

EXTRACORPOREAL MEMBRANE OXYGENATION BY ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME

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ANAESTHESIST 2004;53(2):168-74

Objective

Review ECMO in Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome.

Study Design

Review.

Methods

Review.

Results

Venovenous ECMO – despite unsatisfactory trial results – remains a treatment option in very severe ARDS with hypoxemia.

Smaller ECMO systems and pumpless interventional lung assist can broaden the applications of extracorporeal gas exchange in ARDS. This is particularly important in light of the growing body of evidence on ventilator associated lung injury. Prospective randomized trials should be performed to assess these new treatment options.

Commentary

New developments such as iLA may extend the indications for extracorporeal lung assist from use only as ultima ratio to less severe respiratory failure to enable lung protective less invasive mechanical ventilation.

