

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_2 of 0,4, PEEP 10 cmH₂O 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 CO₂ and to normalize pH. Shortly after inotropic requirement rapidly diminished. The patient was discharged after full recovery.

Commentary

This iLA application shows once more the successful role in CO₂ 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.

