

Respiratory Failure

Department of Internal medicine
Division of Pneumology and Allergology

Chesov Dumitru, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor

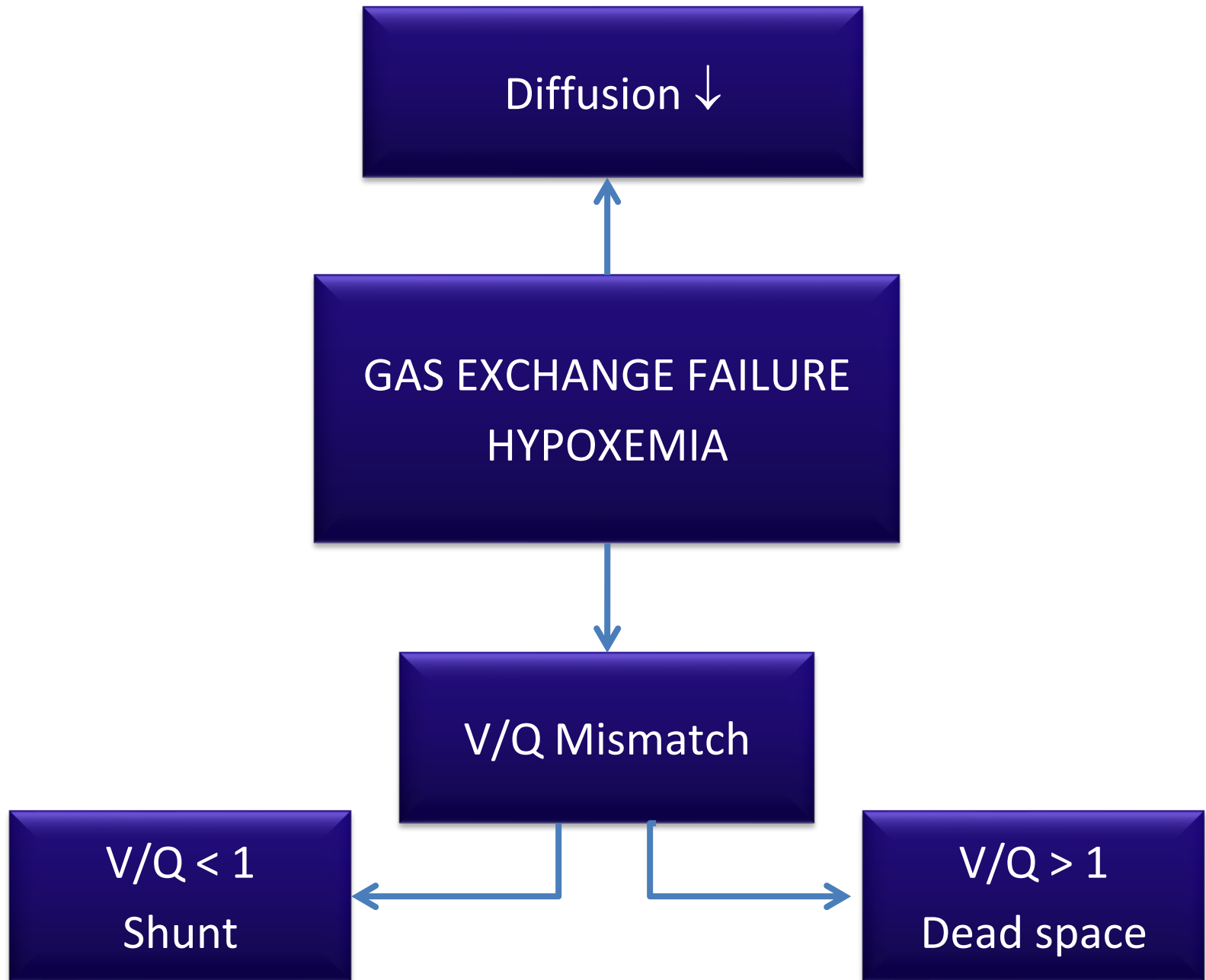
Definition

Respiratory failure syndrome

Inability (failure) of lung to ensure the gas exchange between air and blood.

$\text{PaO}_2 < 60$ mmHg or $\text{PaCO}_2 > 45$ mmHg

Pathogenesis



PUMP FAILURE
HYPERCAPNIA

```
graph TD; A[PUMP FAILURE  
HYPERCAPNIA] --> B["V/Q < 1  
V↓ < 60%"]; A --> C[Hypoventilation];
```

A flowchart with a central box at the top containing the text 'PUMP FAILURE' and 'HYPERCAPNIA'. Two arrows originate from the bottom of this box. The left arrow points to a box on the bottom left containing 'V/Q < 1' and 'V↓ < 60%'. The right arrow points to a box on the bottom right containing the text 'Hypoventilation'.

$V/Q < 1$
 $V\downarrow < 60\%$

Hypoventilation

Classification of RF

Type of disturbance of gas exchange

Type 1

- Hypoxemic RF
- $\text{PaO}_2 < 60 \text{ mmHg}$
- normal or \downarrow PaCO_2

Type 2

- Hypercapnic RF
- $\text{PaCO}_2 > 50 \text{ mmHg}$
- Hypoxemia is common

Classification of RF

Speed of development

Acute RF

- Develops over minutes to hours
- ↓ pH quickly to <7.2

Chronic RF

- Develops over days
- ↑ in HCO_3
- ↓ pH slightly

Classification of RF

Severity of Hipoxemia

- **Grade I** PaO₂ **60-79** mm Hg; SaO₂ **≥ 90-94%**
- **Grade II** PaO₂ **40-59** mm Hg; SaO₂ **≥ 75-89%**
- **Grade III** PaO₂ **< 40** mm Hg; SaO₂ **< 75%**

Clinical assessment of RF

RF - patient assessment

- History
- Physical exam
 - cyanosis, dyspnea, conscience impairment
 - compensatory CV signs,
 - manifestations of cor pulmonale (acute or chronic)
- Test: Rx, HRCT, ECG, EcoCG, Spirometry, DLCO, etc.

RF - patient assessment

- SaO₂ assessment
 - SaO₂ < 90-92%
- Gas exchange assessment
 - PaO₂, PaCO₂
- Assessment of acid - base and electrolytes disturbances
 - pH, HCO₃⁻, Na⁺, Cl⁻
- Assessment of complications

RF - patient assessment

- SaO₂ assessment
 - SaO₂ < 90-92%
- Gas exchange assessment
 - PaO₂, PaCO₂
- Assessment of acid - base and electrolytes disturbances
 - pH, HCO₃⁻, Na⁺, Cl⁻
- Assessment of complications

Gas exchange assessment

Case 1 PaO₂ = 70 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 60 mm Hg

Case 2 PaO₂ = 69 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 40 mm Hg

Case 3 PaO₂ = 50 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 20 mm Hg

Case 4 PaO₂ = 50 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 50 mm Hg

Case 5 PaO₂ = 48 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 42 mm Hg



Gas exchange assessment

Alveolar-arterial oxygen gradient

- $P_{A-aO_2} = [(P_B - P_{H_2O}) * Fi_{O_2} - P_{aCO_2} / R] - P_aO_2$
 - P_B – barometric pressure
 - P_{H_2O} - Partial pressure of H_2O vapors
 - Fi_{O_2} Fraction of O_2 in inhaled air
 - R - respiratory coefficient ($\approx 0,8$)

Gas exchange assessment

“130” rule

$\text{PaO}_2 + \text{PaCO}_2 = 130$ ($\text{FiO}_2 = 0,21$; at sea level)

$$P_{A-a\text{O}_2} = 130 - (\text{PaO}_2 + \text{PaCO}_2)$$

Normal value $P_{A-a\text{O}_2} < 15$ mmHg
 < 20 mmHg (old person)

Gas exchange assessment

Case 1 PaO₂ = 70 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 60 mm Hg

Case 2 PaO₂ = 69 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 40 mm Hg

Case 3 PaO₂ = 50 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 20 mm Hg

Case 4 PaO₂ = 50 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 50 mm Hg

Case 5 PaO₂ = 48 mm Hg; PaCO₂ = 42 mm Hg



Gas exchange assessment

- Comparing of ABG obtained at different FiO_2
- $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2$
- $\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 < 200 \rightarrow \text{ARDS}$

RF - patient assessment

- SaO₂ assessment
 - SaO₂ < 90-92%
- Gas exchange assessment
 - PaO₂, PaCO₂
- Assessment of acid - base and electrolytes disturbances
 - pH, HCO₃⁻, Na⁺, Cl⁻
- Assessment of complications

Normal values

- pH 7,35-7,45
- PaO₂ >80 mmHg
- PaCO₂ 35-45 mmHg
- HCO₃ 22-28 mmol/l

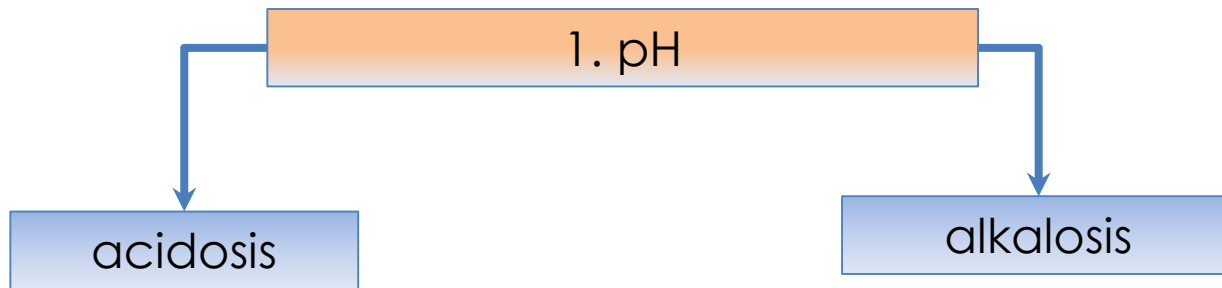
71 years old male – clinical case

- pH 7.25
- CO₂ 31
- HCO₃⁻ 13

- P_aO₂ 62
- SpO₂ 91% Ia 4L O₂

- Na⁺ 143 K⁻ 4.2 Cl⁻ 113

ABD assessment algorithm



ABD assessment algorithm

1. Assess pH

pH < 7.35

- pH 7.25
- CO₂ 31
- HCO₃⁻ 13

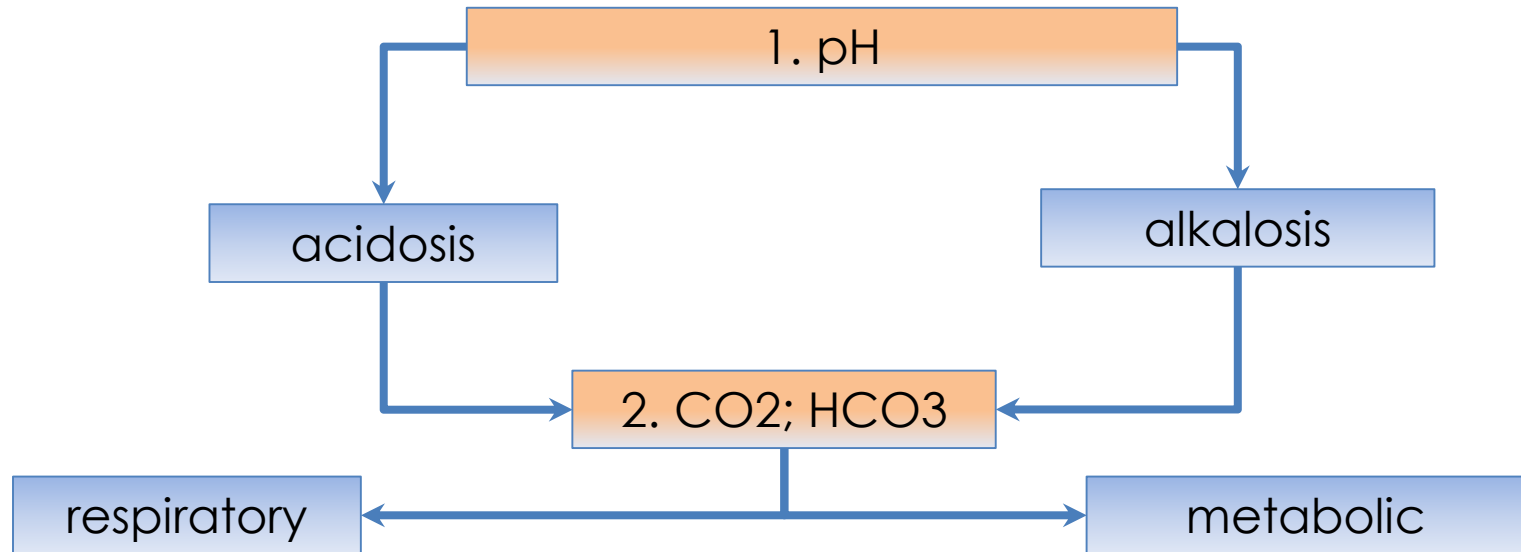
pH > 7.45

- P_aO₂ 62
- SpO₂ 91% Ia 4L O₂

pH normal

- Na⁺ 143 K⁻ 4.2 Cl⁻ 113

ABD assessment algorithm

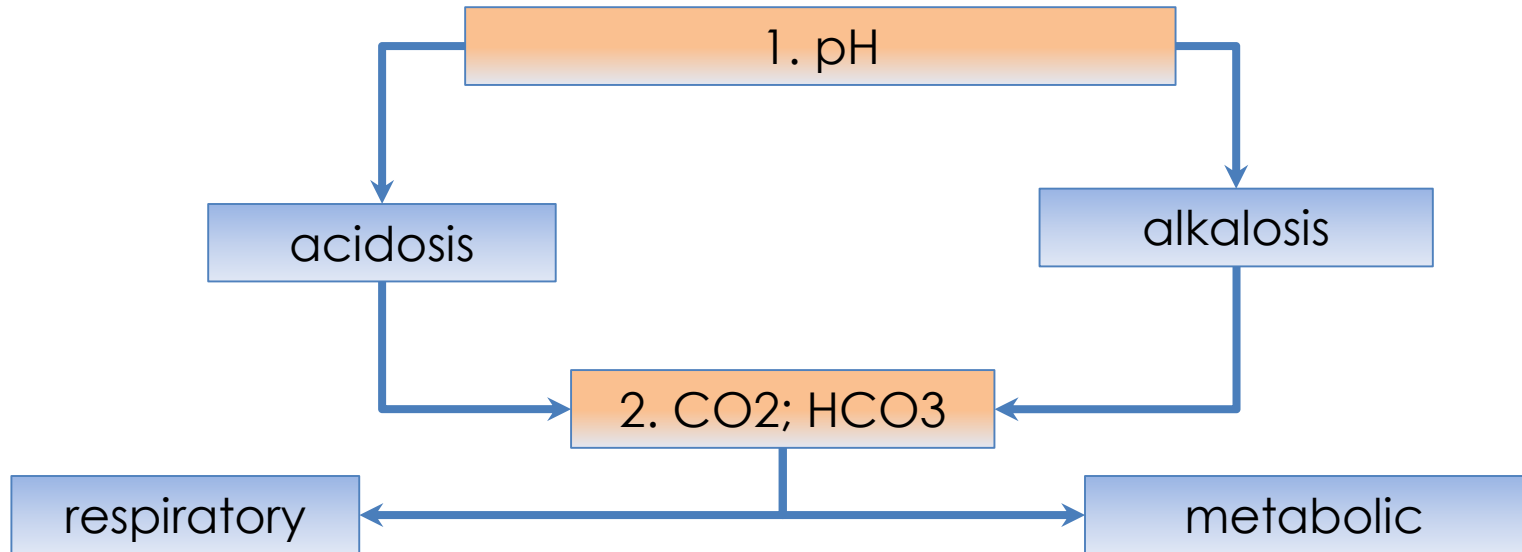


ABD assessment algorithm

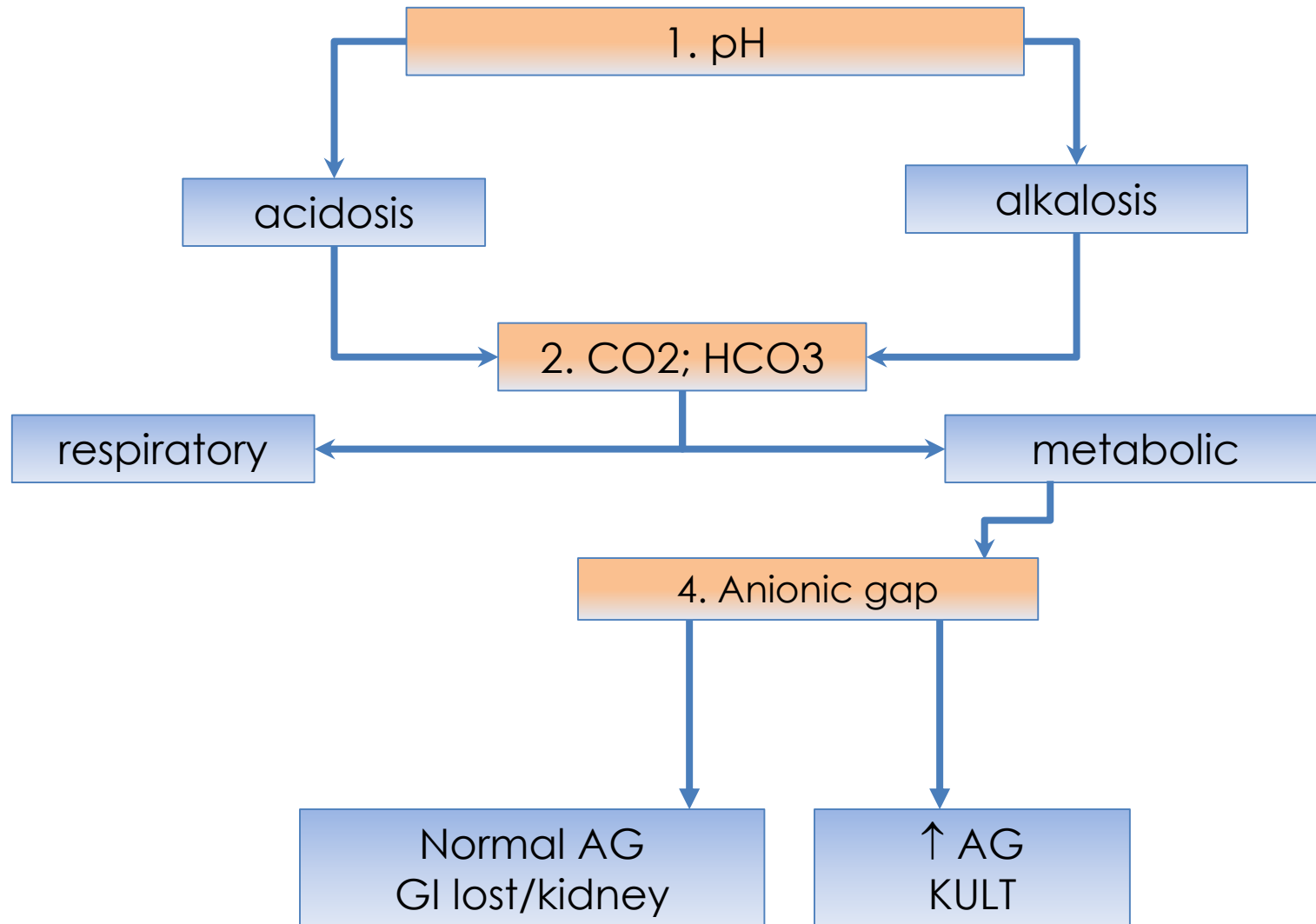
2. Assess PaCO₂, HCO₃⁻

- If PaCO₂ is changed in direction of pH-ului DEAB than ABD is respiratory
- If HCO₃⁻ is changed in direction of pH-ului DEAB than ABD is metabolic
- pH 7.25
- CO₂ 31
- HCO₃⁻ 13
- P_aO₂ 62
- SpO₂ 91% la 4L O₂
- Na⁺ 143 K⁻ 4.2 Cl⁻ 113

ABD assessment algorithm



ABD assessment algorithm



Evaluarea DEAB

5. If Metabolic acidosis assess Anion gap

Anion gap = $[\text{Na}] - ([\text{Cl}^-] + [\text{HCO}_3^-])$

- GA > 16

Ketoacidosis, Uremia,
Lactic acidosis, Toxins

- GA - normal, - diarrhea, RTA

- pH 7.25
- CO₂ 31
- HCO₃⁻ 13
- P_aO₂ 62
- SpO₂ 91% la 4L O₂
- Na⁺ 143 K⁻ 4.2 Cl⁻ 113

RF - patient assessment

- SaO₂ assessment
 - SaO₂ < 90-92%
- Gas exchange assessment
 - PaO₂, PaCO₂
- Assessment of acid - base and electrolytes disturbances
 - pH, HCO₃⁻, Na⁺, Cl⁻
- Assessment of complications

RF complications acute/chronic

- Pulmonary hypertension
- Cor pulmonale
- Polycythemia
- Cachexia
- Respiratory muscle dysfunction
- Death by RF

RF Management

- Treatment of the cause
 - Bronchial permeability - Bronchodilators (β -agonists, Xantines, GCS)
 - Infection control- antibiotics
 - Right heart failure – diuretics
- Removing and prevention of hypoxemia
- Control of PaCO_2 and respiratory acidosis
- Monitoring and treatment of CV and CNS manifestations

Removing of Hypoxemia

- Increase of FiO_2 (Oxygenotherapy)
 - Lower V/Q less efficient O_2 -therapy
- Recruitment of ventilatory space
 - CPAP, NIV (BIPAP), IMV

P_aCO_2 Control

- Augmentation of minute volume (assisted ventilation- V, P, FR)
 - Noninvasive ventilation with negative pressure
 - Noninvasive ventilation with positive pressure (NIV)
 - Invasive ventilation with positive pressure (IMV)

No PEEP applied. 8 cm H₂O of auto-PEEP

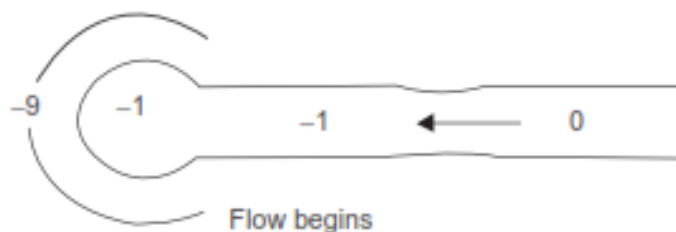
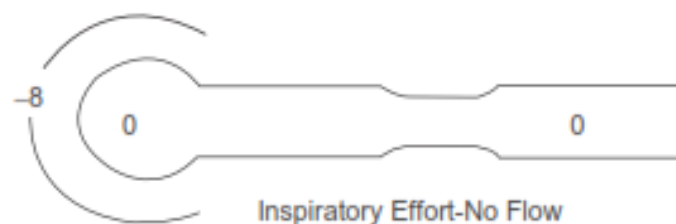
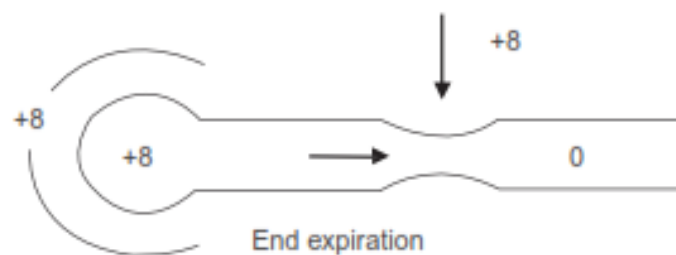
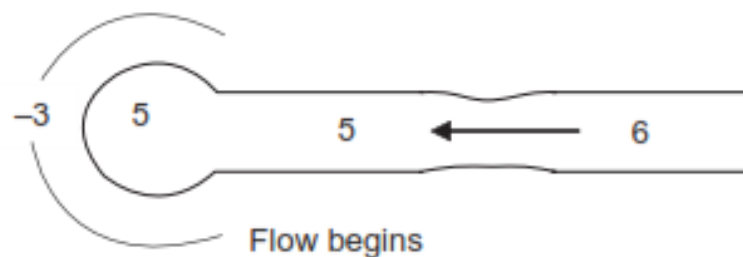
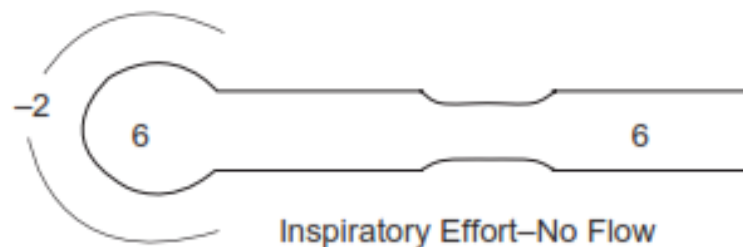
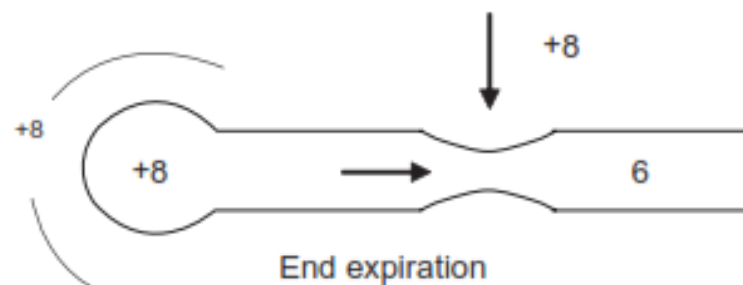


Figure 2A Effect of auto-PEEP on work of breathing (WOB). In the presence of airflow obstruction the alveoli remain inflated at end expiration. This results in alveolar pres-

+6 cm H₂O of extrinsic PEEP. 8 cm H₂O of auto-PEEP



Oxygen-therapy in
Acute respiratory failure
or
Acute on chronic

O₂ în acute RF

All hypoxemic patients

Oxygen is a treatment for hypoxemia not for breathless

- SaO₂ target - 94-98%,
(simple mask, cannula, in critical patients - reservoir mask)
- Risk for hypercapnia SaO₂ target - 88-92%, (Venturi mask - 28%)
 - Excepting critical patients,
 - Excepting prior episodes of IR tip II, NIV, IPPV
- Assess ABG
- If hypercapnia or acidosis ventilatory support
- Assess ABG after 30-60 min
- Reduced O₂ in stable patients with satisfactory SaO₂

Patients at risk for hypercapnia

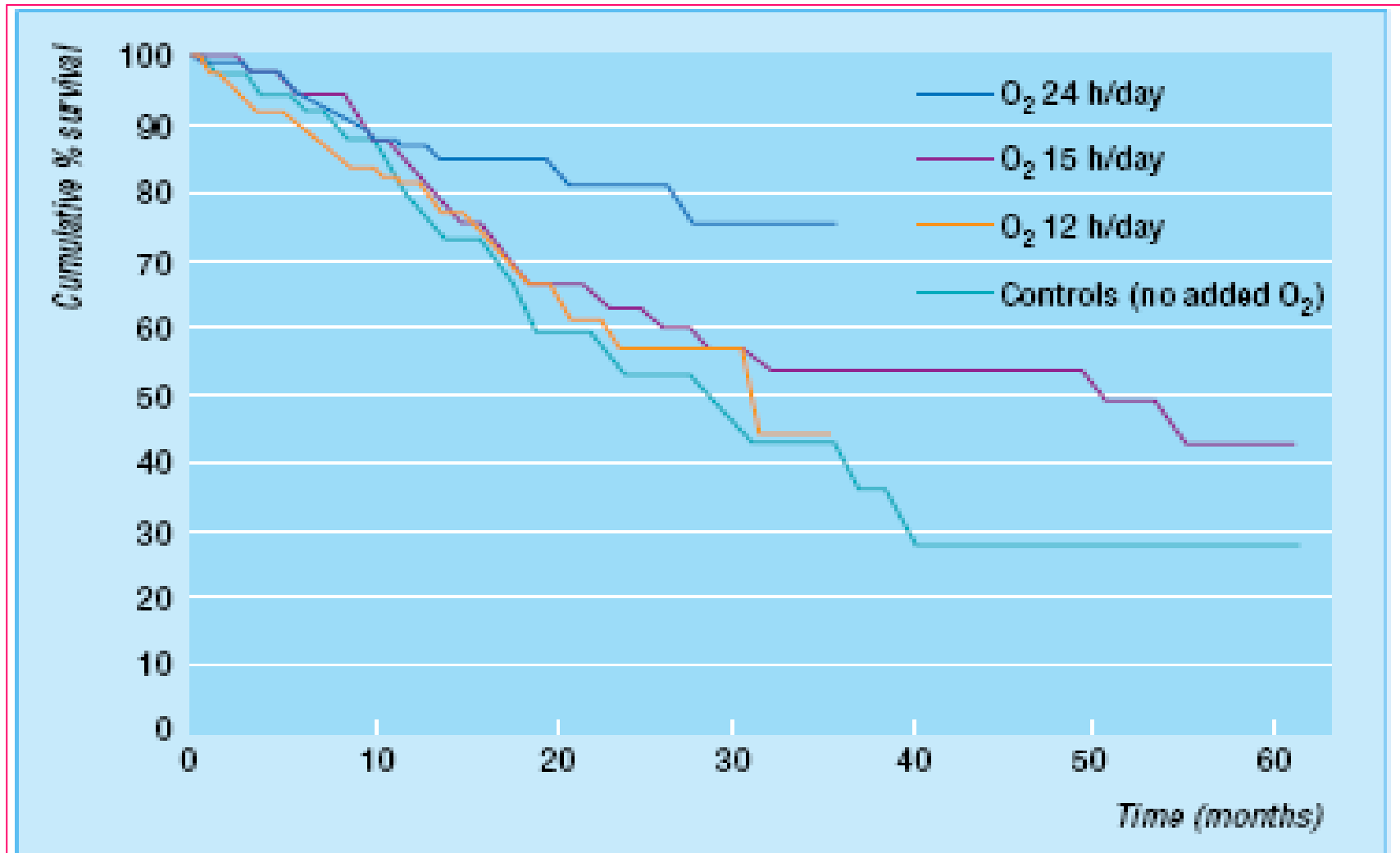
- COPD
- Exacerbation of cystic fibrosis
- Chronic neuromuscular diseases
- Diseases of chest wall or spine
- Morbid obesity

Oxygen-therapy in Chronic RF

Long term oxygentherapy

- 10-12h at night-for paradoxical sleep dessaturation
- Daily after meals up to 15h
- Use exercise
- Improvement: exercise tolerance, life expectancy, intellectual performance

British Medical Research Council Domiciliary (BMRC D)



Indications for LOT

At rest

- $\text{PaO}_2 < 55 \text{ mmHg}$ or $\text{SaO}_2 < 88\%$
- PaO_2 56-59 mmHg or SaO_2 - 89% și
 - Right heart failure
 - Chronic cor pulmonale
 - Polycitemia ($\text{Ht} > 56\%$)

At rest

- $\text{PaO}_2 > 59\% \text{ mmHg}$ or $\text{SaO}_2 > 89\%$

BUT

- During sleep
 - $\text{SaO}_2 < 90\%$, for 30% of the entire duration of sleep (improved by O₂)
- At exertion
 - $\text{SaO}_2 < 90\%$, during 6MWT, (improved by O₂)

CPAP in acute RF

- Acute Pulmonary Edema
- Decompensated obstructive sleep apnoea
- Patients with chest wall trauma who remain hypoxic despite adequate regional anaesthesia and high flow oxygen (only in ICU)
- CAP who remain hypoxic despite maximum medical treatment oxygen (only in ICU)



NIV Acute RF

Patients

- COPD
- Chest wall deformity, neuromuscular disorder,
- Decompensated OSA
- Cardiogenic pulmonary oedema, unresponsive to CPAP

Blood gases

- Respiratory acidosis ($\text{pH} < 7.35$; $\text{PaCO}_2 > 35$ mm Hg) which persists despite maximal medical treatment and appropriate controlled oxygen therapy
- patients with $\text{pH} < 7.25$ respond less well and should be managed in an HDU/ICU).
- Low $A\text{-}a$ oxygen gradient (patients

Clinical state

- Sick but not moribund
- Able to protect airway
- Conscious and cooperative
- Haemodynamically stable
- No excessive respiratory secretions
- Few co-morbidities

Contraindications excluded

- Facial burns/trauma/recent facial or upper airway surgery
- Vomiting
- Fixed upper airway obstruction
- Undrained pneumothorax

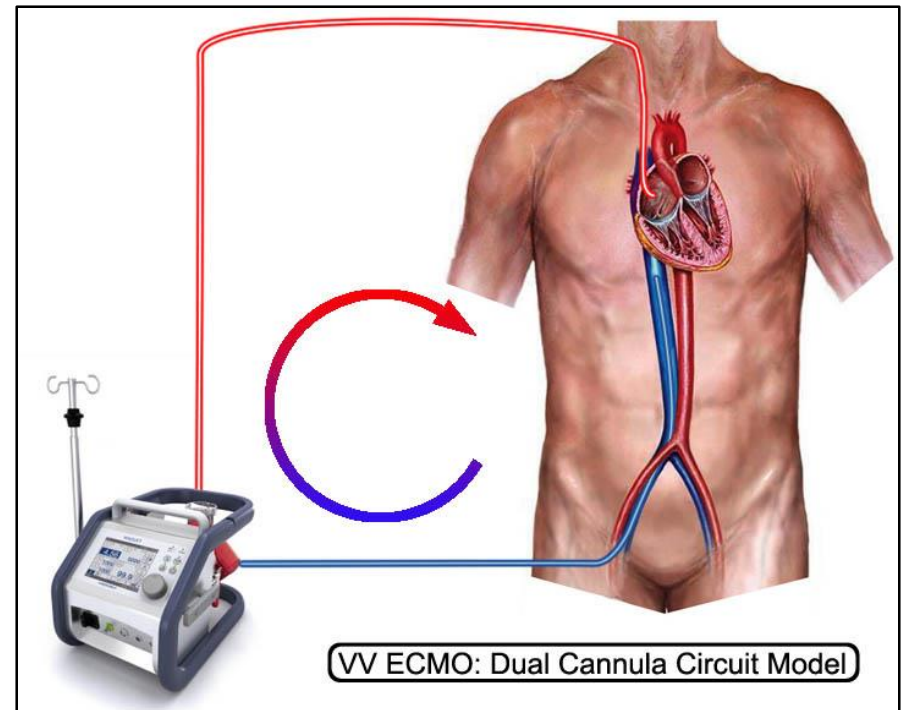
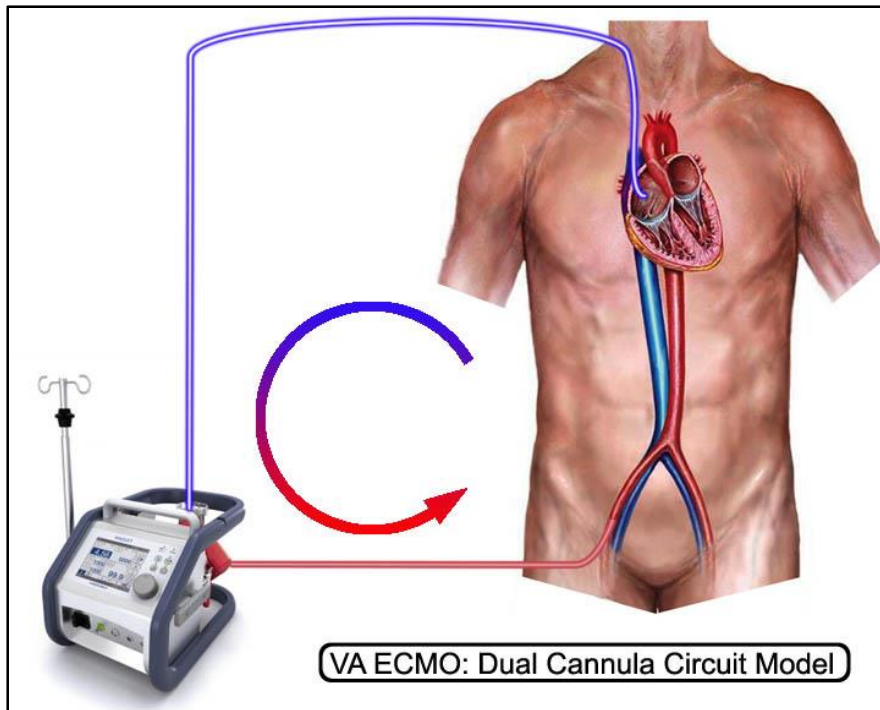
No efficacy after 1-2 hours → intubation

managed by tracheal intubation)

Indication for IMV

- Respiratory failure
 - pH: <7.25
 - PaCO₂: >50 mmHg
 - PaO₂: <50mmHg
- Fixed upper airway obstruction (also potential)
- Inefficient respiratory movement
- Impaired conscience

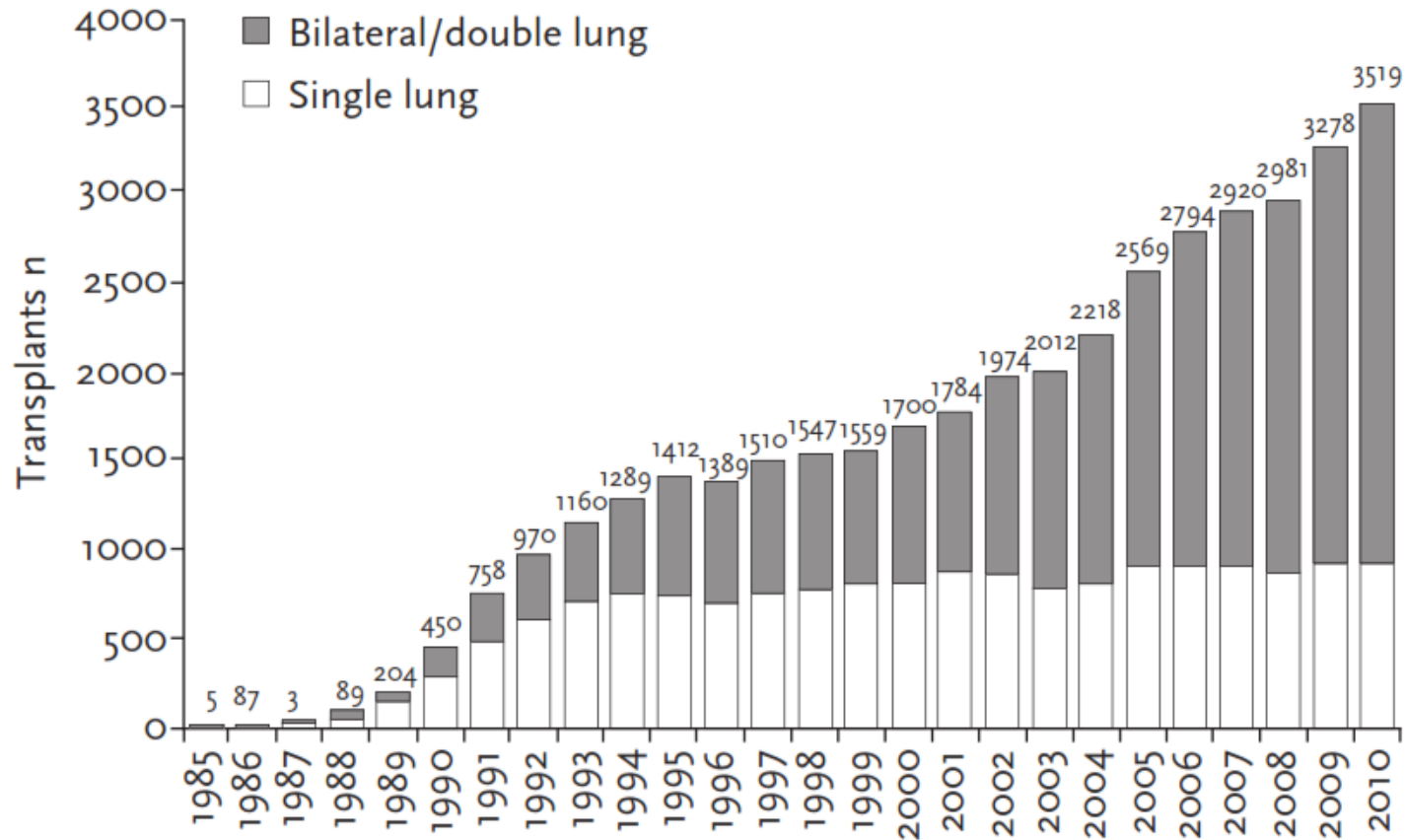
Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation ECMO



NIV in chronic RF

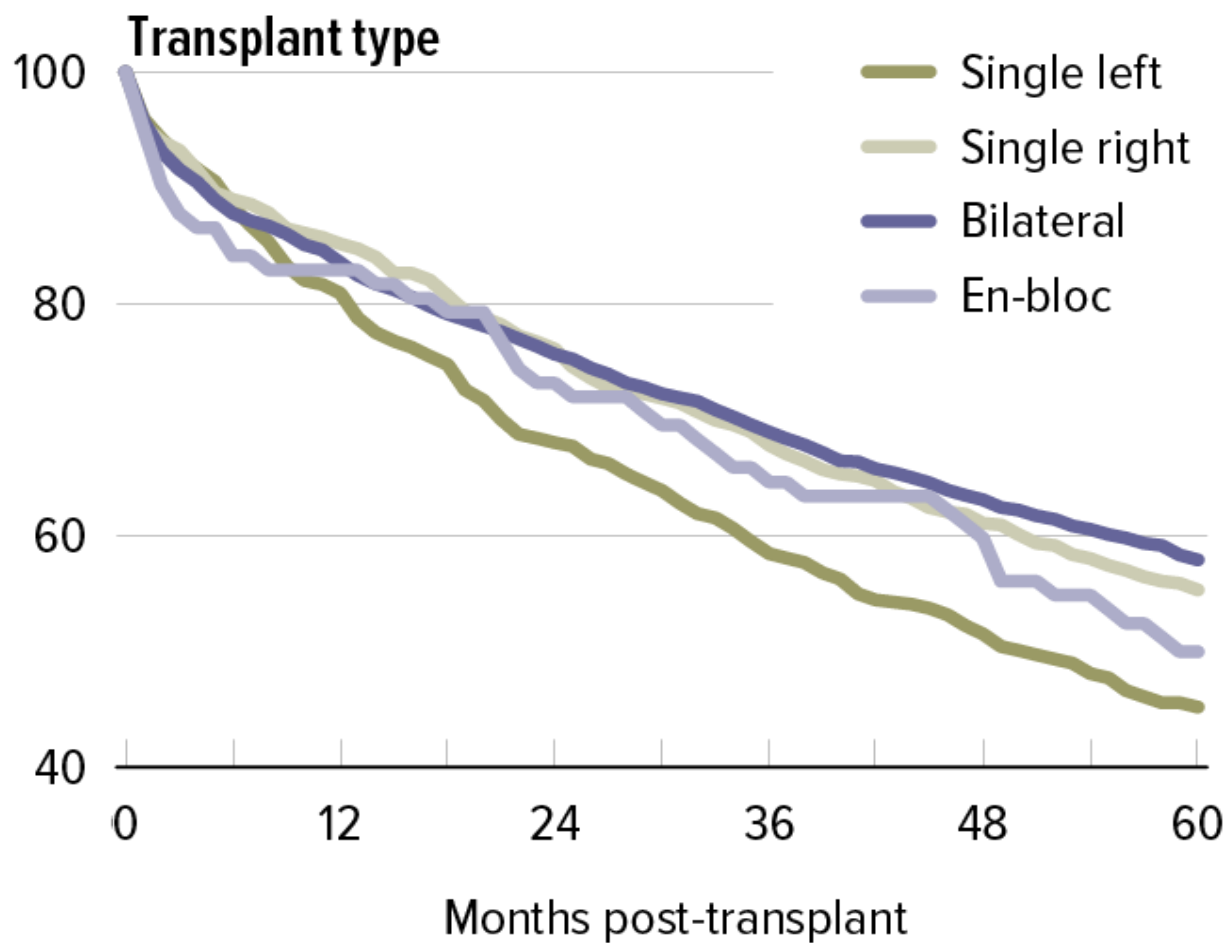
- Hypercapnic respiratory failure secondary to:
 - Spinal cord lesion
 - Neuromuscular diseases
 - Chest wall deformity (e.g. scoliosis, thoracoplasty)
 - Morbid obesity (BMI >30)
- COPD with:
 - Recurrent AHRF (>3 episodes) requiring treatment with NIV
 - Intolerance of supplementary oxygen (because of CO₂ retention) with symptomatic sleep disturbance
- Failure to wean from NIV

Pulmonary transplant



- Unipulmonar Bipulmonar Cardiopulmonar

Supraviețuirea posttransplant



Thank you