

Ventilation Guideline Dunstan – Medical

The ventilator: Oxylog 3000 plus. (for oxylog details see Ventilator resource book).

To start ventilator:

- 1) Plug into wall oxygen + check tubing attached
- 2) Turn on
- 3) Select tubing with rotatory knob: (either (i) adult disposable or (ii) paediatric).

To ventilate: Ensure Patient apneic from sedation and nursed at 30 degrees.

- 1) **Mode:** Defaults to VC-SIMV. (volume control- synchronised intermittent mandatory ventilation). Reasonable to start with this. Mode could be changed in consultation with ICU.
- 2) **Settings:** Choose based on table below.
 - Tidal volume, RR and FiO₂ are set using knobs below screen.
 - PEEP and I:E ratio are selected on the screen using the rotatory knob.

Table 1: The following table is a quick guide to ventilator settings for most patients.

Clinical situation	Tidal volume (Vt) (ml/Kg IBW*)	RR (adjust based on pCO ₂)	FiO ₂ (1.0 = 100%) Use 1.0 while put on vent. (then titrate to O ₂ sats).	PEEP (cmH ₂ O/ mbar) (adjust to O ₂ sats)	I:E ratio
Normal lung Mechanics. Eg Overdose, HI, Coma...	6-8 (6-8)	12	Start at 0.4 and titrate. Aim O ₂ sats 92-95%.	5	1:2
Airflow Obstruction Eg Asthma, COPD (obstructive strategy)	6-8 (4-8)	8 (6-10)	Start at 0.4 and titrate. Aim O ₂ sats 88-95%.	0 For asthma. 0-5 For COPD.	≥ 1:4
Acute hypoxaemia Eg Pneumonia, ARDS (lung protective strategy)	6-8 (4-8) Reduce if Pplat >30.	18 (16-35)	ARDS PEEP-FiO ₂ chart: (Lower PEEP/higher FiO ₂) FiO ₂ : 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0 PEEP: 5-8 8-10 10 10-14 14 14-18 18-24 Aim for O ₂ sats 88-95% (or PaO ₂ 55-80)		1:1.5

*IBW (ideal body wt): Female = 45.5 + (0.91 x (Ht in cm -152.4)). Male = 50 + (0.91 x (Ht in cm -152.4)).

	5'0"	5'2"	5'4"	5'6"	5'8"	5'10"	6'	6'2"	6'4"
	153cm	158cm	163cm	168cm	173cm	178cm	183cm	188cm	193cm
Vt Female (6ml/kg IBW)	276	295	330	360	385	415	440	470	490
Vt Male (6ml/kg IBW)	305	320	360	385	415	440	470	490	520

*Pmax (alarm) setting: set at ~35cmH₂O as default.

If it alarms (see "trouble shooting" PTO) check: Patient (agitation), Chest & Lungs(BS, AE), Tube obstruction.

If no reversible cause found: check Plateau pressure (Pplat). If >30 reduce Vt by 1ml/kg steps (Do not go lower than 4ml/kg).

Specific situations:

Head Injury: 30 degrees head up. Aim for low-normal pCO₂. Avoid too much peep (aim ~5) or lowers CPP.

Metabolic acidosis: Aim for ETCO₂ < patient achieved (RR > patient's). Give PS for spontaneous breaths.

Cardiogenic APO with high BP: Use higher peep. Start PEEP at 10 and titrate up.

Shock: Avoid high levels of PEEP as can reduce BP. If PEEP drops BP, also given fluids/uppers. (aim MAP >65).

Pregnancy: Left lateral position. Vt 8ml/kg IBW. RR 18-20. Aim for low-normal CO₂ and normal pH.

Trouble Shooting –the Ventilator

Crashing patient/Haemodynamic instability: DOPES

(Displaced or Obstructed tube, Pneumothorax, Equipment failure, Stacking breaths).

High Airway Pressure:

-PIP = Peak inspiratory pressure (what Pmax alarm is set to). -Pplat = Plateau pressure (approx. alveolar p.)

-NOTE: Peak Airway Pressure (PIP) = Alveolar pressure (Pplat) + Pressure from Resistance to flow in airways.

*Excessive alveolar pressure (not nec PIP) may damage lungs, cause air leak, have haemodynamic effects.

Causes of High airway Pressure:

(i) High Airway Resistance to flow

(=High PIP, normal Pplat):

- Ventilator
- Circuit (*kink, wet filter, pooling*)
- ET tube** (*kink, plug, secretions*)
- Airways (*bronchospasm...*)

(ii) High alveolar pressure, poor compliance

(high PIP & Pplat):

- Hyperinflation**/ Gas trapping
- Lungs (*Pulm oedema, consolidatn...*)
- Pleural space** (*pneumothorax*)
- Chest wall compliance reduced.
- Patient:** *dysynchrony, agitation, cough*

Approach to high airway Pressure:

- 1) Quick check: -Airway: Circuit/ET tube.
-Lungs: Air entry and BS.
-Patient: Agitation
- 2) If no obv cause check: -Pplat.
 - (i) Normal Pplat = airway resistance issue -> Fix.
 - (ii) High Pplat = Lung/chest compliance issue.
→ Treat cause if possible.
→ Otherwise reduce Vt in 1ml/kg steps.
- 3) If uncertain: Disconnect from ventilator and bag.
-eliminates ventilator and circuit.
-if still hard to ventilate issue = tube or patient.

Hypoxia/ Desaturation: O2sats <90% or fall >5%.

Causes of Desaturation:

O2 supply.

Ventilator/settings. (Vt, RR, PIP) Circuit.

Airway. (Tube Obstructn/kink).

Ventilation. (?Adequate. endobronchial intubation, bronchospasm, Pneumothorax)

Lungs. (Pulm oedema, consolidation, collapse. PE).

Patient. (Poor CO, increased uptake).

Approach to Desaturation:

- 1) Quick steps: -Check pulse ox. (correspond to ECG)
-Increase FiO2 to 1.0
-Check if chest is moving.
 - (i) Chest NOT moving: Manually ventilate.
->Easy: Ventilator problem – Check settings/fx.

->Hard: ETT/Patient problem. CHECK:
-ET Tube: Pass suction catheter.
-Ventilator: AE bilat? (endobronch int, pneumothorax)
-Lungs: BS (brochospasm/air trapping, pulm oedema, collapse...)
-Patient (agitated/fighting).
 - (ii) Chest Moving. Examine AE, BS and patient as above.
- 2) Treat cause. +/- adjust ventilator settings.

CO2 Issues:

Too High:

- 1) Inhaled –Check capnograph returns to zero.
- 2) Hypoventilation –Check settings, pressure, BS.
→ Increase RR (or Vt if low)
- 3) Increased production – consider fever, MH.

Too Low:

- 1) Airway: Oesophageal intubation, Extubat'n
- 2) Circuit: Air entrainment.
- 3) Ventilation settings: Over ventilated.
- 4) Gas exchange problem: Poor CO, PE, Arrest.
- 5) Reduced production: Cold...

General Notes:

1) **Ventilation:** (*CO₂ elimination improved by: \uparrow RR, \uparrow Vt, Reducing deadspace*).

*Titration: RR (and Tidal volume) are for titrating ventilation.

-Generally Tidal Volume stays set low for alveolar protection.

-RR is therefore the variable used.

*Monitoring: -Set PaCO₂ goal (based on illness/acid base state).

-EtCO₂ can be similar or lower than PaCO₂.

-EtCO₂ can be used to guide a RR increase if EtCO₂ high.

-However low EtCO₂ can be due to various other factors (eg shunt, deadspace, poor CO), so not so accurate at guiding a reduction in RR. Check PaCO₂.

2) **Oxygenation:** (*improved by: \uparrow FiO₂, \uparrow PEEP, \uparrow Insp time/Vt*).

*Titration: FiO₂ and PEEP are for titrating oxygenation.

-Immediately after intubation titrate down FiO₂ to achieve target O₂sats.

-Adjust PEEP depending on situation.

*Monitoring: O₂sats target usually used. (O₂sats 88-95% ~ PaO₂ 55-80 mmHG).

The 2 Strategies:

1) **Lung protective strategy.**

Goal: Protecting lungs from ventilator associated injury. Reduces mortality.

Vt: 6-8ml/kg IBW. Low is key!

-Start with 6mls/kg if established ALI/ARDS already.

-Do not change this to meet PaCO₂ goals (unless severe metab acidosis).

-Watch plateau pressure (Pplat.). This is pressure at end of inspiration when flow is zero and approximates alveolar pressure.

-If >30cm H₂O then decrease Vt by 1ml/kg (min 4ml/kg) in steps until Pplat <30.

RR: Start with 18. Adjust based on CO₂ and ventilatory needs.

-RR up to 30-40 are acceptable to achieve PaCO₂ goal.

-Permissive hypercapnia ok if cannot achieve PaCO₂ goal with rapid RR.

PEEP & FiO₂: Use PEEP-FiO₂ chart (from ARDSnet trial).

-Increasing FiO₂ & PEEP in tandem allows alveolar recruitment. Reduces shunt.

-After intubation reduce FiO₂ to 0.3-0.4 and set PEEP at 5 and titrate.

I:E ratio: (inspiratory: expiratory time).

-1:2 approximates spontaneously breathing person.

-A higher ratio 1:1.5 or 1:1 may improve oxygenation. But shortens exp time, risks gas-trapping.

Safety: Plateau pressure checks: Ensures alveolar safety. Check immed then Q30mins.

-Pplat: approximates pressure in alveoli vs Peak Pressure (which is combination of alveolar pressure and large airway and equipment resistance).

-HOW to CHECK: 1) Press the "inspiratory hold button".

2) Press "Values" button to screen 4 and Pplat will show.

2) Obstructive strategy.

Goal: Give as much expiratory time as possible.

****Remember: keep treating the underlying obstructive cause pharmacologically.**

Vt: 6-8 ml/kg IBW.

RR: Start at 8 breaths per minute.

- Keep low to avoid gas/air trapping and auto-PEEP.
- Inevitably become hypercapnic.

PEEP & FiO₂:

- Usually only small increase in FiO₂ is needed, high levels unnecessary.
- PEEP should be 0 in asthma. Too much PEEP can be bad here.
- PEEP in COPD: a small amount can be used but should be ≤ 5 cmH₂O (?help dynamic expiratory airway collapse). Lack of evidence for this.

I:E ratio: 1:4-1:5.

- Increases expiratory time to avoid gas trapping.

Peak Pressure alarm: Does not reflect alveolar pressure.

- Peak pressure often high in these patients due to large airways resistance.
- High peak pressure is needed to ventilate past obstruction, these pressures are not necessarily transmitted all the way to alveoli, so are not causing damage!
- Ensure satis alveolar ventilatn: Increase alarm setting until Vt (6-8mls/kg) given.
- Check Pplat remains <30 cmH₂O (it should as long as no gas trapping).

Permissive Hypercapnia:

- Allow hypercapnia but aim to keep pH >7.1 .
- Patients will need a heap of sedation/opioids. Paralysis not needed if sedated enough.

Safety: check for Airtrapping & Autopeep:

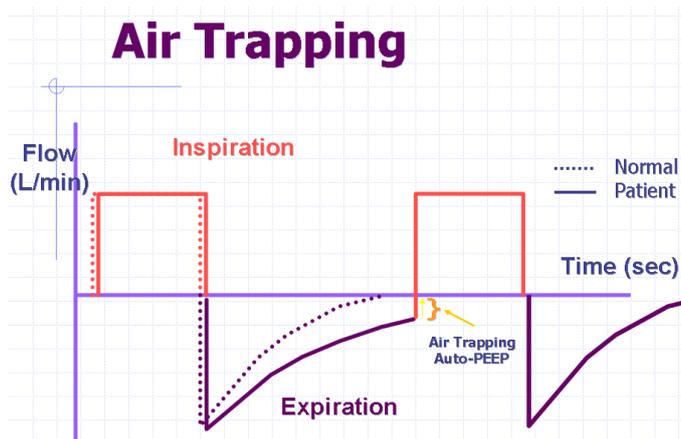
- Occurs if not enough time to exhale fully.
- Can lead to barotrauma, reduced VR, hypotension and CV collapse.

-HOW to CHECK no airtrapping:

- 1) Flow vs time graph: check exp flow returns to baseline before next breath.
- 2) Pplat: If elevated suggests airtrapping .

-Solution: reduce RR further.

****If CV collapse – disconnect from ventilator to allow exhalation of possible air trapping.**



References:

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- 6) ANZCA. Effective Management of Anaesthetic Crises. Participant Manual. 2nd Edition. 2010.

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