

ADJUNCTS TO MECHANICAL VENTILATION IN ARDS

LYNCH JE, CHEEK JM, CHAN EY, ZWISCHENBERGER JB
SEMIN THORAC CARDIOVASC SURG. 2006;18(1):20-7.

Objective

To examine the mechanism of action and the latest clinical trial information of several adjunctive therapies of ARDS.

Study Design

Literature Review.

Results

The following list focuses on adults:

Prone Positioning temporarily improves gas exchange but randomized clinical trials have failed to prove improvement in mortality.

Several clinical trials have shown that nitric oxide improves oxygenation but does not lower mortality or increase ventilator-free days.

Despite attempts to prove it with clinical trials, currently there are no evidence-based data to support the use of exogenous surfactant in adults with ARDS.

ECMO is as complex, technically demanding treatment with little evidence-based outcome data, it lacks technological progress.

Reports on the use of pumpless extracorporeal lung assist have been favourable, a 70 % survival rate has been described in 400 patients. Prospective randomized outcome studies are required.

