Ventilator Dyspnea: Optimizing Ventilator/Patient Synchrony

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Learning Objectives

- Review the basics of breathing
- Describe relationship between the control of breathing & mechanical ventilation
- Define what is ventilator asynchrony
- Describe the potential negative sequale of ventilator asynchrony
- Describe clinical interventions to maximize ventilator synchrony

Goals of Mechanical Ventilation

- Optimize gas exchange
- Maximize ventilator-patient interfacing
- Minimize ventilator induced injury
- Facilitate ventilatory liberation

Historical Prespective

- Controller-ventilator unable to respond to patient effort
- Assistor-ventilator capable of "triggering"
- 1930-Barach et al. recognized the need for high flows to make patient's comfortable on CPAP
- **1950-1960s-Avery-therapuetic hyperventilation**
- 1962-Harrison first true champion of patient-triggered augmented ventilation
- 1973-Downs introduced IMV
- 1986-Marini published classic paper of WOB during mechanical ventilation

Timeline of patient-ventilator interaction

Branson, R. D. Respir Care 2011;56:15-24

First Generation

- Controlled Mechanical Ventilation **ONLY**
- Limited monitoring
- No alarms
- All simple mechanical devices
- First application of PEEP
- Machine variables had to be counted –could not be set
- \bullet I/E ratio fixed @ 1:2

Engstrom Ventilator-Weight 500 lbs!!!

First computers

The Bird Mark 7 being used as a pressure ventilator Note: no alarms, etc.

Second Generation 1970-1980

- Assist/ Control Ventilation
- Simple monitoring
- Basic alarms
- External IMV at end of period
- Demand valves
- Integrated IMV or SIMV

Emerson Post-op Ventilator

Jack Emerson

Puritan Bennett MA-1

An early intermittent mandatory ventilation system that included an H-valve and an integral one-way valve to provide continuous flow for spontaneous breathing.

Branson, R. D. Respir Care 2011;56:15-24

Bourns Bear 1

First to Recognize Ventilator Asynchrony

- J.J Marini
	- Patient work during the inspiratory phase
- McIntyre
	- Imposed work through ventilator circuit and artificial airway
- Fernandez
	- Active muscle work during a ventilator battern
- Hargell
	- Utilization of ventilator graphics to determine ventilator asynchrony

Fernandez AJRCCM 1999;159:710

Why Is There Ventilator Asynchrony?

Control of Ventilation

(Williams MD, Hinojosa-Kurtzberg PhD & Parthasarathy MD, 2011)

Ideally, ventilator gas delivery would perfectly match patient demand. This patientventilator interaction depends on how the ventilator responds to patient respiratory effort and, in turn, how the patient responds to the breath delivered by the ventilator. It is now evident that the interaction between patient and ventilator is frequently suboptimal, with consequences that appear to have substantial clinical relevance. Indeed, some clinicians have referred to this state as a **"tug-ofwar!!**

Patient-Ventilator Synchrony

- Adequate resting of respiratory muscles
- Improved gas exchange
- Patient comfort

Evidence of Ventilator Synchrony

What is Ventilator Asynchrony?

- Defined as a "mismatch" between the patient and ventilatory inspiratory time, flow and expiratory time.
- Chao et al. found that more than 10% of patients admitted to a weaning center exhibited this phenomenon.
- This mismatching results in weaning failure secondary to due to diaphragmatic muscle energy waste.

Patient-ventilator Asynchrony

• 24% of mechanically ventilated patients exhibit patient-ventilator asynchrony in $> 10\%$ of their respiratory efforts during AVC and PS ventilation (ineffective triggering and double triggering).

Patient-ventilator asynchrony during assisted mechanical ventilation Intensive Care Med. 2006;32:1512

Arnold W. Thille, Pablo Rodriguez, Belen Cabello Francois Lellouche, Laurent Brochard

Length of Stay

1. Kollef M et al. *Chest*. 1998;114:541–548. 2. Levine S et al. *NEJM* .2008;358:1327-1335. 3. Rello J et al. *Chest* .2002;122:2115-2121.

Three Main Patterns of Asynchrony

Trigger asynchrony:

 Can manifest as a delay or absent of inspiration or unwanted breaths(auto-triggering)

Flow asynchrony:

 This can manifest as to slow or to fast of delivered flow to match the patient's flow requirements

Cycle or termination asynchrony:

 This can manifest when the inspiratory time of the breath is longer than what the patient desires or termination inspiratory can not be reached secondary to leaks or prolonged exhalation.

Factors in Patient-Vent Synchrony

- Trigger setting/type
- Rise-time
- Flow delivery pattern
- Sedation level
- Respiratory drive
- AutoPEEP
- Airway size
- Pathology of respiratory system
- Thoracic-abdominal impedance
- Airway patency

Treat the Patient and You May Achieve Synchrony!!!

- Examples:
	- Metabolic acidosis
	- Pain/anxiety/fear
	- Hypoxemia
	- Airway obstruction
	- Fever

Effect of Patient-Ventilator Asynchrony* on Outcomes in an Observational Study.

* Patient-ventilator asynchrony was defined as an ineffective-effort index $> 10\%$. $NS = difference$ not significant

Epstein, S. K. Respir Care 2011;56:25-38

During this tracing of 30 seconds, the ventilator displays that the patient rate is 16 breaths/min.

5 missed patient triggered efforts

de Wit, M. Respir Care 2011;56:61-72
P_{aw} 25 Λ 30 L/min Flow 1
(litre s⁻¹) 0 $\frac{P_{\text{obs}}}{(cm H_2O)}$ -25 P_{aw} 25
(cm H_2 O) 0 90 L/min Flow 1
(litre s⁻¹) 0 P_{oes} 0 O V V

-Ineffictive triggering at 30 l/mn

- Increase in flow rate
- Subsequent increase of expiratory time
- Decreased dynamic hyperinflation

- Subsequent decrease in ineffictive trigerring

Missed triggered breath on G-5

Increased WOB noted by Pressure time curve scoping

Air trapping

Secretions, bronchospasm, air-trapping

EPIC Documentation of Asynchrony

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Effects of Asynchrony

- Increased work of breathing
- Muscle damage/stress
- Patient anxiety
- Dynamic hyperinflation
- Prolonged weaning time
- Increased length of hospital stay
- Increased cost of health care

Adverse Effects of Patient-Ventilator asynchrony on outcomes:

- -Ultrastructure injury to respiratory muscles
- -Eccentric or plyometric contraction
- -Worsens mechanics (intrinsic PEEP)

-Alters gas exchange (auto-triggering, increased PaCO2).

-Wastes respiratory work (unnecessary load). -Confounds lung-protective strategy (breathstacking leads to increased tidal volume).

-May cause periodic breathing, sleep fragmentation.

How Do We Optimize Ventilator-Patient Interfacing?

- Clinical management interventions
- Adjust the ventilator
- Utilize advance modes of ventilation

Clinical Management

- Maintain a patent airway
	- Secretion removal, aerosolized medications, correct endotracheal size, minimize auto-PEEP, remove soiled HMEFs, no H2O in the circuit!
- Provide adequate sedation
	- Reduce anxiety and pain, minimize respiratory depression, correct underlying factors
- Facilitate extubation
	- Daily SBTs, extubate to BIPAP, High Flow Oxygen

Controlling Ventilation With Sedation

- Bolus vs. continuous infusion
- Narcotics vs. hypnotics
- Neuromuscular paralyzation

Table 2

Dosing and cost of selected analgesics and sedatives^{1,2,13,27,32,99}

Awake & Breath

- Use of a protocol incorporating daily awakening has been shown to ↓ the amount of opioid administered and to ↓ both duration of MV & ICU LOS
- Proven NNT = 7 for the endpoint of mortality

Lancet 2008; 371: 126–34

Ventilator Adjustments

- Meet the patients ventilatory demands
	- Increasing inspirtory flow
	- Increasing set rate
- Change triggering threshold
	- Decreasing triggering sensitivity
	- Changing from pressure to flow triggering
	- Minimize auto-PEEP
- Adjust expiratory termination criteria
	- Adjust ETS% during pressure support
	- Shorten set inspiratory time
- **•** Optimize ABGs

Let The Patient Breath?

- Patient self-inflected lung injury (P-SILI)
	- observed in low Clt physiology
- Vigorous spontaneous effort causing lung injury
- Noted by PO1>-6cm
	- Increased lung stress
	- Increased lung perfusion
	- Breath stacking
	- Increased driving pressure-Amato
		- PO₁ +PIP=driving pressure $(-8+20=28)$
		- **High risk of patient self-inflicted lung injury in COVID-19 with frequently encountered spontaneous breathing patterns: a computational modelling study**
			- **doi:** https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.03.17.21253788

During rounds encountered this screen

ETS% @ 25% Is this optimal for this patient?

ETS% extend to 45%

What changes do you notice?

Lower tidal volume 14.0

Use Ventilator Graphics!!!

Auto-Peeping

Self triggering with leak

Improved Capnograph post continuous beta-agonist

Hyper-inflation Dynamic Lung

Help I need suctioning

Pinched flow sensor

Leak causing auto-trigging

Patient not able to trigger ventilator despite respiratory efforts Note total rate of 16 on ventilator-counting chest movement rate>40 bpm

Triggering sensitivity lowered-Note: the increase in triggered breaths and total respiratory rate on ventilator

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Advanced Modes

- Proportional Assist Ventilation(PAV)
- Neural Assisted Ventilation (NAVA)
- Adaptive Support Ventilation (ASV)
- Smart Care
- Asynchrony Indexes

May optimize patient-ventilator interfacing!!!

PAV

- PAV is a form of synchronised partial ventilatory assistance with the peculiar characteristic that the ventilator generates pressure in proportion to the patient's instantaneous effort—that is, the more the patient pulls, the more pressure the machine generates. Thus, with PAV the ventilator amplifies the patient's inspiratory effort without any preselected target volume or pressure.
- The aim of PAV is to allow the patient to attain whatever ventilation and breathing pattern seems to fit the ventilatory control system. PAV therefore assumes control of the breathing system and a condition in which the neuroventilatory uncoupling is determined by the discrepancy between the high ventilatory demand and the insufficient capability of the ventilatory pump to cope with the workload.
- PAV provides a sort of "additional muscle" under the complete control of the patient's ventilatory drive for determining the depth and frequency of the breaths.

NAVA

- **Neurally Adjusted Ventilatory Assist (NAVA)** is a mode of ventilation ventilation. NAVA delivers assistance in proportion to and in synchrony with the patient's respiratory efforts, as reflected by the Edi signal. This signal represents the electrical activity of the diaphragm , the body's principal breathing muscle.
- The act of taking a breath is controlled by the respiratory center of the brain, which decides the characteristics of each breath, timing and size. The respiratory center sends a signal along the phrenic nerve, excites the diaphragm muscle cells, leading to muscle contraction and descent of the diaphragm dome. As a result, the pressure in the airway drops, causing an inflow of air into the lungs.
- With NAVA, the electrical activity of the diaphragm (Edi) is captured, fed to the ventilator and used to assist the patient's breathing in synchrony with and in proportion to the patients own efforts, regardless of patient category or size. As the work of the ventilator and the diaphragm is controlled by the same signal, coupling between the diaphragm and the SERVO-i ventilator is synchronized simultaneously.

ASV

- ASV is a **closed loop** mode of ventilation designed to maintain goaldirected mechanical ventilation using a Lung Protective Strategy. Will deliver **time-cycled ventilations** when indicated and will switch to PSV when the patient starts spontaneous breathing. In PSV will continue target a desired tidal volume.
- ASV streamlines the set-up and weaning of the mechanical ventilation patient.
- Ventilation targets are derived from analysis of the patients pulmonary mechanics and are automatically implemented.
- All time-cycled delivered breaths are Pressure regulated volume targeted breaths. **(PRVC)** Spontaneous breaths are delivered with pressure support targeted at a desired tidal volume.
- **Ventilator parameters:** Tidal volume/respiratory rate are set based on **Otis'** least work physiology.

Smart Care

- SmartCare/PS is based on a clinical protocol for weaning. The system "divides the control process into three steps:"
- "Step 1: Stabilizing the patient within a respiratory comfort zone by regulating the level of pressure support based on three parameters: breathing rate, tidal volume and end tidal CO2."
- "Step 2: Reducing invasiveness by testing whether the patient can tolerate a lower pressure support level without leaving the comfort zone."
- "Step 3: Testing readiness for extubation by maintaining the patient at the lowest limit of support".

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Ventilator Asynchrony Indexes

IntelliSync+=Hamilton G-5

Puritan Bennett™ 980 Leak Sync Software

- The new Puritan Bennett[™] 980 ventilator was designed with the challenges of safe and effective ventilation in mind. Automatically detecting and compensating for fluctuating leak sizes, Puritan Bennett™ Leak Sync software helps clinicians manage patients' work of breathing.
- Breathing circuit leaks can cause a ventilator to erroneously detect patient inspiratory efforts (called autotriggering) or delay exhalation in pressure support. Patient interfaces, such as masks and uncuffed endotracheal tubes, are particularly prone to significant leaks. Inaccurately declaring inspiration or exhalation can result in patient-ventilator asynchrony and increased work of breathing.

Summary

- Mechanical Ventilation not a normal breathing process.
- Clinical issues must be addressed.
- Lots of factors to consider in patient-ventilatory synchrony
- Newer modes of ventilation may promote better patient-ventilator inter-facing.
- The importance of minimizing ventilator asynchrony can not be minimized!!

Questions?

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