

# Just-In-Time Learning Series: AN INTRODUCTION TO MECHANICAL VENTILATION MANAGEMENT



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## Invasive Ventilation

The delivery of positive pressure into the lungs via an endotracheal tube or tracheostomy tube.

## Indications for Invasive Mechanical Ventilation

**Airway:** Impending airway compromise  
**Breathing:** Rapidly increasing O<sub>2</sub> needs or worsening CO<sub>2</sub>  
**Circulation:** Severe shock and acidosis  
**Disability:** Inability to protect airway, prevent secondary brain injury  
**Everything else:** need to perform an emergent/urgent procedure

Clinical judgement is crucial in recognizing a patient's condition as not quickly reversible, and performing intubation early.

**Non-Invasive Ventilation** is beneficial in patients who have quickly reversible conditions (likely to resolve in 24-48hrs). Methods of non-invasive ventilation include CPAP or BIPAP.

## EXTUBATION CRITERIA

- Underlying process has improved
- Patient is requiring minimal ventilator support (typically 40% FiO<sub>2</sub>, 5cmH<sub>2</sub>O of PEEP)
- Mental status and strength recovered (patient coughs, gags, follows commands)
- Manageable secretions
- Patient completes a "spontaneous breathing trial"
  - PS 5/5 on 40% FiO<sub>2</sub> for 30-120 min
  - RR/TV ("RSBI") <105

## Ventilator Modes and Settings

The selection of ventilator modes and settings is guided by therapeutic goals

### MODES FALL IN TO 2 GENERAL CATEGORIES

	<b>Volume Control</b> <i>volume is set, pressure is variable</i>	<b>Pressure Control</b> <i>pressure is set, volume is variable</i>
<b>what is set by the practitioner</b>	respiratory rate, tidal volume, PEEP, FiO <sub>2</sub>	inspiratory pressure, inspiratory time, rise time, PEEP, FiO <sub>2</sub>
<b>what is monitored by the practitioner</b>	peak pressures, plateau pressures	tidal volume
<b>Trigger</b> what initiates the breath	time (respiratory rate)	time (respiratory rate)
<b>Cycle</b> what ends the breath	tidal volume	time at a designated pressure (inspiratory time)
<b>Limit</b> what stops a breath early	tidal volume	pressure

### Goals of Mechanical Ventilation

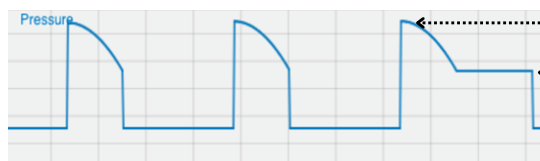
<b>Oxygenation</b>	<b>Ventilation</b>	<b>Minimize Lung Injury</b>
FiO <sub>2</sub> and PEEP to maintain PO <sub>2</sub> >55mmHg (around a saturation of 88% or greater)	pH>7.20 RR<30-35 (as low as possible)	TV<8-10 ml/kg PBW (target 6 ml/kg in ARDS) Plateau pressure <30 cmH <sub>2</sub> O

VC / 500 / 20 / 40% / 5

Ventilation (pH>7.2)  
 • Tidal Volume (TV)  
 • Respiratory Rate (RR)

Oxygenation (PaO<sub>2</sub>>55)

- Fraction of inspired oxygen (FiO<sub>2</sub>)
- Positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP)



If Peak - Plateau > 10 = increased airway resistance

- Ventilator circuit or ETT obstruction
- Patient coughing or biting the tube
- Bronchospasm
- Mucus plug
- Foreign body

If Plateau > 30 = decreased compliance of respiratory system

- Mainstream bronchus intubation
- Pneumothorax
- ARDS or pulmonary edema
- Auto PEEP
- Large volume ascites or abdominal compartment syndrome
- Chest wall rigidity

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