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TITLE: PRESSURE SUPPORT VENTILATION TO DECREASE WORK OF BREATHING IMPOSED BY PEDIATRIC ENDOTRACHEAL TUBES

AUTHORS: G.M. Gullahorn, MD; M.J. Banner, PhD; and L.S. Berman, MD

AFFILIATION: Depts. of Anesth., Pediatrics, and Physiol., Univ. of Fla., Gainesville, FL 32610-0254

Total work of breathing in spontaneously breathing intubated patients connected to a ventilator is the sum of the physiologic work (work to expand chest wall and lungs) and the work imposed (W_I) by the breathing apparatus (endotracheal tube [ETT] and breathing circuit). An increase in W_I secondary to an ETT with a narrow lumen predisposes patients to an increase in ventilatory muscle loading and muscle fatigue. The purpose of this study was to determine whether pressure support ventilation (PSV) can decrease inspiratory W_I to zero with pediatric ETTs.

A spontaneously breathing pediatric patient was simulated with a piston-driven mechanical lung model with a tidal volume (V_T) of 250 ml, a breathing rate of 15 breaths/min, and an inhalation-to-exhalation ratio of 0.5. Pressure measured with a transducer (Gould-Statham) at the tracheal (distal) end of the ETT and V_T measured with a pneumotachograph (Fleisch) were integrated to calculate inspiratory W_I . The trachea of the model was intubated with a type of ETT that has a built-in pressure measuring lumen at the tracheal end of the tube (Malinckrodt), and sizes of 4-, 5-, and 6-mm internal diameters were tested. The inspiratory W_I was calculated at 0 cm H₂O PSV and then incremental levels of PSV were applied with a ventilator (Hamilton, Amadeus) with each ETT size. Data were analyzed with a 2-factor ANOVA and a Tukey multiple comparisons test.

Inspiratory W_I , varying inversely with the size of the ETT, decreased significantly as PSV increased. To decrease inspiratory W_I to 0, with a 4-mm ETT, PSV of 15 cm H₂O was required; with a 5-mm ETT, 12 cm H₂O, and with a 6-mm ETT, 10 cm H₂O (fig.).

Normal inspiratory work of breathing for a small sized pediatric patient is approximately at 0.016 kg·meters/L of ventilation.¹ At 0 cm H₂O of PSV, total inspiratory work of breathing increased by 430% with a 4-mm ETT, 200% with a 5-mm ETT, and 144% with a 6-mm ETT. Our findings indicate that PSV may be used to decrease the inspiratory W_I with pediatric ETTs and, thus, to decrease the work of breathing in patients who are breathing spontaneously and receiving ventilatory support.

Reference

1. Zapletal A: Lung Function in Children and Adolescents. Karger, NY, 1987, p 208.

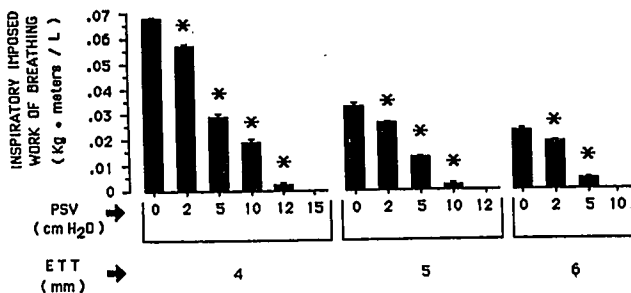


Figure. * $p < 0.05$ compared with previous level of pressure support ventilation (PSV) at the same endotracheal tube (ETT) size. Values are means \pm SD.

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TITLE: SKELETAL MUSCLE METABOLISM DOES NOT EXPLAIN SYSTEMIC OXYGEN UPTAKE (VO_2) DEPENDENCY ON OXYGEN DELIVERY (DO_2) WITH DOBUTAMINE (D) AND ENOXIMONE (E) ADMINISTRATION

AUTHORS: T. François, M.D., A. Mebazaa, M.D., J. Mateo, M.D., O. Lucas, M.D., D. Payen, M.D., Ph. D.

AFFILIATION: Dept. Anesth. Réa., Hôpital Lariboisière 75010 Paris, France

Because sympathetic stimulations can increase muscular VO_2 (1), the assessment of DO_2/VO_2 dependency with dobutamine in critically ill patients remains controversial (2). This study was designed to compare the effects of two drugs with different pharmacologic effects, D and E, on the increase in DO_2 in both systemic and forearm circulations. With Human Ethics Committee approval, ten patients (52 ± 14 years) were studied 6 hours after coronary artery bypass surgery who pre-operatively had LVEF greater than 50 %, and who post-operatively did not receive any vasoactive drugs and whose core temperature were $> 36^\circ C$. Parameters measured or calculated: 1) systemic circulation: VO_2 , DO_2 (mlO₂/min) (Swan-Ganz and radial artery catheters), 2) forearm circulation: vessel diameter, mean cross sectional blood flow velocity, and brachial blood flow (BBF) (ml/min) (transcutaneous 8 MHz pulsed Doppler) (3) from which brachial VO_2 (VbO_2) = BBF x brachial (CaO₂ - CvO₂) and brachial DO_2 (DbO_2) = BBF x CaO₂ were calculated. As an index of anaerobic metabolism, plasma lactates (mmol/l) were measured by arterial (Lact. A), pulmonary (Lact P) and brachial venous (Lact. B) blood sampling. Protocol: measurements were performed before (C1), after 20 min of D infusion at 7.5 mcg/kg/min (D), 30 min after the end of D infusion (C2), and finally after 20 min of E infusion at 35 mcg/kg/min (E). Statistics: analysis of variance, Bonferoni correction for multicomparison t test.

	C1	D	C2	E
DO_2	764 \pm 222	1018 \pm 241**	732 \pm 265	994 \pm 297++
VO_2	190 \pm 25	242 \pm 53**	202 \pm 33	244 \pm 66+
DbO_2	4.45 \pm 1.4	7.1 \pm 3.8*	4.4 \pm 1.5	7.1 \pm 3.6+
VbO_2	1.95 \pm 1	2.1 \pm 0.9	1.3 \pm 0.6	1.8 \pm 1.2
Lact. A	2.55 \pm 1	2.37 \pm 1.1	2.59 \pm 1.1	2.98 \pm 1.1
Lact P	2.56 \pm 1	2.36 \pm 1.1	2.63 \pm 1.1	3.04 \pm 1.1
Lact. B	2.97 \pm 0.9	2.72 \pm 1.2	3 \pm 1.3	3.2 \pm 0.9

* $p < 0.05$ vs C 1, ** $p < 0.01$ vs C 1, + $p < 0.05$ vs C 2
++ $p < 0.01$ vs C 2. Values are mean \pm SD.

Despite different pharmacologic properties, D and E elicited a systemic DO_2/VO_2 dependency despite a slight basal increase in Lact A or P. Such effect was not observed on brachial DO_2/VO_2 . These results suggest that systemic DO_2/VO_2 dependency is not related to pharmacologic mechanism of action nor to musculo-cutaneous metabolism.

References

1. Duran et al, Am J Phys, 231 (2) : 529-537, 1976.
2. Vincent et al, Am Rev Resp Dis, 142 : 2-7, 1990.
3. Levenson et al, Cardiovasc Res, 15 : 164-170, 1981.