



# Evidence-based management of ARDS

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CORE TOPICS, NOTTINGHAM

# Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

“A spectrum of lung diseases characterised by a severe inflammatory process causing diffuse alveolar damage and resulting in a variable degree of ventilation perfusion mismatch, severe hypoxaemia and poor lung compliance”

2013

**Table 3.** The Berlin Definition of Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome	
Timing	Within 1 week of a known clinical insult or new or worsening respiratory symptoms
Chest imaging <sup>a</sup>	Bilateral opacities—not fully explained by effusions, lobar/lung collapse, or nodules
Origin of edema	Respiratory failure not fully explained by cardiac failure or fluid overload Need objective assessment (eg, echocardiography) to exclude hydrostatic edema if no risk factor present
Oxygenation <sup>b</sup>	
Mild	$200 \text{ mm Hg} < \text{PaO}_2/\text{FIO}_2 \leq 300 \text{ mm Hg}$ with PEEP or CPAP $\geq 5 \text{ cm H}_2\text{O}^c$
Moderate	$100 \text{ mm Hg} < \text{PaO}_2/\text{FIO}_2 \leq 200 \text{ mm Hg}$ with PEEP $\geq 5 \text{ cm H}_2\text{O}$
Severe	$\text{PaO}_2/\text{FIO}_2 \leq 100 \text{ mm Hg}$ with PEEP $\geq 5 \text{ cm H}_2\text{O}$

Abbreviations: CPAP, continuous positive airway pressure; FIO<sub>2</sub>, fraction of inspired oxygen; PaO<sub>2</sub>, partial pressure of arterial oxygen; PEEP, positive end-expiratory pressure.

<sup>a</sup>Chest radiograph or computed tomography scan.

<sup>b</sup>If altitude is higher than 1000 m, the correction factor should be calculated as follows:  $[\text{PaO}_2/\text{FIO}_2 \times (\text{barometric pressure}/760)]$ .

<sup>c</sup>This may be delivered noninvasively in the mild acute respiratory distress syndrome group.

# ARDS definitions

### Normal Alveolus

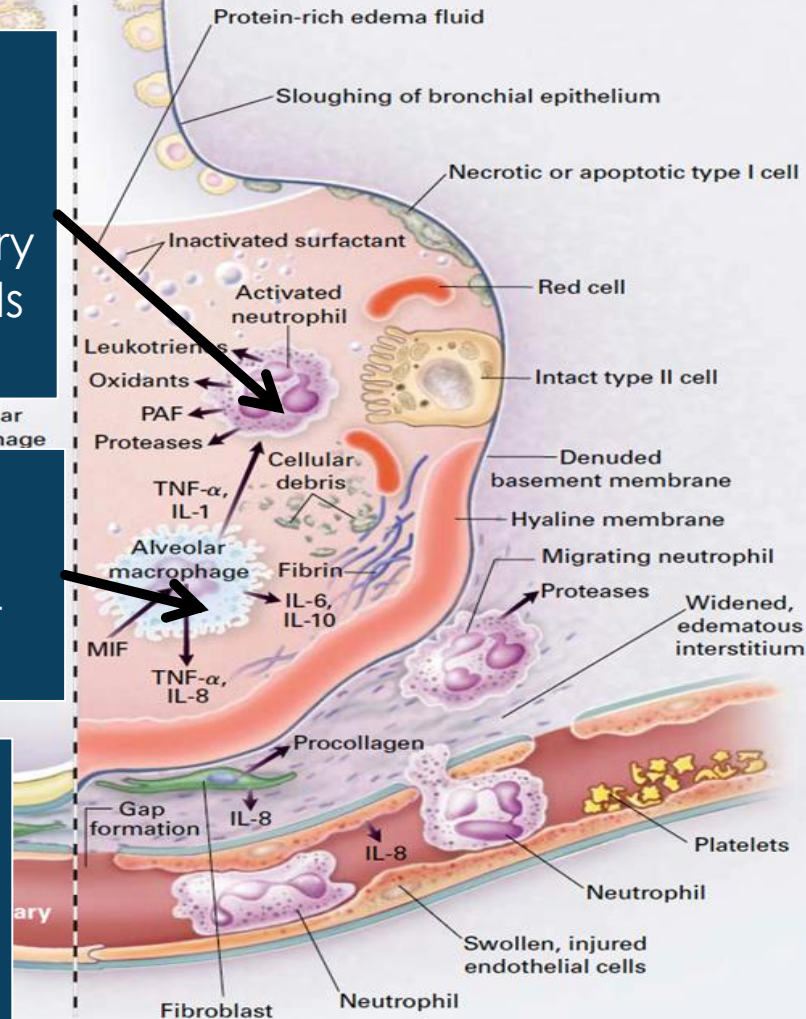
Alveolar air space

2. Cytokines attract neutrophils into the alveolus and interstitium, where they damage the alveolar-capillary membrane (ACM). Type I cells replaced by hyaline

1. Direct or indirect injury to the alveolus causes alveolar macrophages to release pro-inflammatory cytokines

3. ACM integrity is lost, interstitium and alveoli fills with proteinaceous fluid, surfactant can no longer support alveoli

### Injured Alveolus during the Acute Phase



# Acute/Exudative stage

# (My) management principles

- ▶ Treat the underlying cause
- ▶ Levels of PaO<sub>2</sub> and PaCO<sub>2</sub> 'compatible with life'
- ▶ Minimise further damage
  - ▶ Avoid VALI/VILI
  - ▶ Avoid further infections
  - ▶ Rehab as early as possible
- ▶ Lung protective ventilation + sensible amount of PEEP
- ▶ Prone
- ▶ Keep them crispy dry
- ▶ Probably paralyse, maybe steroids
- ▶ APRV (in selected cases)
- ▶ ECMO (if failing despite the above)



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## VENTILATION WITH LOWER TIDAL VOLUMES AS COMPARED WITH TRADITIONAL TIDAL VOLUMES FOR ACUTE LUNG INJURY AND THE ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME

THE ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME NETWORK\*

In patients with ALI, ventilation with smaller tidal volumes (6 mL/kg) will result in better clinical outcomes than traditional tidal volumes (12 mL/kg)

- Multicentre RCT, 860 pts, stopped early  
22% reduction in mortality (40% to 31%) if ventilated with  $V_t$  6mls/kg and plateau pressure < 35, compared to 12mls/kg and plateau pressure < 50

# Lung-protective ventilation

# ARDS is heterogeneous



- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> ARDSnet study *NEJM* 2004;351:327-336
  - ▶ 550 pts. Similar results
- ▶ Sakr et al *Chest* 2005; 128:3098-310
  - ▶ 198 European ICUs, 393 patients with ALI/ARDS. High tidal volumes = risk factor for ↑mortality
- ▶ Do we actually do it?
- ▶ Should it be lower?

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A Trial of Intraoperative Low-Tidal-Volume  
Ventilation in Abdominal Surgery

# Lung-protective ventilation



## Aim

- ▶ Maximise recruitment of alveoli
- ▶ Decrease biotrauma from alveolar collapse
- ▶ Minimise cyclic atelectasis and atelectotrauma
- ▶ Allow lower FiO<sub>2</sub>

## Disadvantages

- ▶ Impaired CO<sub>2</sub> clearance
- ▶ ↓RV preload ↑RV afterload ↓LV preload & compliance
- ▶ Barotrauma
- ▶ ↑ICP ↓CO
- ▶ Worsen R to L shunt (↑PVR)
- ▶ Worsen airleaks
- ▶ ↓Splanchnic blood flow (esp if ≥ 20cmH<sub>2</sub>O)

**“Open Lung Approach”**

**- PEEP, Recruitment & APRV**

**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

Meade, M et al, JAMA. 2008;  
299(6):637-645

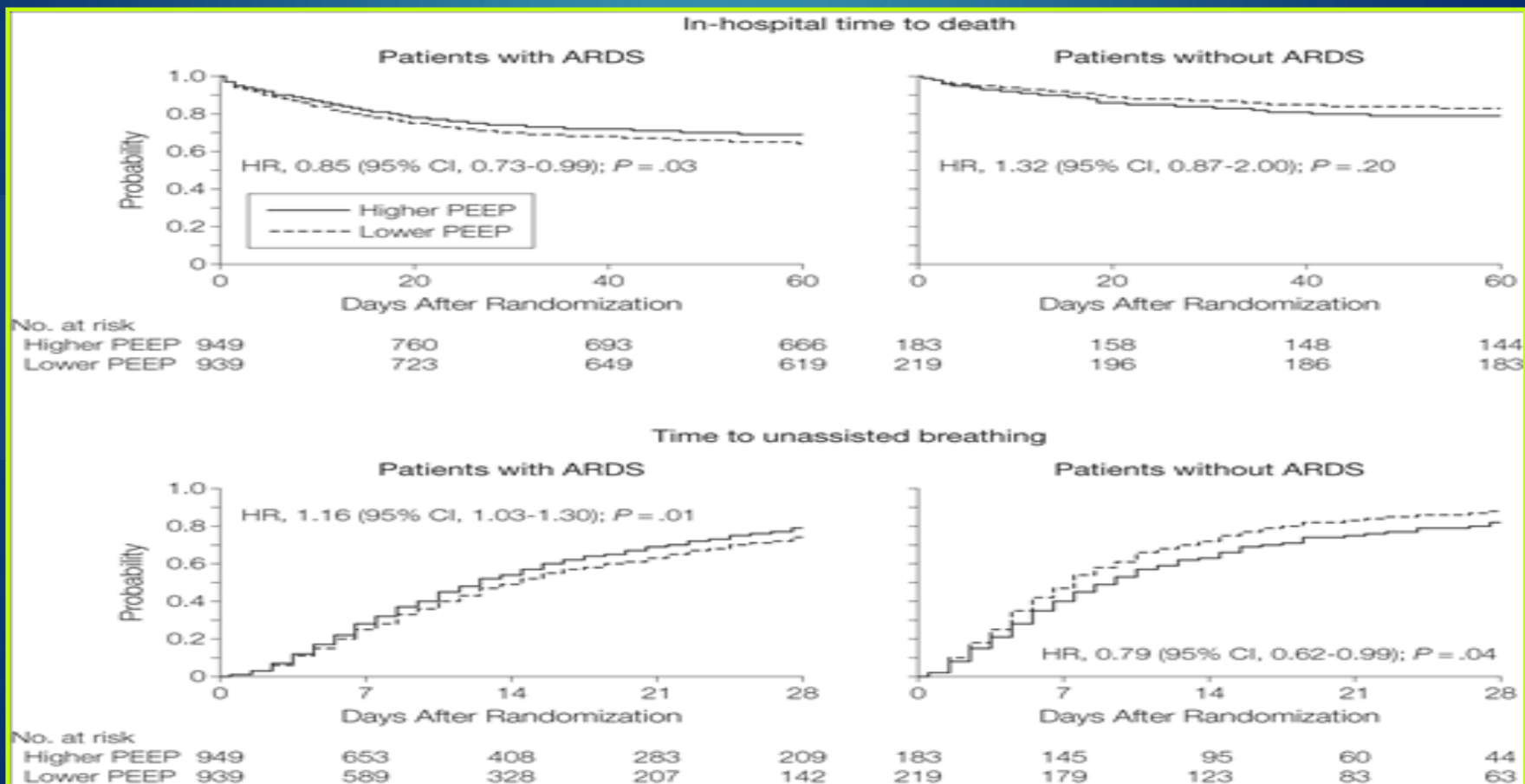
**Positive End-Expiratory Pressure Setting  
in Adults With Acute Lung Injury  
and Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome**

A Randomized Controlled Trial

Mercatt, M, et al. JAMA. 2008;  
299(6):646-655.

**PEEP – how much?**

# Higher vs Lower Positive End-Expiratory Pressure in Patients With Acute Lung Injury and Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome Systematic Review and Meta-analysis



- ▶ > Upper/lower inflection point on PV loop?
- ▶ Stepwise recruitment?
- ▶ Maximise static compliance (TV/Pplat-PEEP)?
- ▶ Guided by oesophageal pressures?
- ▶ Adjust to FiO<sub>2</sub>?

### Lower PEEP/higher FiO<sub>2</sub>

<b>FiO<sub>2</sub></b>	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7
<b>PEEP</b>	5	5	8	8	10	10	10	12

<b>FiO<sub>2</sub></b>	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
<b>PEEP</b>	14	14	14	16	18	18-24

# Ideal PEEP?

# ART trial 2017...

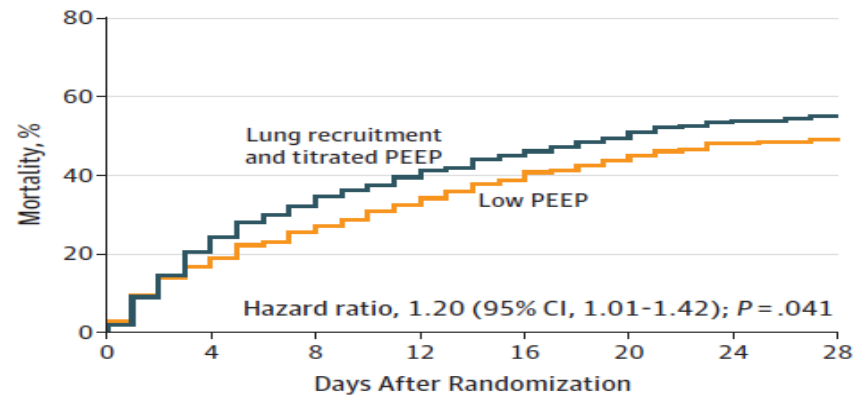
Research

JAMA | Original Investigation | CARING FOR THE CRITICALLY ILL PATIENT

## Effect of Lung Recruitment and Titrated Positive End-Expiratory Pressure (PEEP) vs Low PEEP on Mortality in Patients With Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome A Randomized Clinical Trial

Writing Group for the Alveolar Recruitment for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome Trial (ART) Investigators

Figure 2. 28-Day Mortality in the Lung Recruitment Maneuver With Titrated PEEP Group vs the Low-PEEP Group



No. at risk	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28
Lung recruitment and titrated PEEP	501	397	340	303	276	254	233	225
Low PEEP	509	423	378	343	312	286	264	260


# Airway Pressure Release Ventilation

- ▶ CPAP to open lung with short cyclic releases to facilitate ventilation
- ▶ Patient can breathe throughout respiratory cycle (works better if they do!)
- ▶ Reduce sedation to encourage breathing
- ▶ I use in:-
  - ▶ Obese
  - ▶ To recruit
  - ▶ Unable to prone



# Early application of airway pressure release ventilation may reduce the duration of mechanical ventilation in ARDS

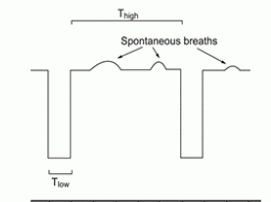

Zhou Y et al. Intensive Care Medicine 2017 PMID 28936695



**Key inclusion criteria**

- ARDS, PaO<sub>2</sub>/FiO<sub>2</sub> < 250
- Intubated <48 hours
- No severe COPD
- No refractory shock
- No intracranial HTN


**Airway pressure release ventilation (n = 71)**



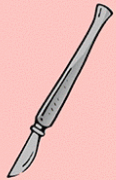




**138 patients randomized**

- ☹️ Mostly pneumonia (32%), pancreatitis (23%), sepsis (17%)
- ☹️ 5% with comorbid COPD
- ☹️ Average 24 hours on ventilator before enrollment
- ☹️ Single-center

**ARDSnet low-tidal volume ventilation (n = 67)**

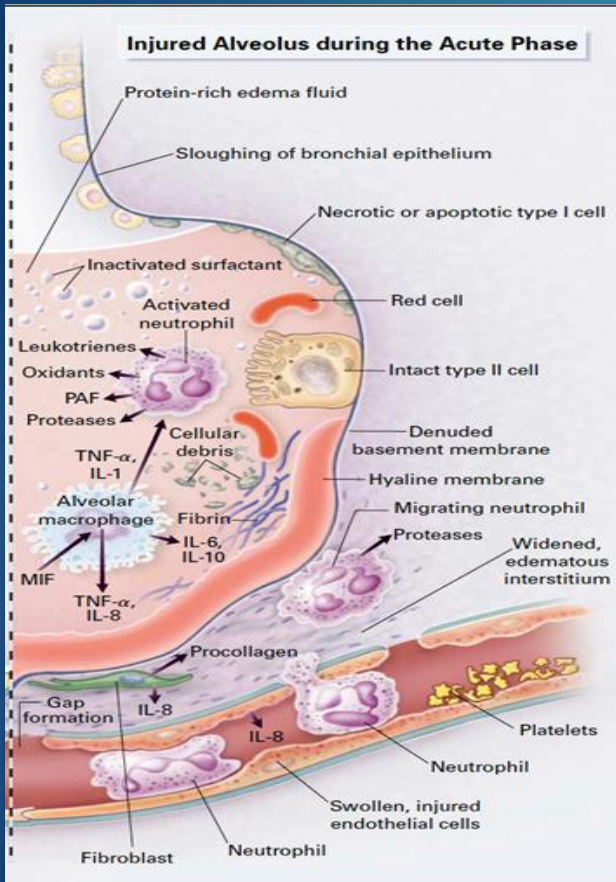


Vent-free days within 28 days	Successful extubation	Tracheostomy	ICU mortality
 <b>19</b> <i>p</i> < 0.001	 <b>66%</b> <i>p</i> = 0.001	 <b>13%</b> <i>p</i> = 0.01	 <b>20%</b> <i>p</i> = 0.053
<b>2</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>34%</b>

by @PulmCrit, for discussion see <https://emcrit.org/pulmcrit/aprv>

# Zhou et al (2017)

# Fluid Management



- ▶ Increased lung water is the underlying cause of many of the clinical abnormalities in ARDS (decreased compliance, poor gas exchange, atelectasis)
- ▶ After resolution of shock, effort should be made to attempt diuresis
- ▶ Frusemide – bolus vs infusion +/- spironolactone
- ▶ Renal Replacement Therapy (CVVH/CVVHDF) if needed



## Comparison of Two Fluid-Management Strategies in Acute Lung Injury

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) Clinical Trials Network\*

### FACTT Study – ARDS Network, NEJM, 2006;354:2564-2575

- 1001 pts
- Mean fluid in first 7d: -137ml vs +6992ml
- No difference in mortality but improved lung function and shortened the duration of mechanical ventilation and intensive care
- No increased shock/dialysis “non-pulmonary organ failure”
- BUT...

### **The Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome Cognitive Outcomes Study**

Long-Term Neuropsychological Function in Survivors of Acute Lung Injury

# Fluid management

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## Prone Positioning in Severe Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

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Arnaud Gacouin, M.D., Thierry Boulain, M.D., Emmanuelle Mercier, M.D., Michel Badet, M.D.,  
Alain Mercat, M.D., Ph.D., Olivier Baudin, M.D., Marc Clavel, M.D., Delphine Chatellier, M.D., Samir Jaber, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Sylvène Rosselli, M.D., Jordi Mancebo, M.D., Ph.D., Michel Sirodot, M.D., Gilles Hilbert, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Christian Bengler, M.D., Jack Richecoeur, M.D., Marc Gannier, M.D., Ph.D., Frédérique Bayle, M.D.,  
Gael Bourdin, M.D., Véronique Leray, M.D., Raphaele Girard, M.D., Loredana Baboi, Ph.D., and Louis Ayzac, M.D.,  
for the PROSEVA Study Group\*

Hypothesis: Early application of prone positioning (16h) would improve survival in patients with severe ARDS.

Conclusion: Early application of prolonged prone positioning significantly decreased 28 day (16% prone vs 32.8% supine) and 90 mortality in patients with severe ARDS.

# Prone

- ▶ Improvement in oxygenation in 50-75% of ARDS patients when turned prone
- ▶ Probable mechanisms:
  - ▶ VQ matching improved
  - ▶ “Cardiac weight”
  - ▶ Improvement in thoraco-abdominal compliance
  - ▶ Facilitates secretion drainage
  - ▶ Recruitment
- ▶ Improvement in gas exchange often persists even when patients turned supine



## Proning - Why?

# Proning: Why not?

- ▶ ETT / chest drain /invasive lines: obstruction / dislodgement
- ▶ ↑ICP
- ▶ Difficult to perform procedures / reintubate / CPR
- ▶ Decreased enteral nutrition
- ▶ Difficulty monitoring (e.g. ECG lead placement, CXR etc)
- ▶ Labour intensive – required at least 5 staff to turn
- ▶ May increase intra-abdo pressure / reduce hepatic perfusion
- ▶ Facial oedema
- ▶ Pressure trauma:
  - ▶ Eyes
  - ▶ Bridge of nose
  - ▶ Chin
  - ▶ Breasts / genitals
  - ▶ Shins / knees



# Proning - Who?



- ▶ Anyone requiring  $\text{FiO}_2 > 60\%$  to achieve  $\text{PaO}_2 > 8\text{kPa}$
- ▶ Absolute CI
  - ▶ Unstable Cx spines
  - ▶ Open chest or abdomens
- ▶ Relative CI
  - ▶ Eye / face / head injury
  - ▶ Thoraco-lumbar spinal injury / pelvic #
  - ▶ Recent abdominal surgery
  - ▶ Gross ascites / 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester pregnancy / super morbid obesity
- ▶ Think carefully about
  - ▶ Significant CVS stability (multiple inotropes and vasopressors) / IABP
  - ▶ Predominantly  $\text{CO}_2$  clearance issues / asthmatics

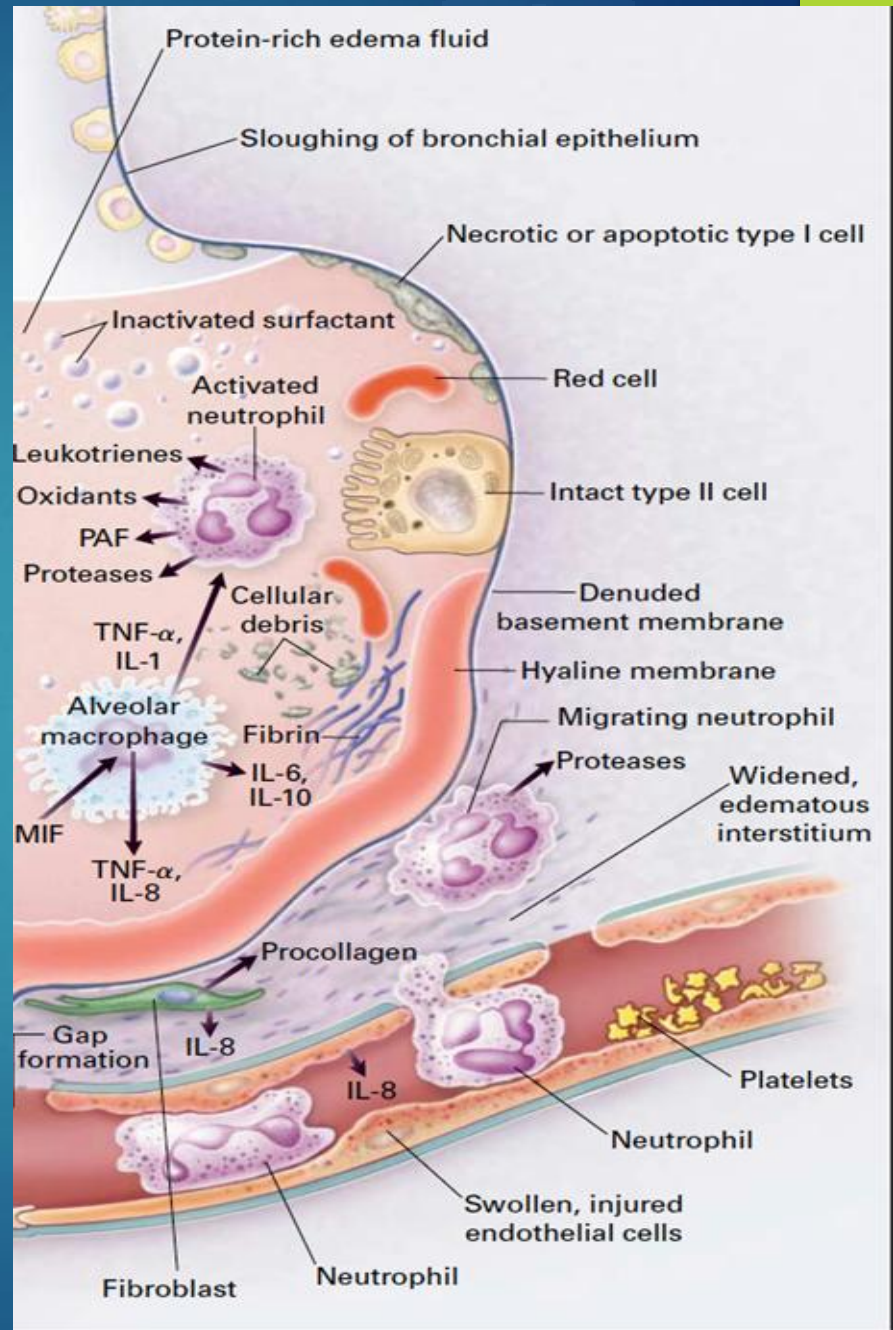


# Paralyse?

- ▶ Improve patient – ventilator synchrony
- ▶ Associated with critical illness polyneuromyopathy → longer weaning, longer LOS & higher mortality
- ▶ ?Reduce deleterious “PI-VILI”
- ▶ **ACURASYS: Papazian et al, N Engl J Med 2010;363:1107-1116**
  - ▶ 340 pts, 20 French ICU, PF < 150
  - ▶ 48 h Cis-Atracurium increased survival & ventilator free days without increase in neuromuscular weakness
- ▶ **ROSE**
  - ▶ 1006 pts, 48US ICUs
  - ▶ No difference in mortality
  - ▶ Higher rate of adverse events



Steroids??



## ▶ Effect of Prolonged Methylprednisolone therapy in Unresolving ARDS

- ▶ *Meduri et al JAMA 1998; 280(2):159-165*
- ▶ 24 patients (originally powered for 100, but cut short by the supervisory committee)
- ▶ demonstrated statistically significant improvement in outcomes, (lung injury scores and mortality)




[Intensive Care Medicine](#)

May 2016, Volume 42, [Issue 5](#), pp 829–840 | [Cite as](#)

Prolonged glucocorticoid treatment is associated with improved ARDS outcomes: analysis of individual patients' data from four randomized trials and trial-level meta-analysis of the updated literature

[Authors](#)

[Authors and affiliations](#)

G. Umberto Meduri , Lisa Bridges, Mei-Chiung Shih, Paul E. Marik, Reed A. C. Siemieniuk, Mehmet Kocak

ventilatory free days

- ▶ BUT – small study, groups not matched, placebo group more catecholamine dependent shock

# Steroids



- ▶ HFOV
- ▶ Pulmonary vasodilators
  - ▶ NO
  - ▶ Inhaled prostanoids
- ▶  $\beta$ 2 agonists
- ▶ Surfactant (calfactant)
- ▶ Ketoconazole
- ▶ Phosphodiesterase inhibitors
- ▶ Neutrophil elastase inhibitors – Sivelestat
- ▶ Antioxidants – Glutathione, N-Acetylcysteine
- ▶ The future? Stem cell therapy, liquid ventilation ...



## Others

# In Summary ...

- ▶ Treat the underlying cause
- ▶ Levels of PaO<sub>2</sub> and PaCO<sub>2</sub> 'compatible with life'
- ▶ Minimise further damage
- ▶ Use lung protective ventilation & 'sensible' PEEP
- ▶ Keep them crispy dry
- ▶ Consider APRV (if recruitable)
- ▶ Prone (and keep proning)
- ▶ Probably paralyse, maybe steroids
- ▶ Consider referral to an ECMO centre (if failing despite the above)



so does anyone have  
any questions?



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