

LONG-TERM TREATMENT OF SEVERE RESPIRATORY FAILURE WITH AN EXTRACORPOREAL LUNG ASSIST – A CASE REPORT

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Objective

Show possibility and feasibility of treatment with iLA over 100 days.

Study Design

Case Report.

Study Population

1 patient.

Results

38yr old patient with pulmonary fibrosis (sarcoidosis) listed for lung transplant since 2003. Acute severe pneumonia upon admission. CATscan: severe diffuse fibrosis, bilateral infiltrations. Recurrent episodes of pneumonia, hypoxemia could be managed with apnoeic oxygenation (high PEEP, low tidal volume) plus carbon dioxide removal with iLA.

Patient died on day 100 in septic multiorgan failure that had developed on day 99 (additional Xigris and cortisone treatment was added).

“Striking simplicity and feasibility” of iLA “together with a low rate of serious complications”. No bacterial growth on all Novalung® iLA devices examined.

Commentary

Very detailed case report with excellent handling of iLA in off-label use for long-term (> 100 days) pulmonary support. Very thoughtful discussion of potential of iLA.

