

## Proning: Is Flip/Flopping A Good Thing? NO, hell no...

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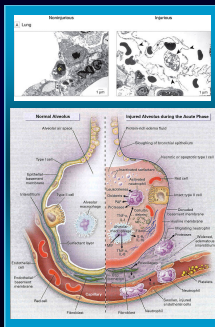


## Introduction



- Acute Lung Injury (ALI) and Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) affects 200,000 patients annually in the US
- Mortality 40%
- Multiple strategies improve oxygenation
- Low tidal volume ventilation (6 cc/kg) reduces mortality
- Rescue therapies are adjuncts with yet to be proven mortality improvement

## Pathophysiology of ARDS



- ◀ Cellular-mediated injury
- ◀ Inflammatory cascade
- ◀ Oxidant-induced
  - ✓ O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, peroxy nitrates, ...
- ◀ Alveolar destruction
- ◀ Hyaline membrane formation
- ◀ Endothelial damage
- ◀ Systemic inflammation

## Definition of severe ARDS

Score	0	1	2	3	4
PaO <sub>2</sub> /FiO <sub>2</sub>	≥ 300	225-299	175-224	100-174	< 100
CXR (quadrants)	None	1	2	3	4
PEEP	≤ 5	6-8	9-11	12-14	≥ 15
Compliance	≥ 80	60-79	40-59	20-39	≤ 19

## Therapeutic Strategies for ARDS Improving Oxygenation

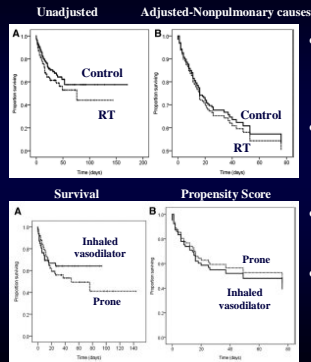
- Heavy sedation and paralysis (asynchrony)
- Fluid conservative hemodynamic management
- Recruitment maneuvers and high PEEP
- Lung protective ventilation (low tidal volume)
- **Prone positioning**
- Glucocorticoids
- High frequency oscillatory ventilation
- Inhaled Nitric Oxide
- Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation

**Rescue  
Therapies**

## Therapeutic Strategies for ARDS Improving Mortality

- Only strategy that has been proven by a prospective randomized trial by ARDS Network (9% absolute risk reduction):
  - Low tidal volume (≤ 6 mL/kg) of predicted BW
  - Adequate PEEP levels
  - Limiting trans-pulmonary distending pressure (plateau pressure ≤ 30 cm H<sub>2</sub>O)
  - Minimize ventilator induced lung injuries: barotrauma, volutrauma and atelectrauma

## Survival Benefits by Rescue Therapies



- Rescue therapy used in 6.3% patients in ARDS-Network trials
- RT applied in younger with severe hypoxemia & elevated MAP
- Use of rescue therapy decreased over time
- No differences in adjusted outcomes

Walkey et al Crit Care Med 2011

## Physiology of Proning



- First proposed by Bryan in 1974 as physiotherapy for pediatric ICU patients
- Ventilation strategies in supine position tend to result in atelectasis in dependent (dorsal) more perfused regions of the lungs and shunting
- In prone, shift in gravitational forces
  - Reduces atelectasis
  - Minimizes compression of lung parenchyma by heart and mediastinal structures
  - Alveolar ventilation is more homogeneous
  - Improved ventilation perfusion matching

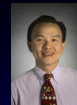


## Complications with Proning

- Labor intensive
- Risks of accidental removal of ET tubes, drains and catheters
- Development of pressure ulcers
- Kinking of ET tubes or secretion-induced plugging
- Difficulty accessing & assessing patients for routine care



## Facts vs. Fiction



Gastonia, NC  
"Gastonese"

Shoe size: 8.5

Favorite food: rice

Profession: doc



Columbia, SC  
"Appalachianese"

Shoe size: 16

Favorite food:



Profession: doc + world fishing champion

Will convince nursing staff technique to prevent VAP

Figure 1. Study Flow

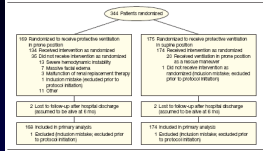


Table 1. Baseline Characteristics of the Prone-Supine II Study Population

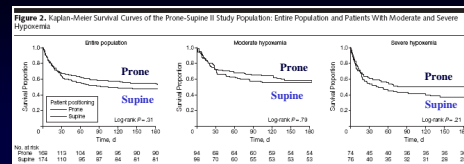
Characteristic	Mean (SD)		
	Entire Population (n = 342)	Moderate Hypoxemia (n = 150)	Severe Hypoxemia (n = 192)
Age, y	65 (16)	65 (16)	65 (17)
APACHE II	25.2 (4.1)	24.8 (4.4)	25.4 (4.0)
APACHE II score <sup>a</sup>	41.0 (14.3)	39.5 (14.3)	43.0 (14.2)
SOFA score at enrollment	8.0 (3.0)	8.1 (3.0)	7.7 (2.9)
Papillary flow	132 (38)	141 (27)	77 (36)
MAP, cm Hg <sup>b</sup>	70 (8)	70 (8)	71 (8)
FiO <sub>2</sub>	0.27 (0.13)	0.25 (0.14)	0.28 (0.13)
Total volume per ideal body weight, mL/kg <sup>c</sup>	8.0 (3.7)	8.2 (3.7)	7.7 (3.6)
Mean airway pressure, cm Hg <sup>d</sup>	5.9 (2.4)	6.2 (2.4)	5.5 (2.4)
Flow, mL/kg	46.5 (11.3)	44.2 (10.3)	49.4 (15.4)
Mean airway pressure before enrollment, median (IQR), cm Hg <sup>e</sup>	7 (5-11)	7 (5-11)	7 (5-11)
Causes of respiratory failure, No. (%)			
Pneumonia	200 (58.5)	110 (73.3)	92 (47.4)
Atelectasis	25 (7.3)	15 (10.0)	7 (3.6)
Septic	40 (11.7)	8 (5.3)	18 (9.4)
Trauma	17 (4.9)	10 (6.7)	3 (1.6)
Other	80 (23.4)	40 (26.7)	38 (19.9)

Taccone et al JAMA 2009

## Evidence for Proning

- Prone-Supine II study
- MCRCT, un-blinded
- 4-year study, 342 pts
- Lung protective strategy
- Stratified into subgroups of moderate and severe hypoxemia
- 1<sup>o</sup> outcome: 28-day all cause mortality
- 2<sup>nd</sup> outcomes: 6-mon & ICU discharge mortality, organ dysfunctions & complications

## Taccone et al Trial (con't)



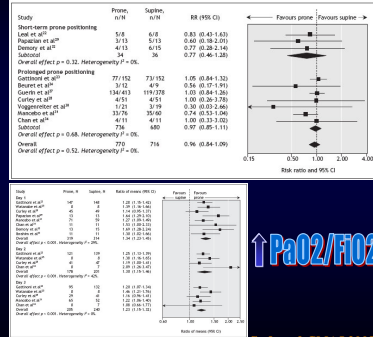
Complications Prone

- Need for increased sedation paralysis (1.5x)
- Airway obstruction (1.5x)
- Transient desaturation (1.2x)
- Vomiting (2.2x)
- Hypotension, arrhythmias & increased vasopressors (1.4x)
- Loss of venous access (4x)
- Displacement of ET tubes (2x)
- Displacement of chest tubes (3x)

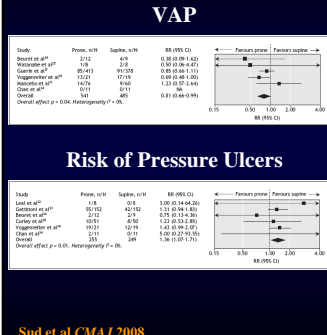
Taccone et al JAMA 2009

## Effect of Proning on Mortality

- Meta-analysis of 13 trials, 1559 patients
- Prone did not reduce mortality (RR 0.96)
- Neither short nor long-term proning results in mortality benefits
- Prone improved PaO<sub>2</sub>/FiO<sub>2</sub> by 34%, 1 hr after proning
- Gattinoni post-hoc analysis lower 10-day mortality in subgroup PF ratio <100



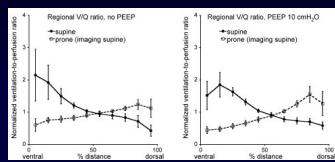
## Effect of Proning on Outcomes



- Prone results in ↓ VAP (but not vent-free day)
- ↑ Incidence ulcers
- ↑ Risk of ET tube obstruction
- Poor correlation O<sub>2</sub> and severity of lung injuries
- Improvement in O<sub>2</sub> relatively short
- Insufficient duration of proning (< 17 hrs/d 10d)

## Recent Caveat for Proning

- Swedish study 6 healthy volunteers
- Ventilation perfusion ratios with and without PEEP
- 10-cm H<sub>2</sub>O PEEP causes redistribution of blood flow and ventilation that is different in supine vs. prone position
- Addition of PEEP in prone might be less beneficial



## Summary

- Acute hypoxemia remains major challenge in management of critically ill patients
- Lung protective strategy with low tidal volume and adequate PEEP has strongest evidence
- Prompt recognition of severe lung disease (score >3) with hypoxemia, acidosis & ↑ plateau airway pressures should trigger consideration for rescue therapies
- Ventilation in the prone position for hypoxemic respiratory failure improves O<sub>2</sub> and reduces VAP
- Proning appears safe in experienced, well equipped facilities with dedicated staff

## Discussion

- Life-threatening hypoxemia, initial ventilatory management should include lung protective strategy, adequate PEEP & recruitment maneuver
- Proceed to prone position or HFOV if hypoxemia persists to previous regimen
- Earlier consideration of prone position for younger patients with severe hypoxemia, longer duration
- Then consider inhaled NO
- Other adjuncts: Glucocorticoids, ECMO

## Proning: Is Flip/Flopping A Good Thing? -NO, hell no... OK, maybe!



**Thank you...**

**North Carolina Society for Respiratory Care**

