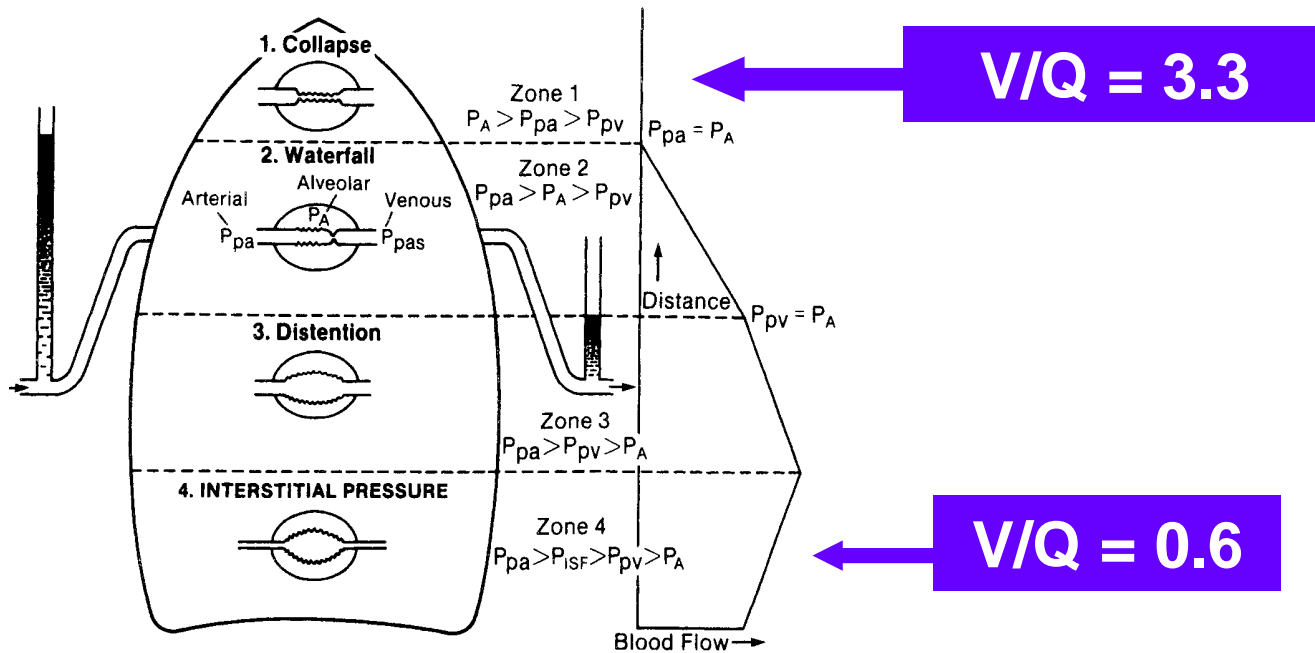
**V/P = 1 ideal unit**

**V/P < 1 underventilated, normally perfused**

**V/P > 1 overventilation, underperfusion**



# V/Q



# Intrapulmonary shunt

- True  $V/Q = 0$
- Shunt fraction;  $Q_s$   $1 > V/Q > 0$

Pulmonary vasoconstriction





# Intrapulmonary shunt

- True  $V/Q = 0$
- Shunt fraction;  $Q_s$   $1 > V/Q > 0$

## Pulmonary vasoconstriction

### Causes

- Pneumonia
- Lung edema
- Atelectasis
- Collapse
- Pulmonary hemorrhage
- Lung contusion



# A-a gradient = difference

## diagnosis

- a shunt
- a diffusion abnormality

## Alveolar gas equation

$$P_A = FiO_2 \times (BP - H_2O) - P_A CO_2 / R$$

5 mmHg (0.5-1kPa) – 15mmHg

>15-20mmHg = lung disease



# Dead space ventilation

- a. Air reaching only the conducting airways  
= anatomic dead space
- b. Air to the alveoli inert as to gas  
exchange with the capillaries

**A + b = physiologic dead space**

**dead space ventilation = 20-30% of  $V_T$**

$$V_D/V_T = 0.2-0.3$$



# Dead space ventilation

- ↓↓↓ CO
- ↑↑ intra-alveolar pressure → stretching the alveolar capillaries



# Alveolar hypoventilation

- $\uparrow \text{paCO}_2$   $\downarrow \text{O}_2$
- **Brainstem**
  - Trauma, haemorrhage, infarction, hypoxia, infection.
  - Metabolic encephalopathy
  - Depressant drugs
- **Spinal cord**
  - Trauma, tumor, transverse myelitis
- **Nerve root injury**



# Alveolar hypoventilation cont

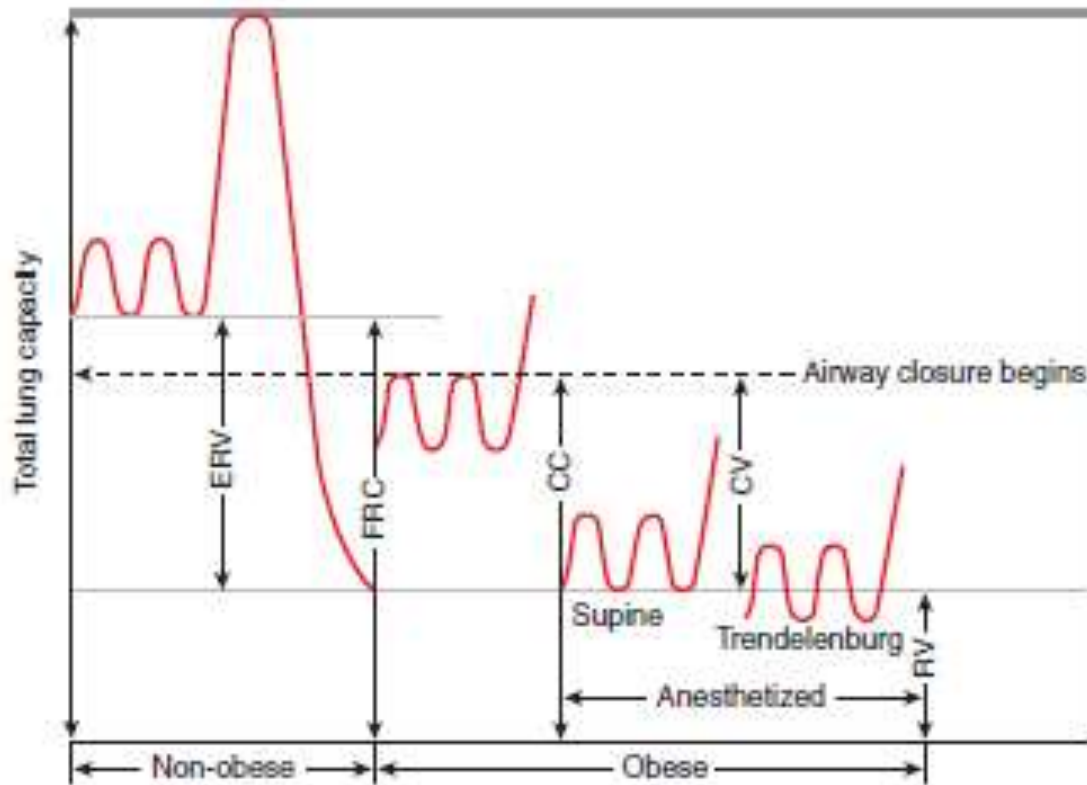
- **Nerve**
  - Trauma
  - Neuropathy
  - Motor neuron disease
- **Nm junction**
  - Myasthenia gravis
  - Nm blockade
- **Respiratory muscle fatigue**
  - Disuse atrophy
  - Myopathy
  - Malnutrition
- **Respiratory system**
  - Airway obstruction (upper or lower)
  - Decreased lung, pleural or chest wall compliance

# Lung compliance

- **Volume change/unit pressure =  $\Delta V / \Delta P$**
- **Lung compliance 200ml/cmH<sub>2</sub>O**
- **Chest compliance 100ml/H<sub>2</sub>O**



# We are not the same and we tend to change position in space



**FIGURE 22-1.** Effects of obesity, positioning, and anesthesia on lung volumes. CC, closing capacity; CV, closing volume; ERV, expiratory reserve volume; FRC, functional residual capacity; IRV, inspiratory reserve volume; RV, residual volume. (Modified from Ogunnaike and Whitten<sup>27</sup> with permission.)



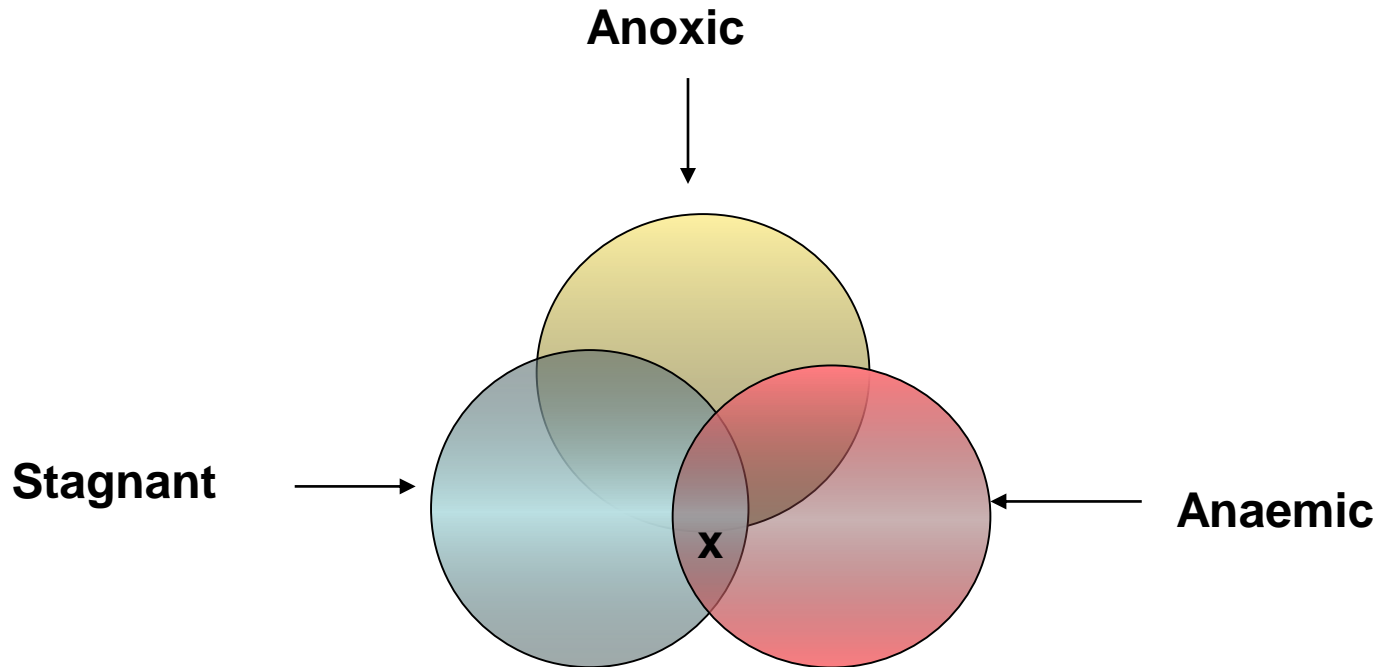


# Cost of breathing

2-3% of oxygen delivery



# Hypoxia



**= histotoxic**



# Hypoxia

## **Fulminant** $\text{PaO}_2 < 20\text{mmHg}$

- Pressure loss at 30 000m
- Unconsciousness 15-20 sec
- Brain death 4-5 min

## **Acute** $25\text{mmHg} < \text{PaO}_2 < 40\text{mmHg}$

- 18 000 – 25 000m
- Inebriation
- Coma
- Death / min-hrs



# Hypoxia

**Chronic**  $40\text{mmHg} < \text{PaO}_2 < 60\text{mmHg}$

- 10 000-18 000m extended periods of time
- fatigue: dyspnoea, shortness of breath, respiratory arrhythmias

**Cyanosis if HHb/ml capillary blood; anemia!!!  
& polycitemia  
Tachycardia  
Tachypnea**



# Hyperoxia

- **FiO<sub>2</sub> > 0.6**
- **Acute**
- **Chronic oxygen toxicity**



# Hypercapnia

**PaCO<sub>2</sub> > 45mmHg**

**↑ CO<sub>2</sub> production due to ↑metabolism**

**Sepsis**

**Burns**

**Overfeeding**

**↓ CO<sub>2</sub> excretion**

**↓ Ventilation**

## Effects

**Stimulation of ventilation**

**Cerebral vasodilation**

**Simpatetic stimulation**

**Perifferal vasodilation by direct effect on vessels**

**Central depression – lethargy, coma**



# Hypercapnia

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↑ CO<sub>2</sub> production due to ↑metabolism

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# Hypercapnia

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Sepsis

Burns

Overfeeding

↓ CO<sub>2</sub> excretion

↓ Ventilation

## Effects

**Stimulation of ventilation**

**Cerebral vasodilation**

**Sympathetic stimulation**

**Peripheral vasodilation by direct effect on vessels**

**Central depression – lethargy, coma**

**Permissive hypercapnia**

**↑CO due to ↑sympathetic activity**

**↑splanchnic & renal blood flow**





# Hypocapnia

**$\text{PaCO}_2 \leq 35\text{mmHg}$**

- **Cerebral vasoconstriction**
  - $\downarrow\text{Ca}_{\text{pl}} \rightarrow \uparrow\text{muscle excitability}$
- **Alcalosis**



# Hypocapnia

**$\text{PaCO}_2 \leq 35\text{mmHg}$**

- **Cerebral vasoconstriction**
  - $\downarrow\text{Ca}_{\text{pl}} \rightarrow \uparrow\text{muscle excitability}$
- **Alcalosis**

**Address the cause!**

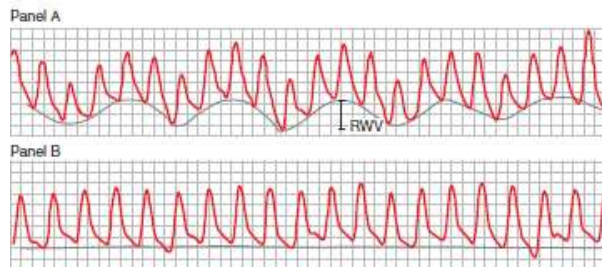


# Respiratory monitoring

- **Clinical exam**
- **Pulse oxymetry**
- **Capnography**
- **Ultrasound scanning**
- **Arterial blood gases ABG**
- **∅ respiratory function tests**



# Pulseoxymetry



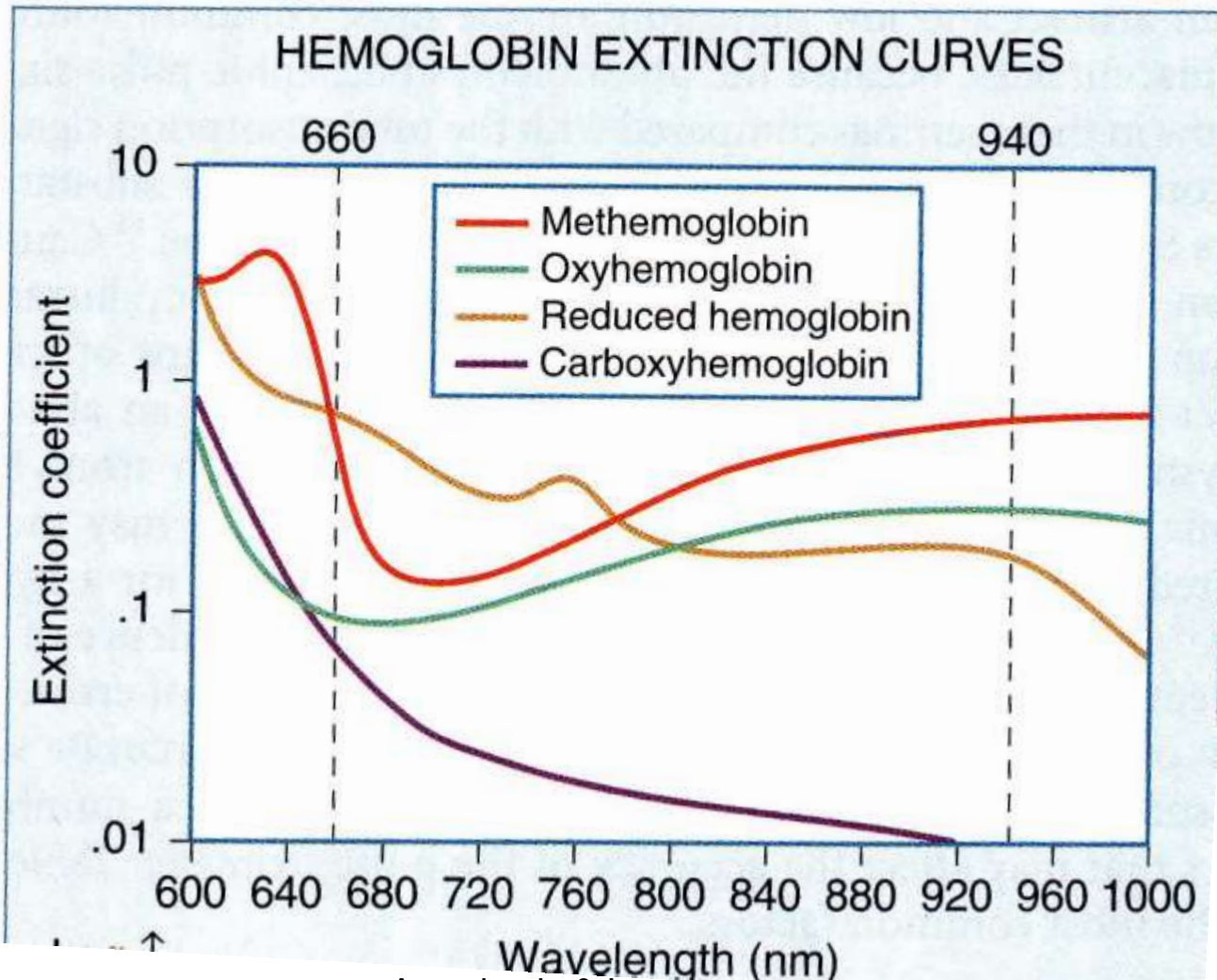
**FIGURE 31-5.** Pulse oximeter tracings from a 60-year-old woman with exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease who was admitted to the ICU in ventilatory failure. **A.** Patient's pulse oximetry tracing at the time of admission reveals respiratory variability in the pulse oximeter plethysmography tracing. Measured pulsus paradoxus at this time was 16 mm Hg. **B.** Patient's pulse oximetry tracing after 12 hours of aggressive therapy. Pulsus paradoxus at this time was 8 mm Hg. Note the absence of respiratory waveform variation (RWV) in the baseline of the oximeter tracing after clinical improvement in airflow and resolution of elevated pulsus paradoxus. (From Harten et al.<sup>46</sup> with permission.)





**FIGURE 31-4.** Top. In white patients (open circles), SpO<sub>2</sub> ≥ 92% is reliable in predicting PaO<sub>2</sub> ≥ 60 mm Hg. Bottom. In black patients, SpO<sub>2</sub> ≥ 95% was required to reliably predict PaO<sub>2</sub> ≥ 60 mm Hg.





# Capnometry $ETCO_2$ , $P_{ET}CO_2$

**Measurement of expired CO<sub>2</sub> and numeric display of expired CO<sub>2</sub> at the patients' airway opening  
+ waveform plotting CO<sub>2</sub> against time or volume =  
capnography, capnogram**

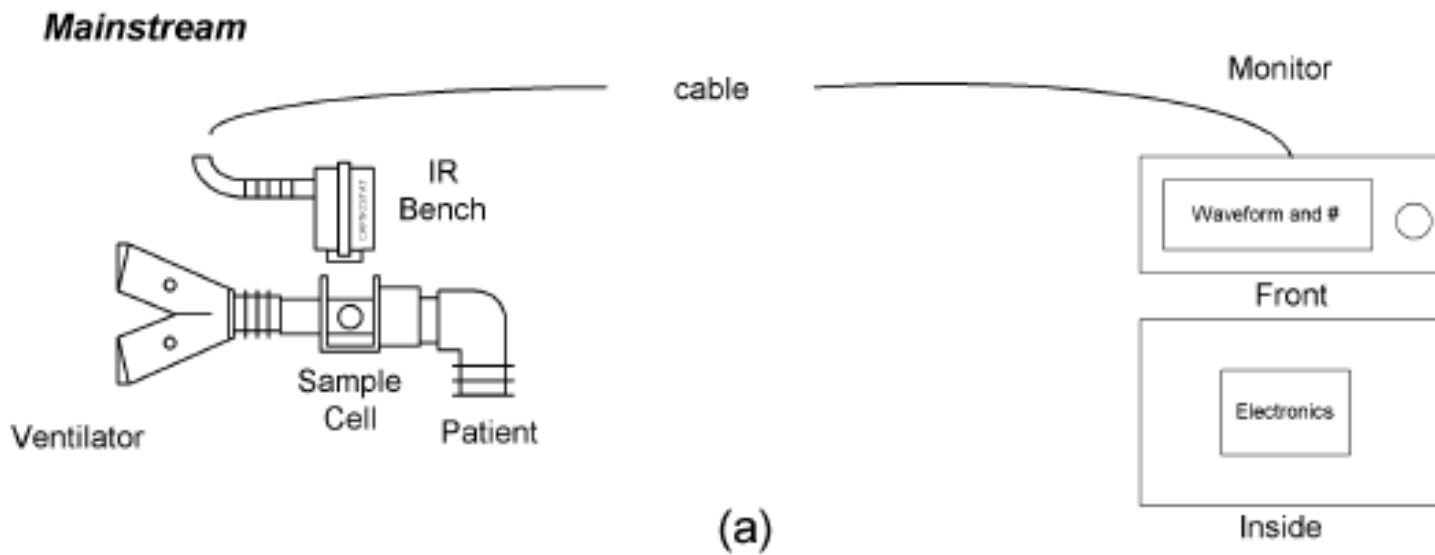
**Sensor: passing infrared light through a sample chamber to a detector on the opposite side**

**CO<sub>2</sub> peak wavelength of absorption 4.27μ**

- Sidestream
- mainstream

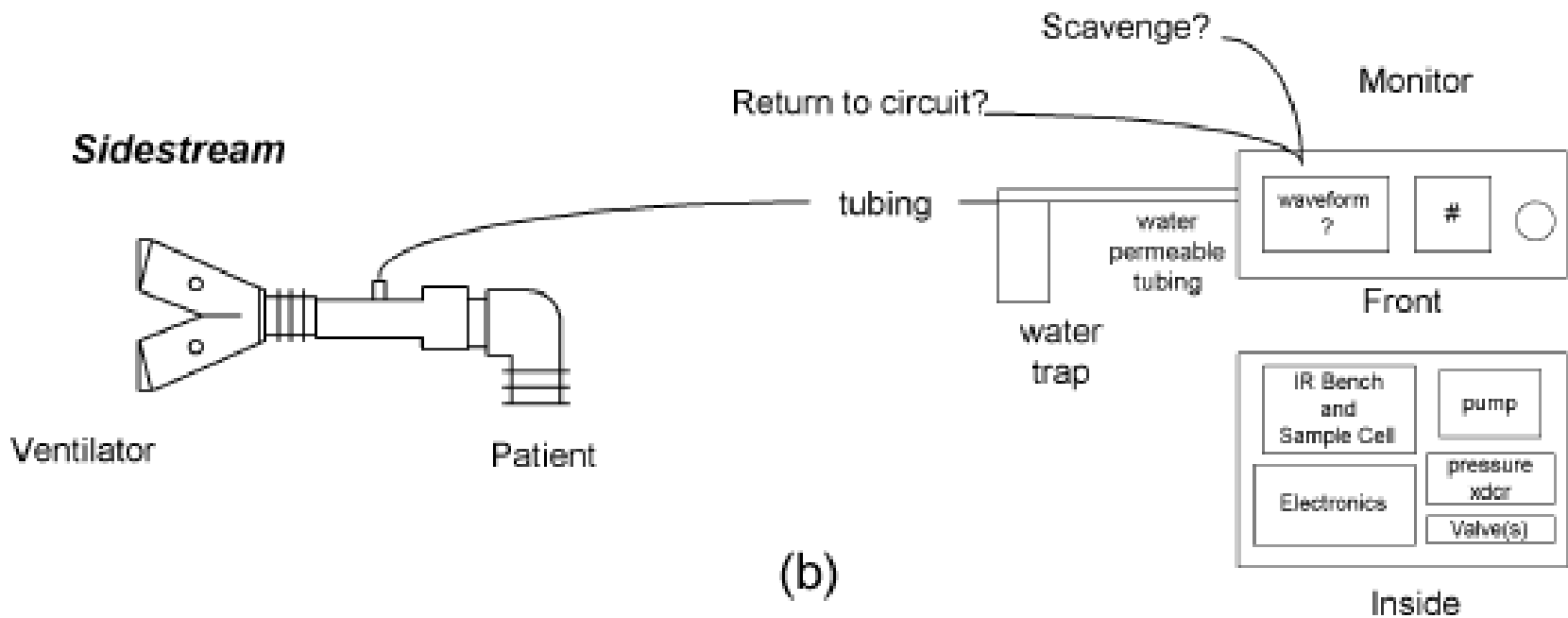


# Capnography

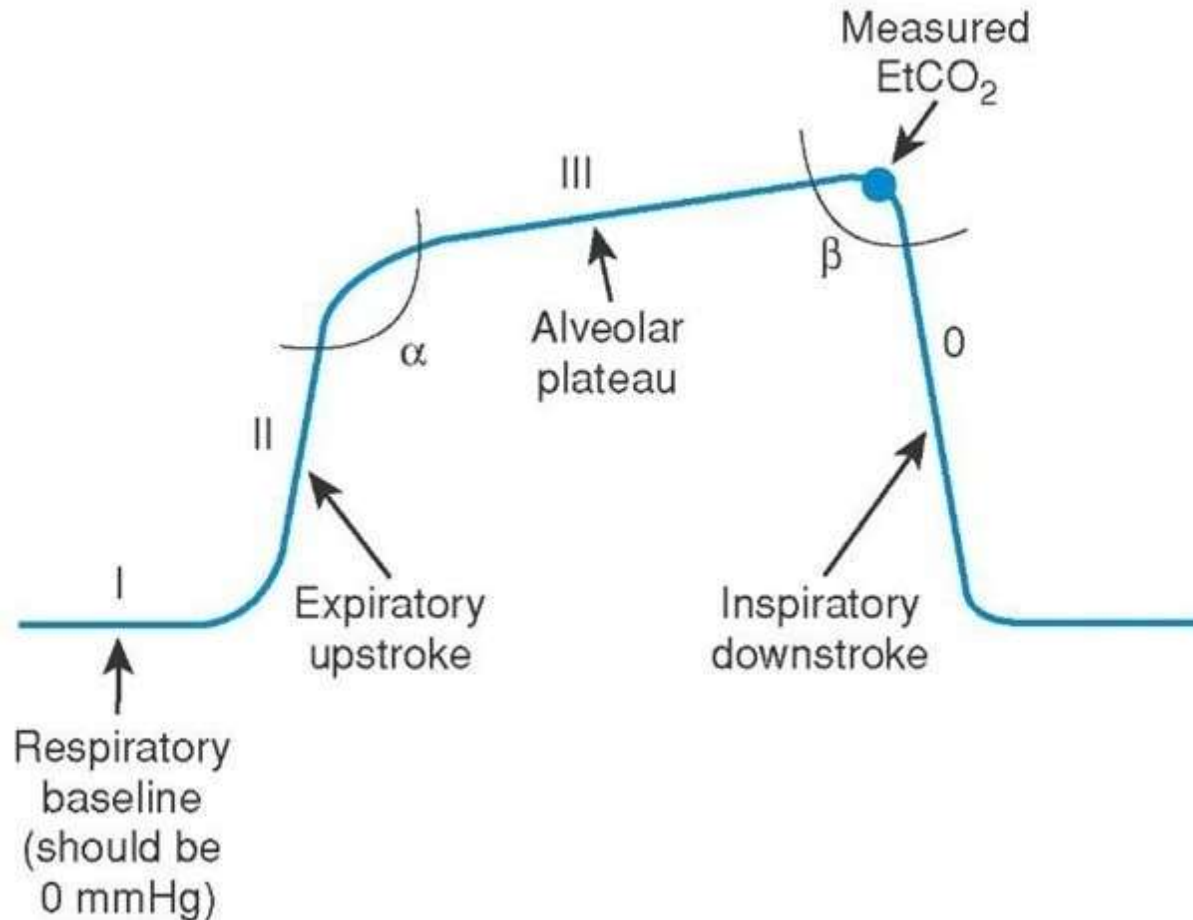




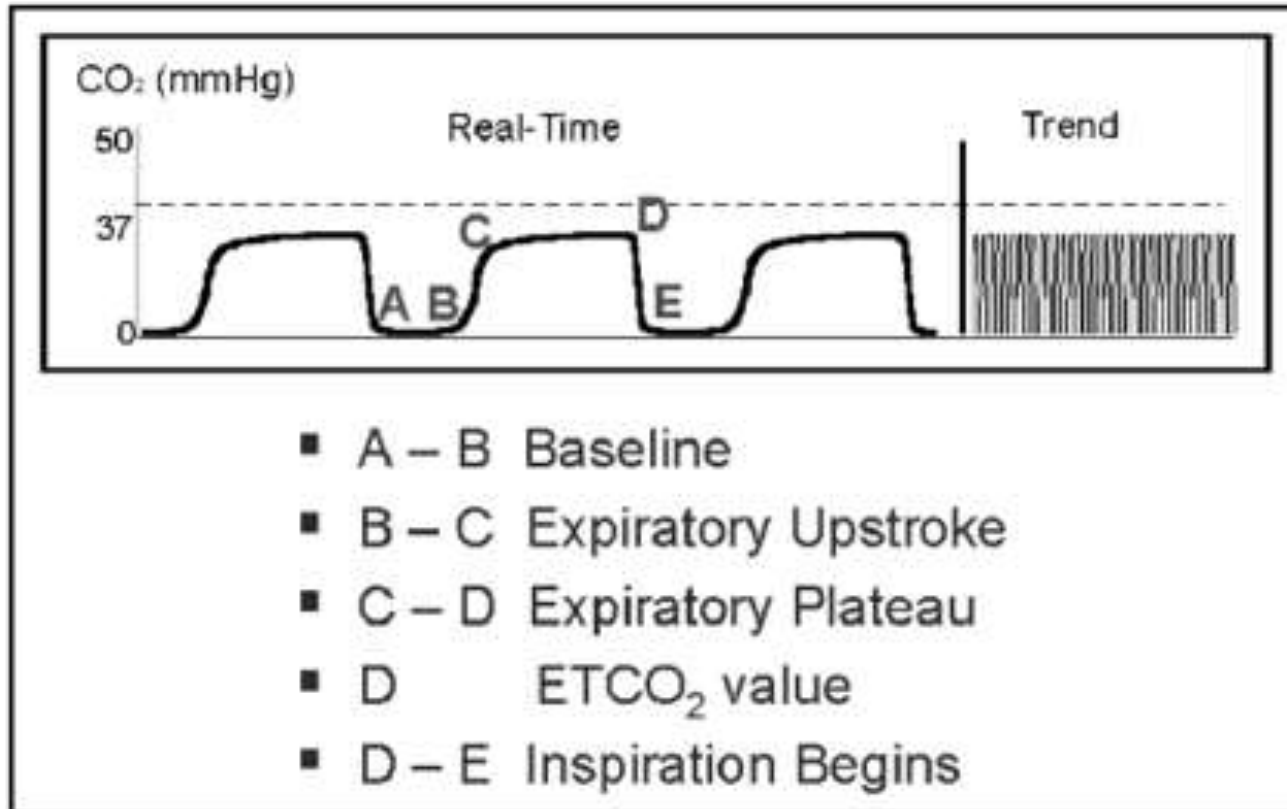
# Capnography



# Capnogram



# Capnogram



# Capnography indications

- **Diagnosis of pulmonary embolism**
- **Assessing lung recruitment response to PEEP**
- **Detection of intrinsic PEEP**
- **Evaluation of weaning**
- **Indirect marker of elevated dead space ventilation**
- **Assessment of CP resuscitation**
- **Indirect CO measuring by CO<sub>2</sub> rebreathing**
- **Verification of endotracheal cannulation**
- **Detection of airway accidents**
- **Determination of feeding tube placement**



# **PaCO<sub>2</sub> – PETCO<sub>2</sub> gradient**

- normal 4-5mmHg
- ↑↑Critically ill pts
- Eg: COPD 7-16mmHg
- ALI, cardiogenic PE: 4-12mmHg

**Caused by:**

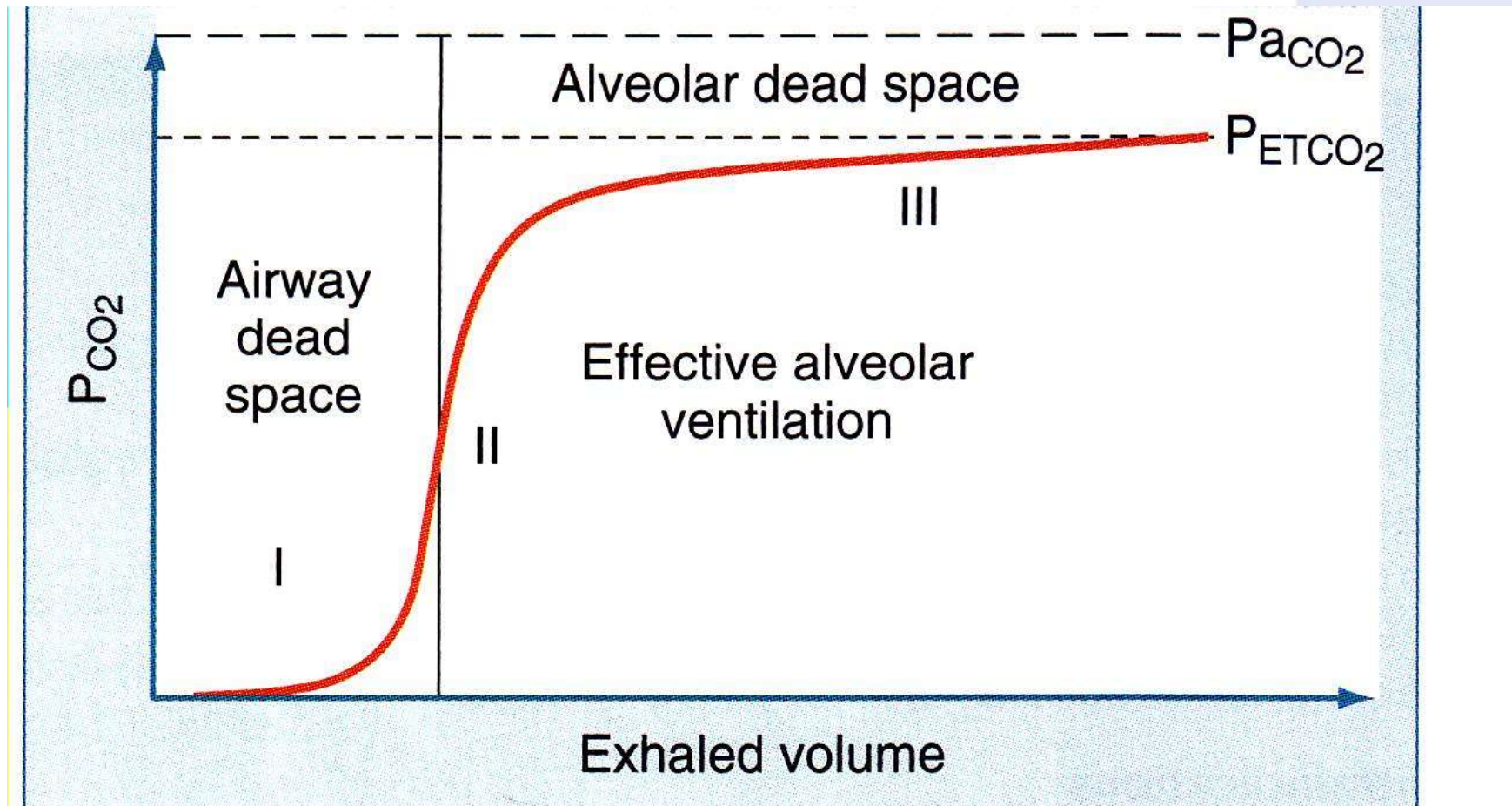
**paCO<sub>2</sub> reflects mean PCO<sub>2</sub> in alveolar gas**

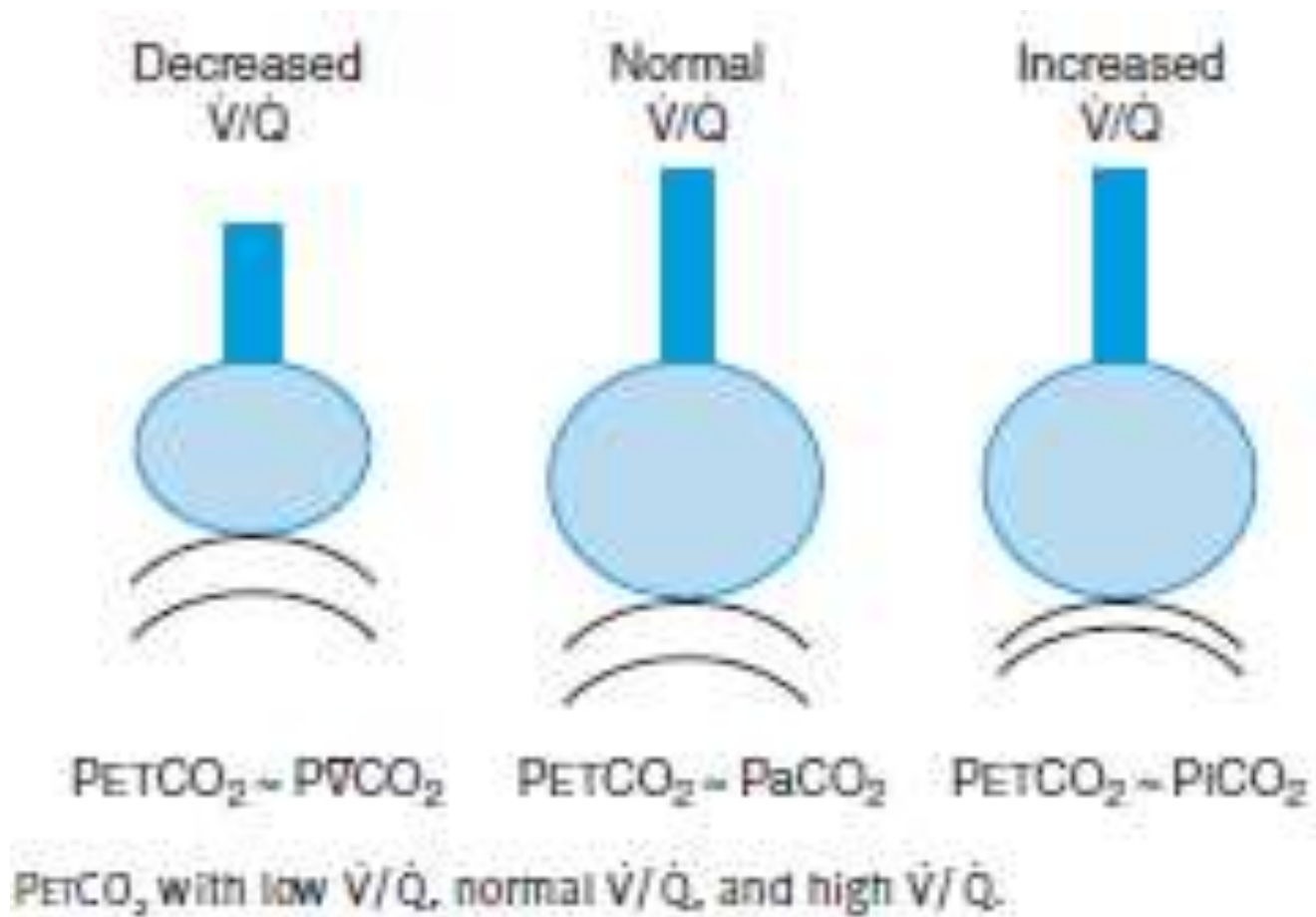
**PETCO<sub>2</sub> approximates peak PaCO<sub>2</sub>**



# Single breath CO<sub>2</sub> waveform

## CO<sub>2</sub> elimination as a function of the volume of the exhaled gas





# Management of ARF

- a. **Diagnosis & treatment of the underlying condition**
  
- b. **Respiratory support → adequate oxygenation to the tissues since hypoxaemia is deleterious and rapid reversal critical.**



# Respiratory support

- **Oxygen supplementation**
- **Mechanical ventilation**
- **Physical therapy**



# Why do we need MV?

- a. **ARF or imminent despitita maximal treatment**



# Why do we need MV?

- a. **ARF or imminent despitita maximal treatment**
- b. **Following major surgery in GA**



# Why do we need MV?

- a. **ARF or imminent despitita maximal treatment**
- b. **Following major surgery in GA**
- c. **Cardiogenic shock – to reduce the oxygen cost of ventilation when CO↓**



# Aspirations vs reality

## Ideally:

**MV would replicate the mechanics and physiology of spontaneous respiration reaching adequate oxygenation and ventilation.**



# Aspirations vs reality

## Ideally:

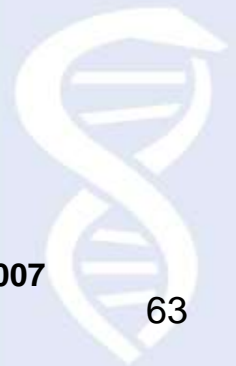
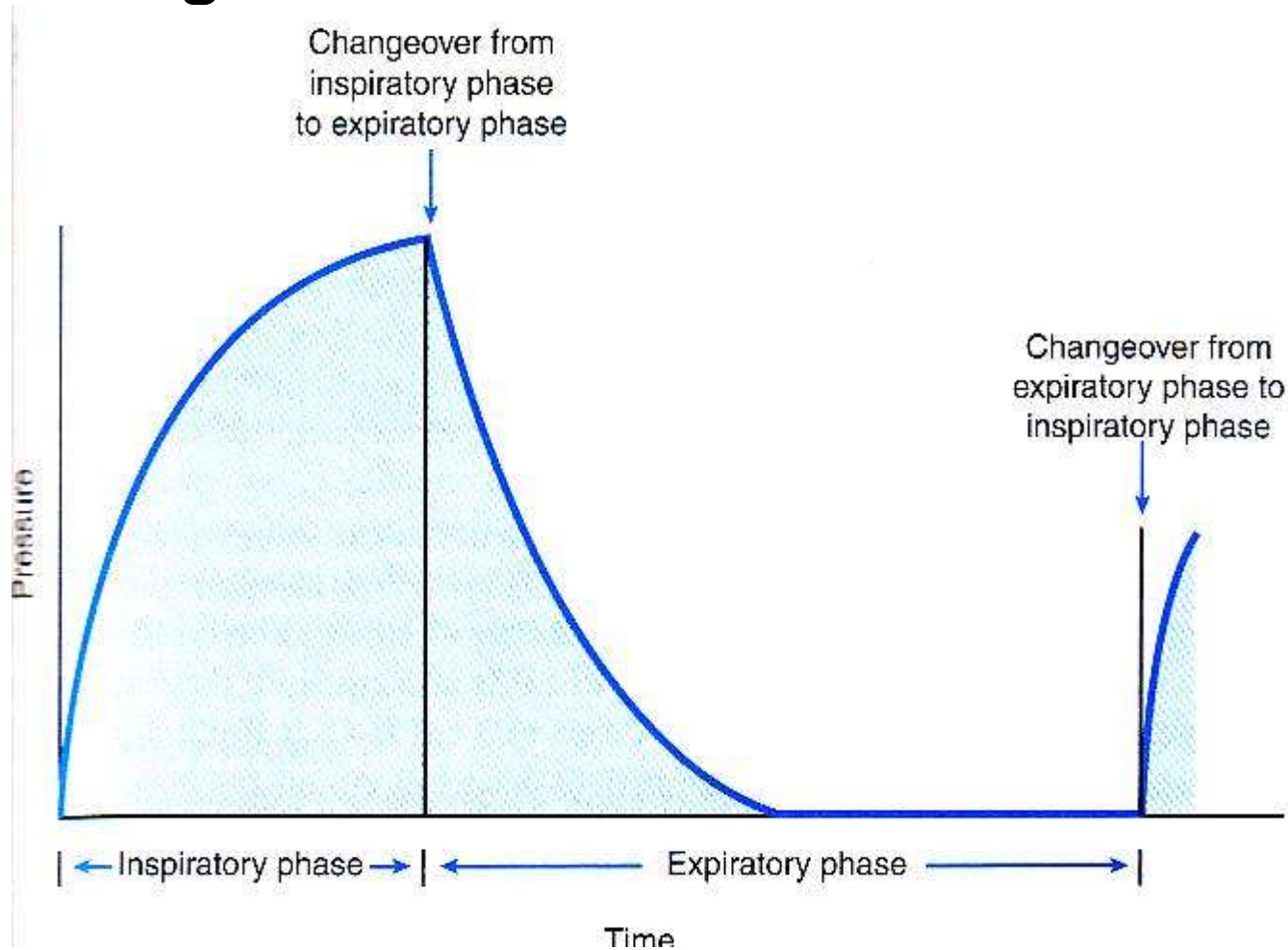
**MV would replicate the mechanics and physiology of spontaneous respiration reaching adequate oxygenation and ventilation.**

## Reality

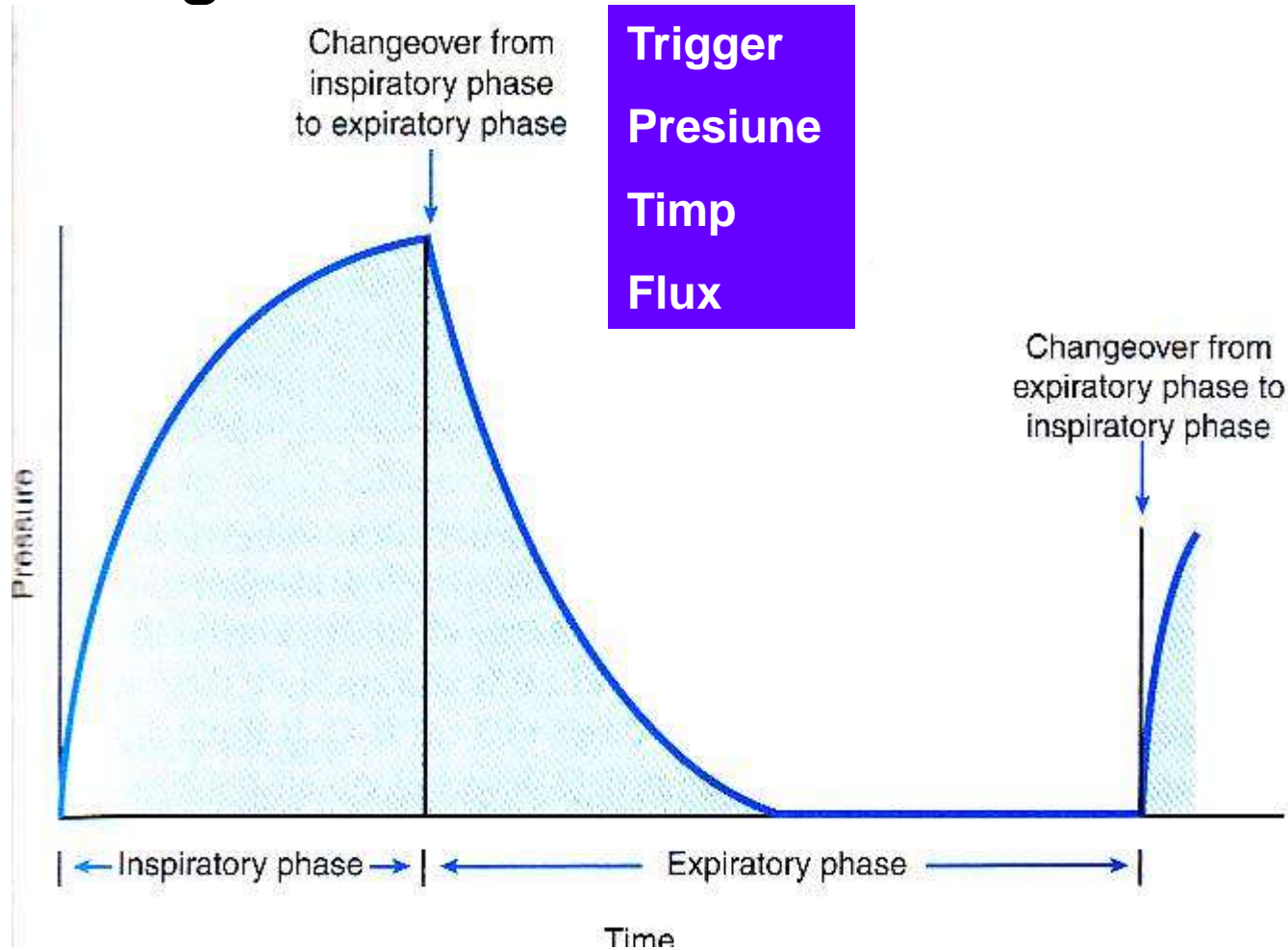
**MV works with positive pressure during inspiration, exhaling to atmospheric pressure or to a preset PEEP.**



# The 4 phases of the respiratory cycle during MV

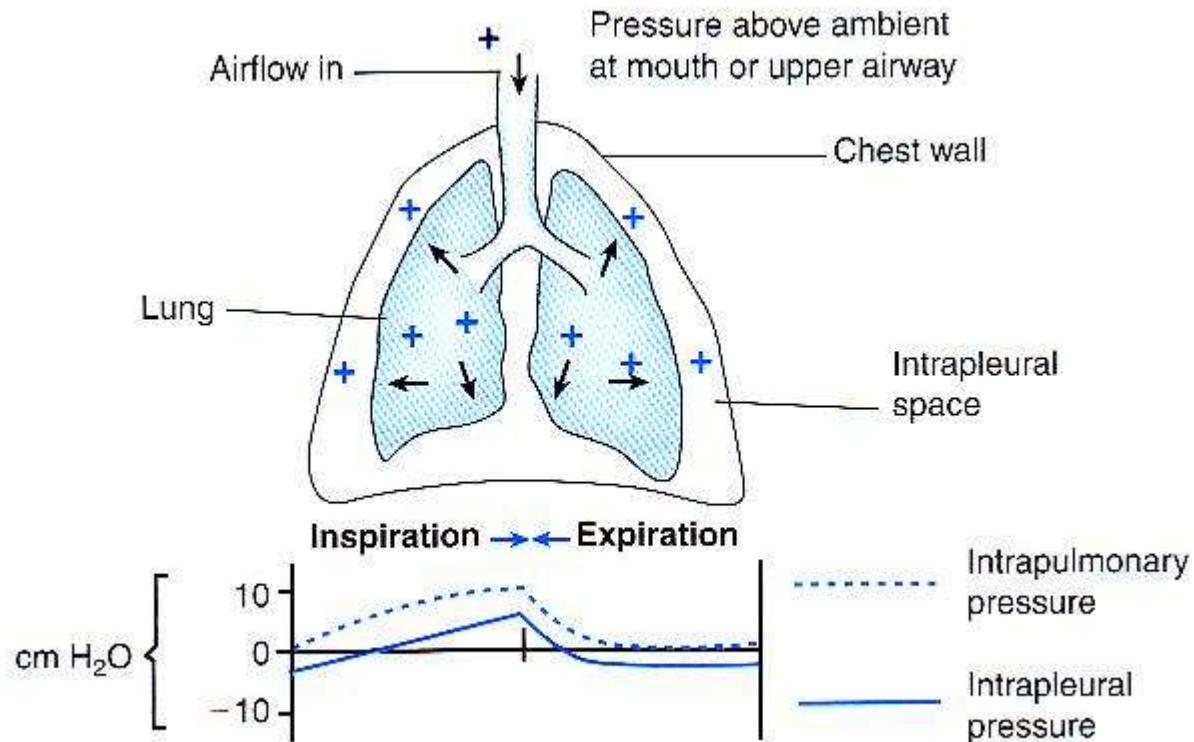


# The 4 phases of the respiratory cycle during MV

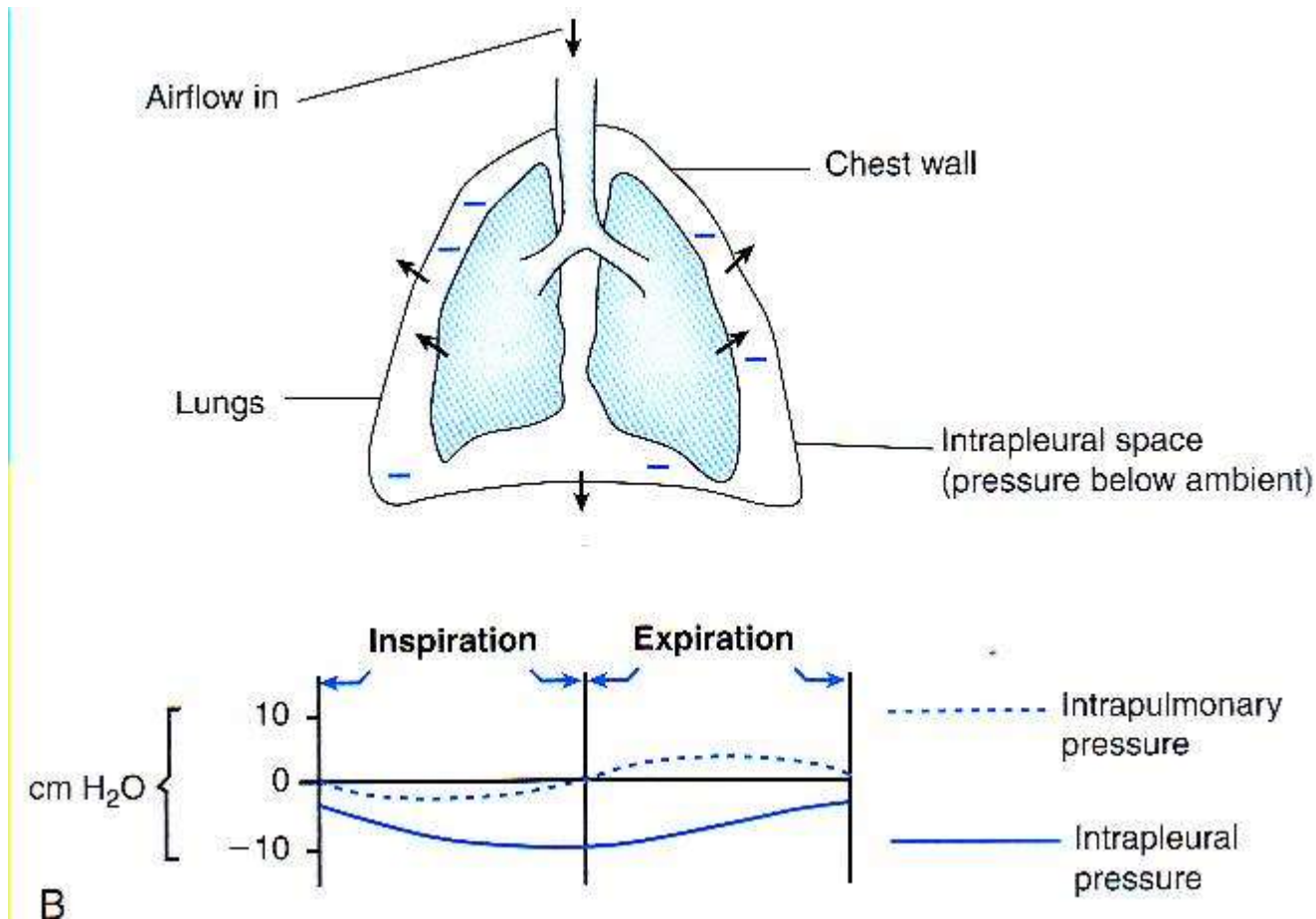




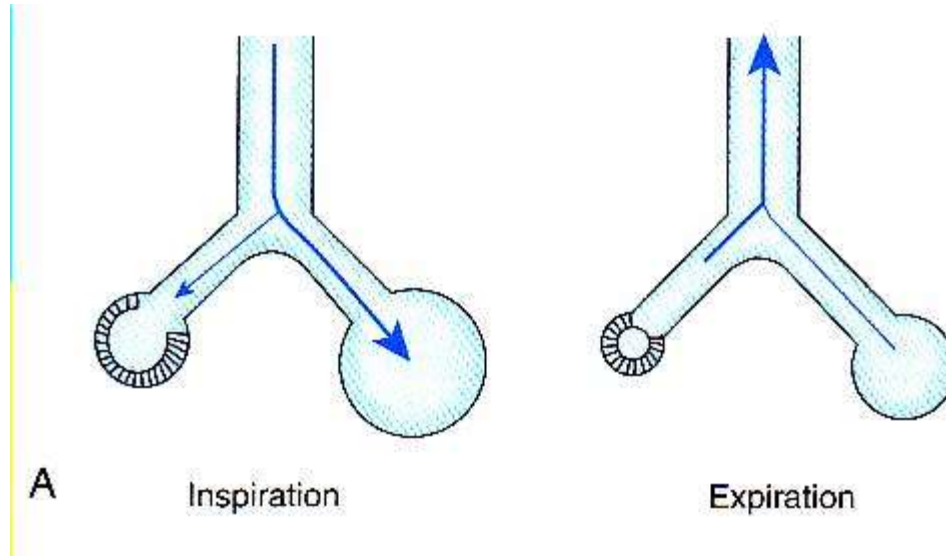
# Intrathoracic pressures during IPPV



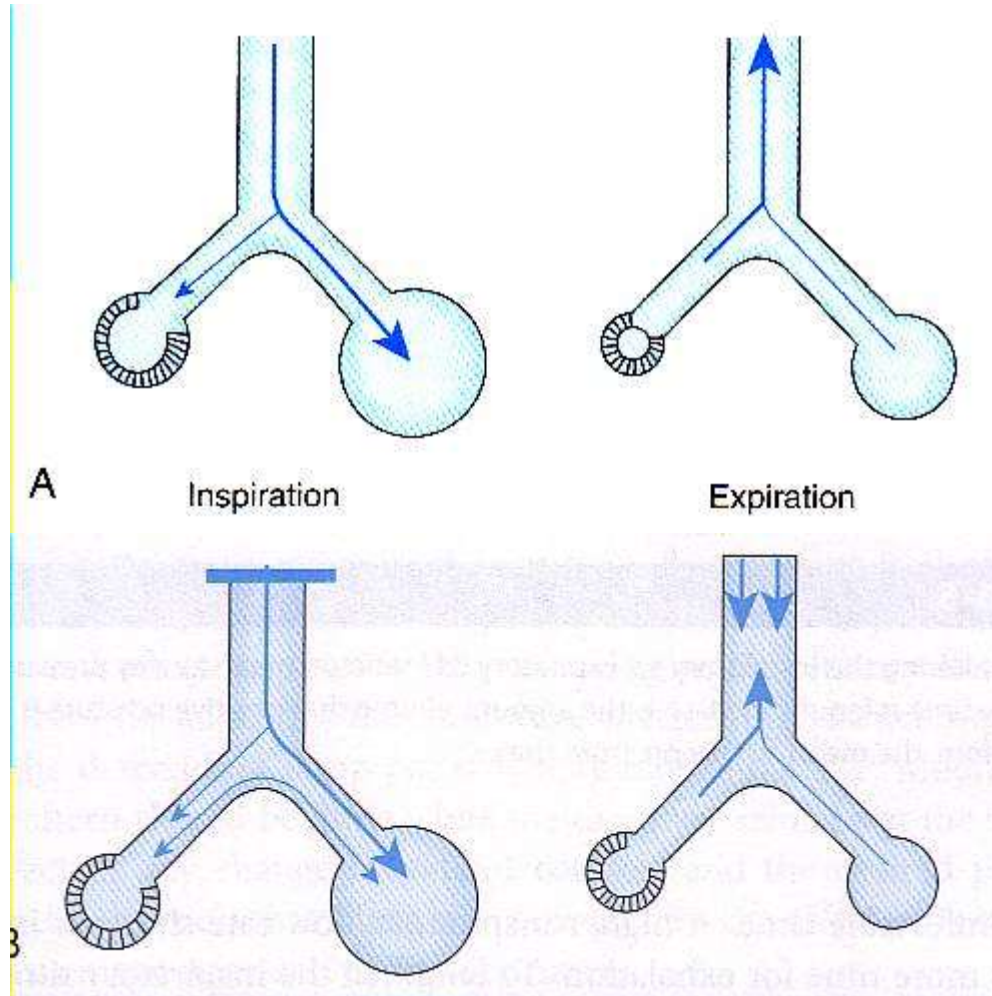
# Intrathoracic pressures during spontaneous ventilation



# Standard ventilation and IRV's effects on gas distribution in pulmonary units with variable time constants

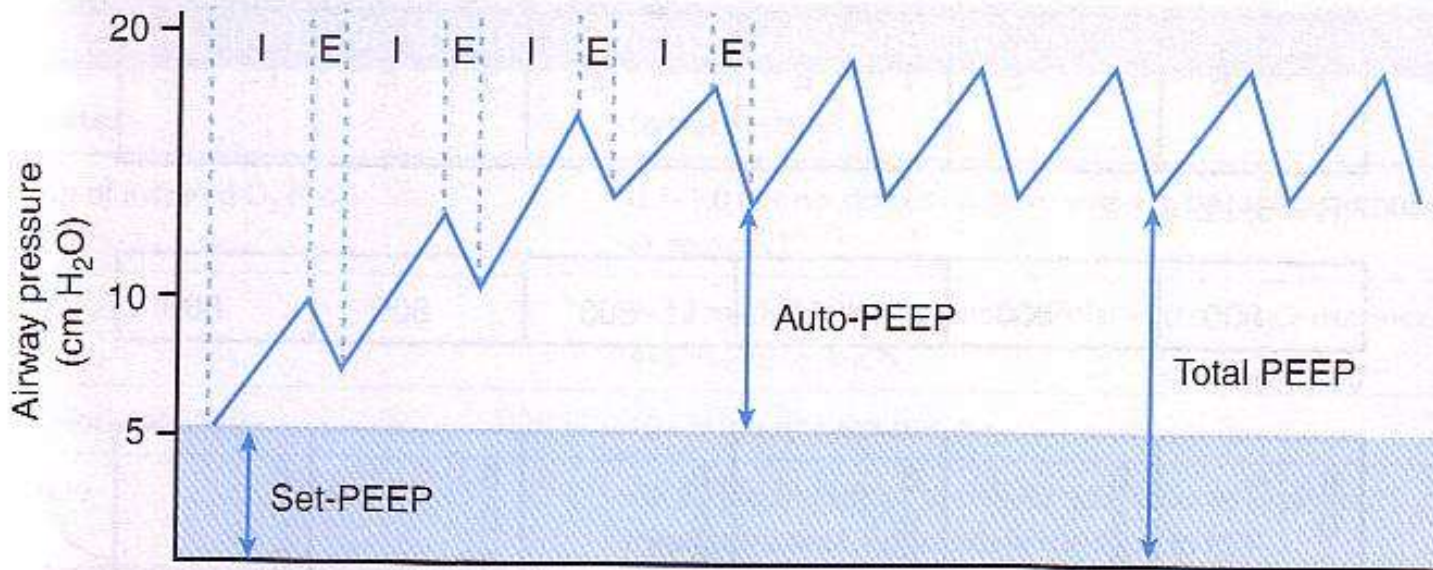


# Efectele ciclului respirator în ventilația standard și IRV asupra distribuției gazelor în unitățile pulmonare cu constante de timp variabile



# PEEP and auto PEEP associated to

IRV



# Adverse effects associated to MV

**PEEP**

**Hemodynamics**

**↓CO rapidly → ↓DO<sub>2</sub> due to ↑P intrathoracic**





# Adverse effects associated to MV

## PEEP

### Hemodynamics

↓CO rapidly → ↓DO<sub>2</sub> due to ↑P intrathoracic

↓CO due to ↓venous return as a consequence of an increase in transmural pressure

↑PVR due to the transmission of positive pressure to the alveoli → ↑RV afterload → ↓Rvemptying

As RV ESV ↑ → displacement of the interventricular septum → ↓diastolic filling of the LV → ↓CO



# Adverse effects associated to MV cont

## Treatment

**Intravascular volume replenishment +  
inotropics and vasoactive drugs**

**!!! For a PEEP  $\geq$  10cmH<sub>2</sub>O use a Swan Ganz  
catheter**





# Adverse effects associated to MV

## Hemodynamics cont

↑ intrathoracic pressure may improve LV function by effectively ↓ afterload

Sudden disconnection from MV may speed up the flash pulmonary oedema by an acute of afterload + ↑ venous return

↑ Ventilated zones vs perfused due to an ↑ intrathoracic pressure + supine ↑  $V/Q > 1$   
↑ dead space

↑ Dyspnoea, anxiety, discomfort due to inadequate support → stress related catecholamine release → ↑ myocardial oxygen demand, ↑ arrhythmia risk



# Adverse effects associated to MVcont

## Physical effectsh– mechanical

**Barotrauma** – overdistention, ↑peak inspiratory pressure. Incid 7-25%

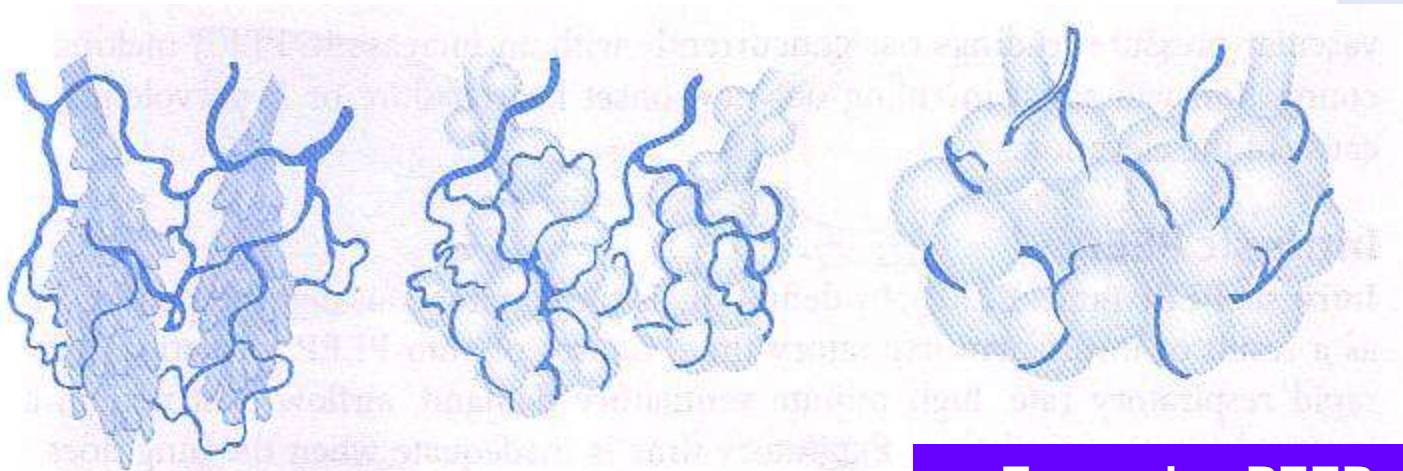
**Incid of pneumothorax identical for HFJV and standard MV**

**Carbon GC et al, Chest 1983; 84;551  
Gluch HE et al , Chest 1993; 103: 1413**



# Adverse effects associated to MVcont

## Inhomogenous ventilation due to PEEP



**Atelectatic alveolus  
before PEEP**

**Optimal PEEP**

**Excessive PEEP  
overdistending  
alveoli and  
compressing the  
capillaries → dead**

**Procesele necrotizante → ↑incidenței barotraumei**

# Adverse effects associated to MV cont

## VILI ventilation induced lung injury

**Cause: excessive distention**

- **Alveoli rupture**
  - **Pneumomediastinum**
  - **Pneumopericardium**
  - **Subcutaneous emphysema**
  - **Pneumothorax**
  - **Gaseous emboli**



# Adverse effects associated to MV cont

- parenchymal injury for transpulmonary distension pressures  $>30-35\text{cmH}_2\text{O}$  = diffuse alveolar injuries ,  
↑↑cytokines, **bacterial translocation**
- Friction forces – repetitive opening/closure of the alveoli (collapse)
- Acceleration of the initial rapid flows in the lungs
- The concept of “**protective ventilation**” with values  $<$  normal

**cont**

## **Desincronizarea pacient/ventilator**

**3 faze ale ciclului respirator asistat: trigger, target, cycle**

**Oricare în contratimp → oboseală musculară**



**Lupta cu ventilatorul**



**Sedare excesivă**



**↑ suportului ventilator**



# Efectele adverse asociate VM cont

## Desincronizarea pacient/ventilator

**3 faze ale ciclului respirator asistat: trigger, target, cycle**

**Oricare în contratimp → oboseală musculară**



# Efectele adverse asociate VM cont

## Desincronizarea pacient/ventilator

3 faze ale ciclului respirator asistat: trigger, target, cycle

Oricare în contratimp → oboseală musculară



Lupta cu ventilatorul





# Adverse effects associated to MV control

## Patient/ventilator dysynchrony

3 phases of the assisted respiratory cycle : trigger, target, cycle

Any counter time → muscular fatigue



**Fighting the ventilator**



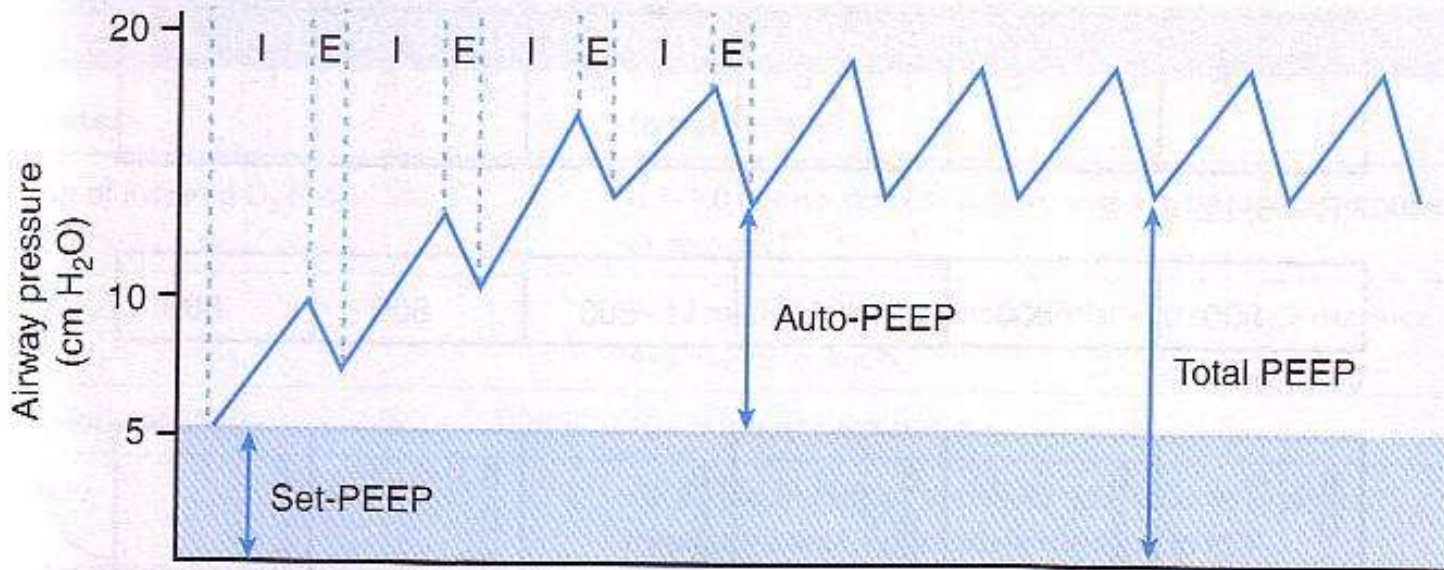
**Excessive sedation**



**↑ventilatory support**



# PEEP and auto PEEP associated IRV



**Total PEEP total = auto PEEP + preset PEEP**

# Adverse effects associated to MVcont

## Hyperoxygenation injury

## Health related infections

- Protective mechanism of glottis eliminated → continuous flow of the oropharyngeal secretions into the trachea.
- Atracheal cannula triggers cough reflex = pathogens entry site – circuit contamination
- Parenchymal injury responsible for MV and treatment of complications opens the way to infections
- ICU – antibiotics heavily, severe patients APACHE 2 > 26, SOFA > 4
- VAP

**Theretically and virtually , all pts with a TC are colonnized with the prevalent germ within 48**

**hours** MacInyre, *Anesthesia & Intensive Care* 2014, 6th Ed, JL Vincent et al Elsevier Saunders 2011

# VAP prevention

**Antibiotic strategies**

**Manipulating the circuits – change only if visible contamination**

**Subglottic continuous drainage**

**BAL – inaccurate, confounding**

**Gastrointestinal hemorrhage**

# Why VM?



# Why VM?

