SUCCESSFUL USE OF PORTABLE EXTRA-CORPOREAL CARBON-DIOXIDE REMOVAL IN A PATIENT WITH UNCONTROLLABLE HYPERCAPNIA

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Objective
To report the case of a successful iLA use in acute ventilatory failure.

Study Design
Case report.

Study Population
A 23-year-old man with acute lung failure.

Methods
A patient with pneumonia was oxygenated with an FiO\textsubscript{2} of 0.4, PEEP 10 cmH\textsubscript{2}O in BIPAP mode and later in with HFOV but developed respiratory acidosis. iLA therapy was commenced as a result.

Results
ILA was employed for 5 days successfully to remove CO\textsubscript{2} and to normalize pH. Shortly after inotropie requirement rapidly diminished. The patient was discharged after full recovery.

Commentary
This iLA application shows once more the successful role in CO\textsubscript{2} removal.

What makes this case especially interesting is the fact that transferral to an ECMO center was ruled out due to patient instability and that the iLA device was quickly transported to the hospital instead. The authors elaborate on the ease of use extreme portability and therefore see a role for iLA in smaller hospitals.

The authors also speculate that certain manoeuvres aimed at improving oxygenation would have been impossible without iLA.