

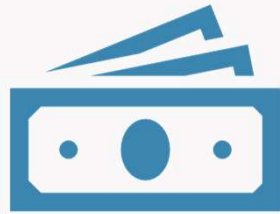
A blurred photograph of a hospital hallway with a circular frame overlay. The hallway has a red safety line on the floor and bright overhead lights. The circular frame is composed of two concentric white lines.

# **Hospital Internal Medicine Meets Critical Care: Patient Cases**

Adrijana Anderson, PA-C



# Disclosures



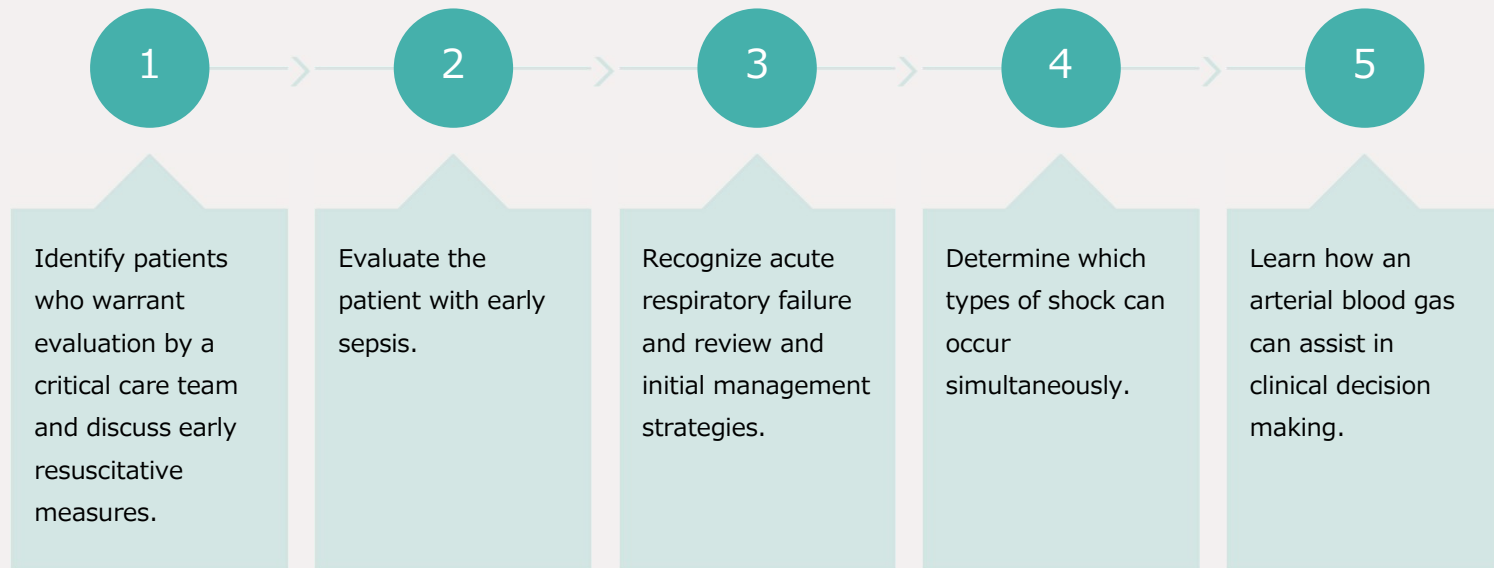
This presentation has no affiliation or financial arrangements.



Off-label use of medications will be mentioned.

# Objectives

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# Time to start your work day!

You are a busy hospital internal medicine NPPA and just arrived at work.

You turn on your pager and within **seconds**, you recognize the familiar tone of a page...



## Mr. Wilson

- 67M with history of nephrolithiasis, DM2, HTN who presented a few hours ago with **nausea** and vague **abdominal pain**.
- He remains hypotensive, despite 3 L of IV fluids in the ER
- A rapid response is called due to persistent hypotension

# Rapid Response

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You rush to bedside to find the following:

- **HR**: 120, NSR
- **RR**: 30s
- **BP**: 72/41 (51)
- **Temp**: 38.6 C
- **O2**: 93% on RA

# Early Signs of Sepsis

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Fever or hypothermia

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## **Tachypnea**

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Cold, clammy skin, poor cap refill

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Tachycardia

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Hypotension

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Hyper/hypoglycemia

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Decreased UOP

# Battle of the Sepsis Scoring Systems

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# Sepsis Scoring Systems: Which Do I Use?

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## Surviving Sepsis:

SIRS → Sepsis → Severe Sepsis → Septic Shock → MODS/MSOF

## qSOFA score (range 0-3) :

systolic hypotension (<100)

tachypnea (>22)

altered mental status

**SOFA score:** PaO<sub>2</sub>, FiO<sub>2</sub>, PLT, GCS, Bilirubin, Creatinine, Vasopressor requirement

## Soooo...which do I use?!

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It is good to be  
familiar with **both!**

SIRS = more sensitive

SOFA = more specific

# Resuscitation

Physiology stabilization and resuscitation precedes definitive diagnosis & treatment of underlying cause

**What are your initial interventions for Mr. Wilson?**

# 2018 Surviving Sepsis Bundle Update

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## One-hour Bundle

- Measure lactate level. Remeasure if initial lactate is  $>2$  mmol/L.
- Obtain blood cultures prior to administration of antibiotics.
- Administer broad-spectrum antibiotics.
- Begin rapid administration of 30ml/kg crystalloid for hypotension or lactate  $\geq 4$  mmol/L.
- Apply vasopressors if patient is hypotensive during or after fluid resuscitation to maintain MAP  $\geq 65$  mm Hg.

*\*"Time zero" or "time of presentation" is defined as the time of triage in the Emergency Department or, if presenting from another care venue, from the earliest chart annotation consistent with all elements of sepsis (formerly severe sepsis) or septic shock ascertained through chart review.*

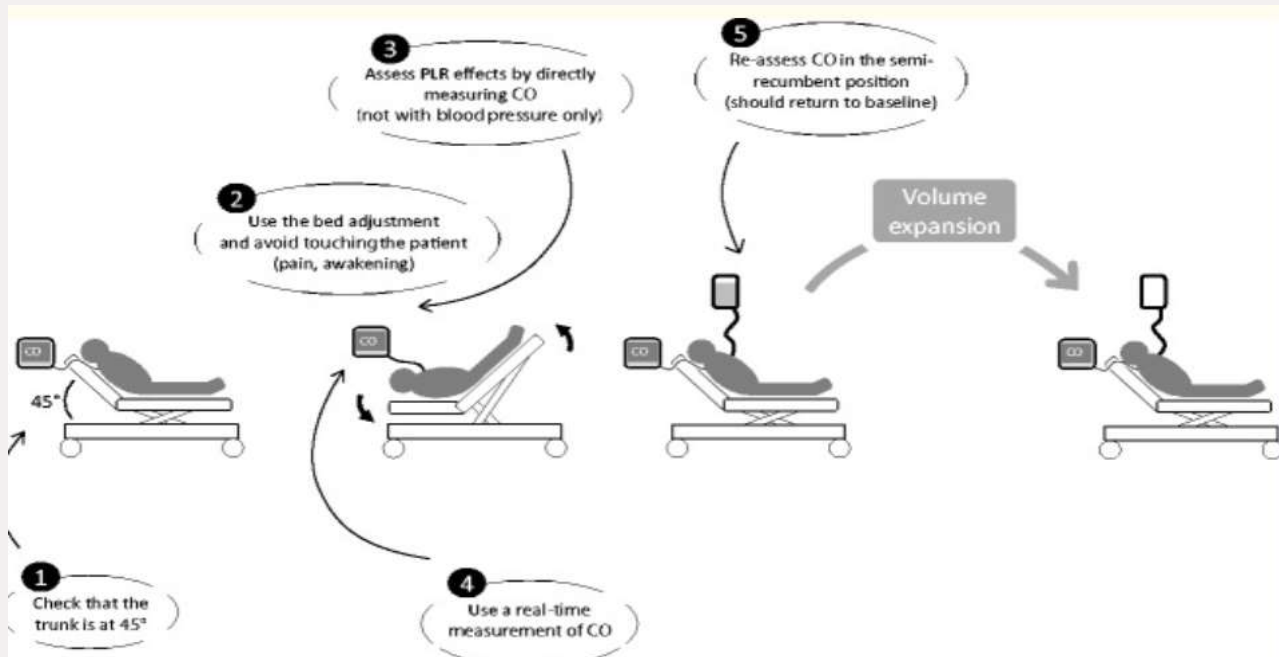


## Resuscitation

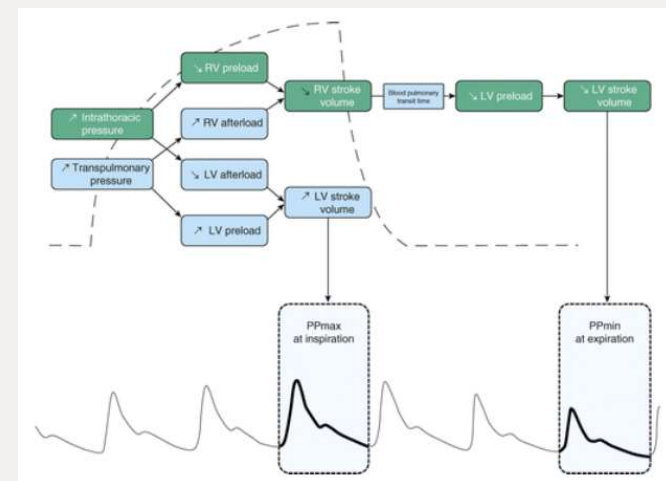
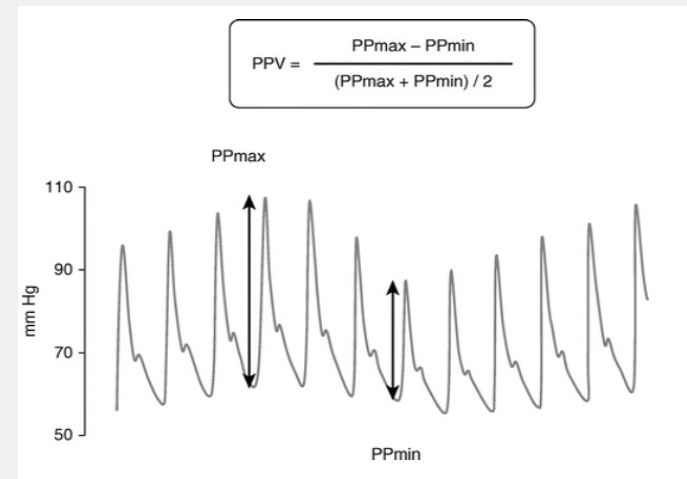
Mr. Wilson is still hypotensive, despite the 3L of fluid he received, what are some strategies to assess fluid status?

Fluid vs. Pressors

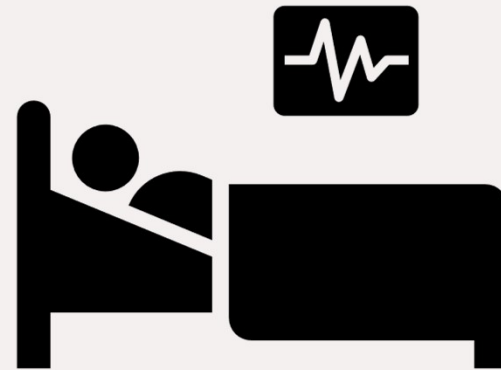
# Passive Leg Raise



# Pulse Pressure Variability



Unfortunately, Mr. Wilson remains hypotensive, plus he develops increased work of breathing...



ICU



## In the ICU....

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Patient becomes more tachypneic, increased work of breathing with some hypoxia

- ABG on nasal cannula: 7.21/23/55/9

Intubated & started on pressors

- **Would you have intubated this patient??**

# Progressive Shock

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Central line and arterial line placed

- Started on pressors: norepinephrine first, then vasopressin added

Workup for source of infection only c/w abnormal UA.

- Sent to CT for CT head/chest/abd/pelvis
- **Would you have sent this patient to CT?**

# ICU Course

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Labs:

ALT: 1455

AST: 1670

135	98	30	171
4.3	12	4.8	

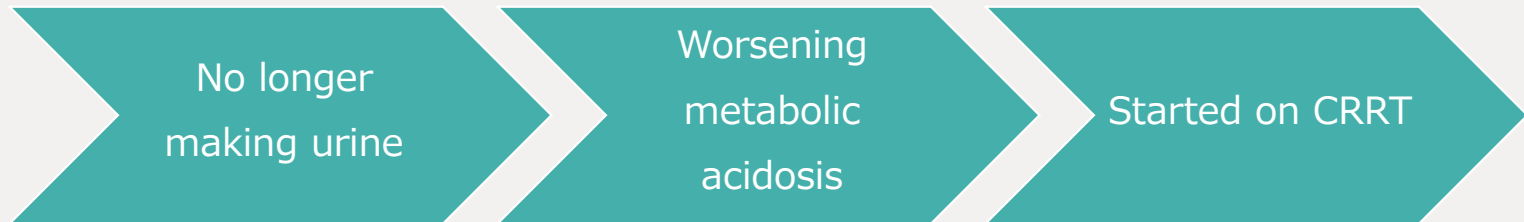
3.9	9.9	170
	28	

**CT A/P:** Obstructive R renal calculus, 8x6mm with mild R hydroureteronephrosis

- STAT IR placement of R nephrostomy tube

# ICU Course

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# ICU Course

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What are some other options to treat Mr. Wilson's refractory vasodilatory shock?



Stress dose steroids



Other pressors:

- Angiotensin II?
- ATHOS-3 trial



HAT (Hydrocortisone, Vitamin C, & Thiamine) therapy is **NOT** recommended

<sup>1</sup>Sprung CL, et al. Hydrocortisone therapy for patients with septic shock. N Engl J Med. 2008 Jan 10;358(2):111-24

<sup>2</sup>JAMA 2020;324(7):642

<sup>3</sup>JAMA 2019;322(13):1261

<sup>4</sup>JAMA 2021;325(8):742

**\* Off-label use!**

# ICU Course

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What are some other options to treat Mr. Wilson's refractory vasodilatory shock?



Methylene Blue \*



Hydroxycobalamin (Cyanokit)\*

Kwok ESH, Howes D. *Journal of Intensive Care Medicine*. 2006;21(6):359-363  
Park BK, Shim TS, Lim CM, et al. . *Korean J Intern Med*. 2005;20(2):123-128.  
Can J Anaesth. 2017 Jun;64(6):673-674.  
J Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth. 2018 Aug 11

Feih, et al. *Journal of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Anesthesia*, Volume 33, Issue 5, 2019, Pages 1301-130

## Mr. Wilson

After nephrostomy tube placement, started to improve slowly.

- UOP starting to pick up
- Pressors weaned
- Extubated

Transferred to medical floor on hospital day #2.



**Just as you are about  
to get a coffee...you  
get another page**





# Mrs. Lewis

---

79yo female with history of **COPD**, admitted a few hours ago with generalized **weakness, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain**.

- She received 2 doses of **morphine** for the abdominal pain and some **IVF** (in the ED).
- CT abdomen is pending.

Her bedside nurse is calling you in a panic because she is now slow to respond and slurring her speech.

# Mrs. Lewis

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You arrive to find her arousable to sternal rub, but otherwise extremely lethargic.

Her nurse tells you she had vomited twice right before this change in mental status



**What do you think could be going on and what is your initial workup?**

# Altered mental status

- A** Alcohol, ammonia, Alzheimer's
- E** Endocrine, electrolyte abnormalities
- I** Infection, intoxication
- O** Opiates, oxygen, CO2
- U** Uremia
- T** Tumor, trauma, toxins
- I** Insulin
- P** Psych/psychogenic
- S** Stroke, seizure, syncope, shock

**How do we assess if a patient is able to “protect their airway”?**

# ABG

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<b>pH</b>	7.11
<b>pCO<sub>2</sub></b>	85
<b>pO<sub>2</sub></b>	79
<b>HCO<sub>2</sub></b>	19

## **Mrs. Lewis**

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While you are getting your labs results, she becomes entirely unresponsive (even to painful stimulus) .

Intubated and transferred to the ICU.



**Is there a non-  
invasive  
ventilation  
strategy that  
would have  
been helpful  
here?**



## High Flow Nasal Cannula

- Enhances gas exchange
- More comfortable than BiPAP
- Improves work of breathing
- Provides some positive pressure
- Improves dead space
- Helps with mucociliary clearance



# BiLevel Positive Airway Pressure (BiPAP)

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INDICATIONS	CONTRAINDICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hypercapnia and acidosis</li><li>• Cardiogenic pulmonary edema</li><li>• COPD/asthma exacerbation</li><li>• Weaning and post-extubation failure</li><li>• Post surgical period</li><li>• Obesity hypoventilation syndrome</li><li>• Neuromuscular disorders</li><li>• Poor alveolar oxygen exchange</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cardiac or respiratory arrest</li><li>• Hemodynamic instability</li><li>• Inability to protect the airway</li><li>• Patient who is unable to cooperate</li><li>• Severe encephalopathy</li><li>• Significant agitation</li><li>• High risk of aspiration</li><li>• Active upper GI hemorrhage</li><li>• Facial trauma, recent surgery and/or burns</li></ul>

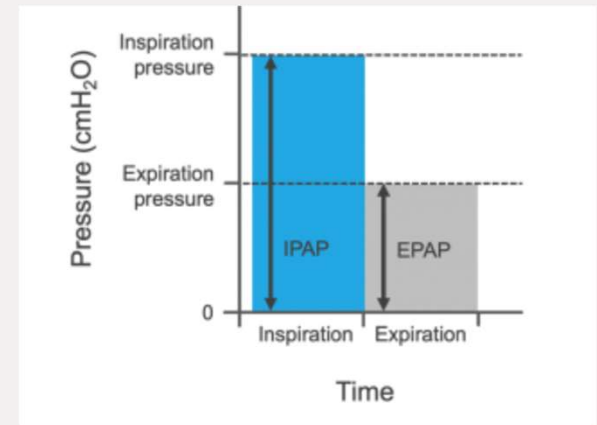
# BiPAP

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Utilizes 2 levels of positive airway pressure combining pressure support ventilation (PSV) and continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP)

- The PSV modality is referred to as **IPAP** (inspiratory positive airway pressure)
- The CPAP modality is referred to as **EPAP** (expiratory positive airway pressure)

The difference between these two pressure levels ( $\Delta P$ ) determines tidal volume generated.



# BiPAP

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

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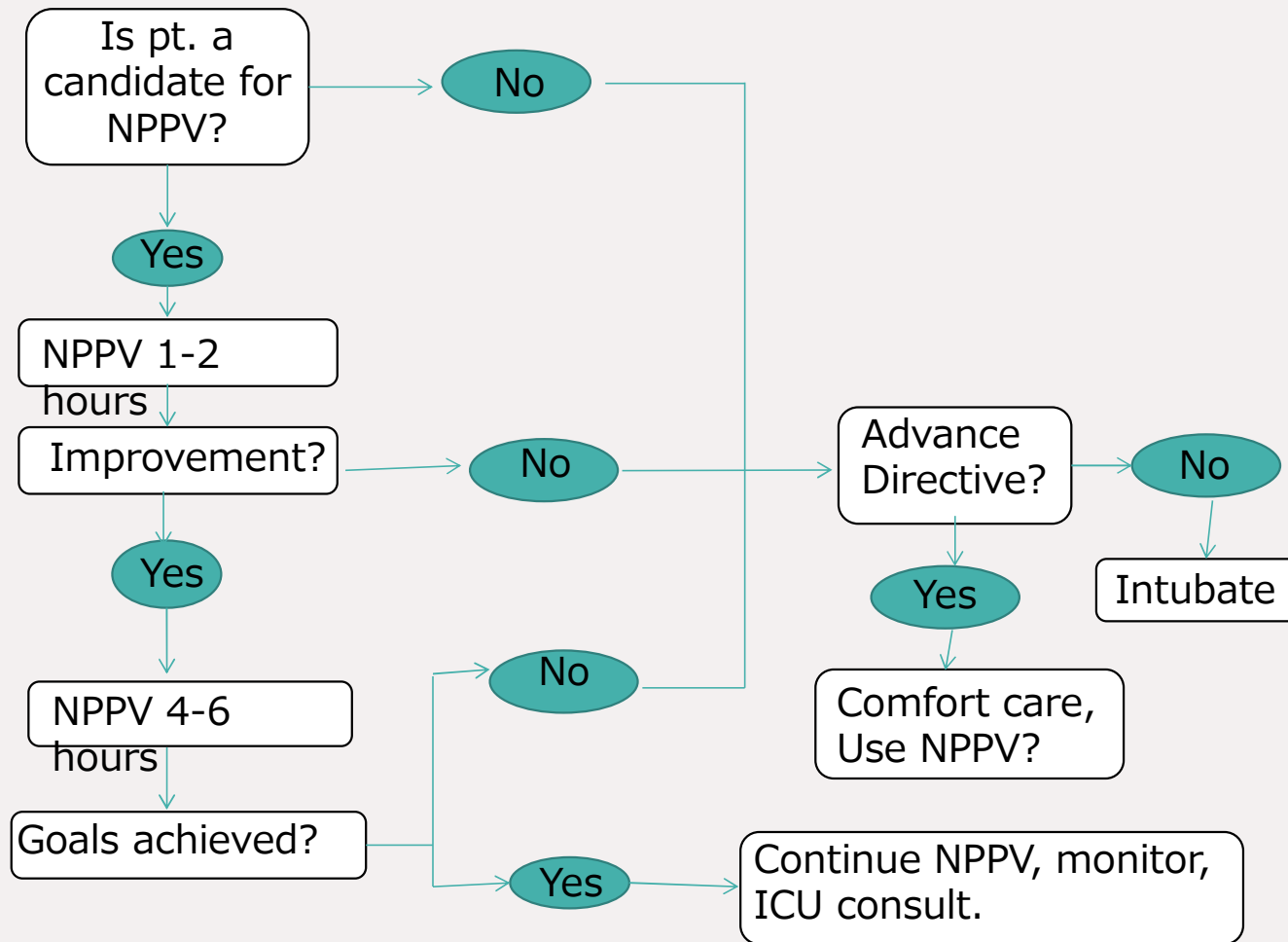
Example for initial BiPAP settings:

- Mode: Spontaneous
- Trigger: Maximum sensitivity
- FiO<sub>2</sub>: 1.0
- EPAP: 5 cm H<sub>2</sub>O
- IPAP: 10-15 cm H<sub>2</sub>O
- Backup rate: 6-8/min



Adjust  $\Delta$  to achieve an effect  $V_T$  and  $CO_2$  clearance

\*\*if oxygenation needs improving, increase EPAP for alveolar recruitment (however, will then need to also adjust IPAP to keep the same  $\Delta$ )



The second you sit  
down to try to write  
some notes...



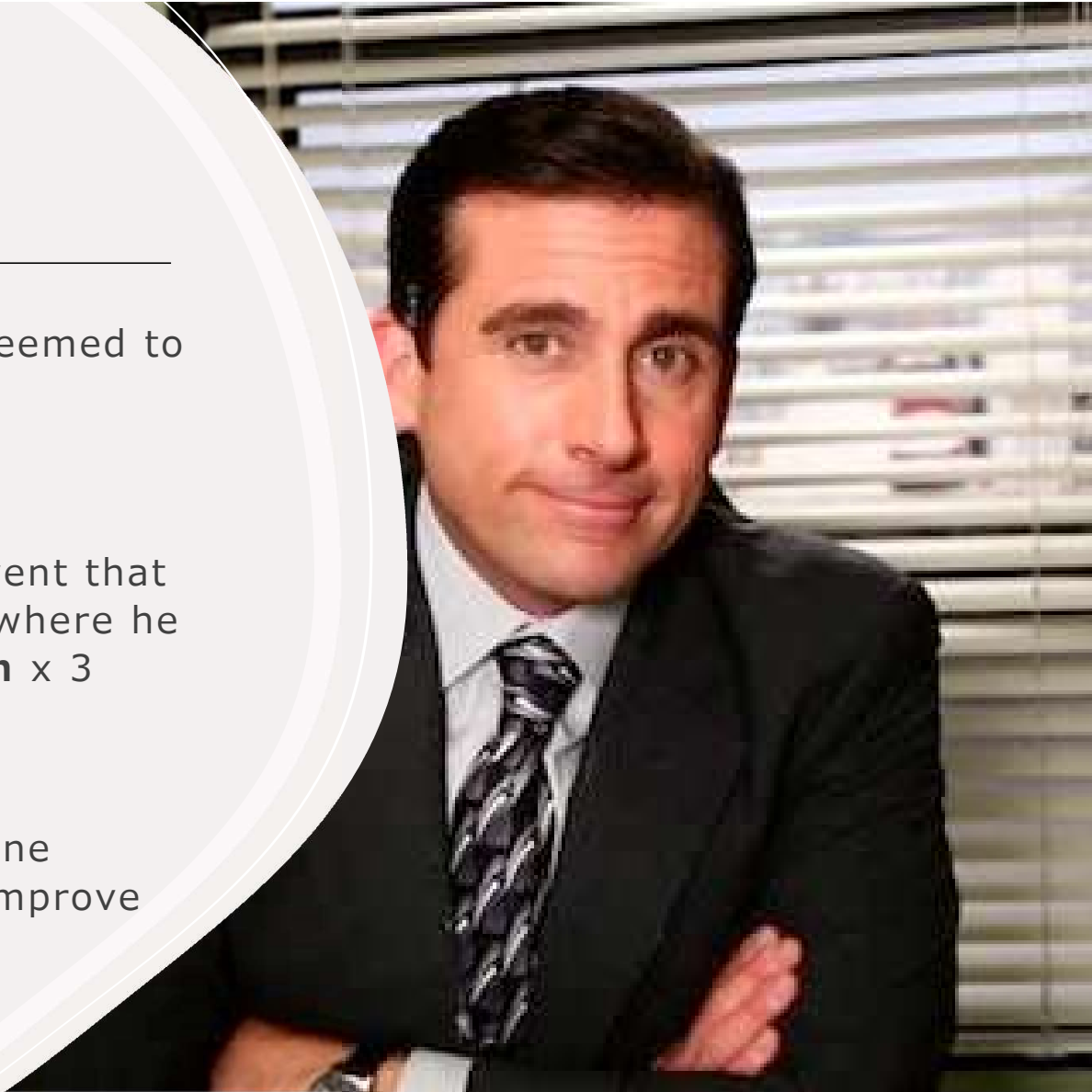
## Mr. Scott

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59yo male admitted with what seemed to be a straightforward CAP.

Unfortunately, his course was complicated by an **aspiration** event that required a brief stay in the ICU where he received **mechanical ventilation** x 3 days.

He is now on the hospital medicine service, where he continues to improve on **piperacillin/tazobactam**.



# Mr. Scott

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Your page is from the patient's nurse, stating he had a fever of 38.9°C four hours ago.

She tried to call the attending and didn't get through, so nothing has been done for the fever.

His other vitals:

**HR 110 BP 83/52 RR 30 SpO2 99% on 2L NC**

**What's your next  
step?**





# Initial Resuscitation

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**30 mL/kg crystalloids** within the first 3 hours if evidence of hypoperfusion

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Dynamic reassessment of volume status

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Target MAP  $\geq$  65 mm Hg

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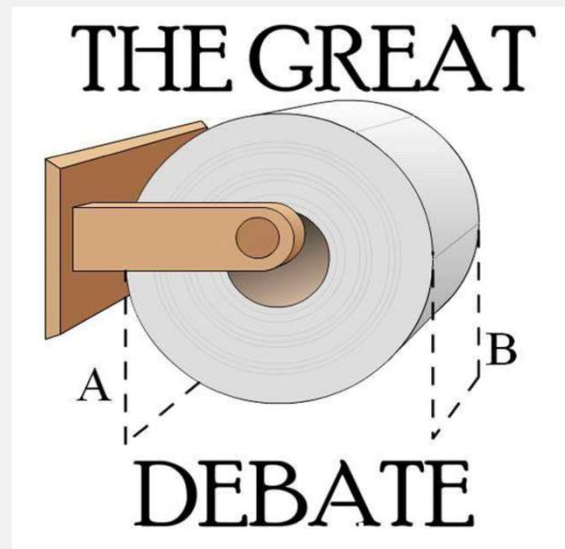
Goal is to clear lactate

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**Crystalloids first!**

**Which IV fluid should I use?**

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# Which IV fluid should I use?

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## SMART trial, 2018

**Balanced crystalloids (LR, Plasma-Lyte) >>> NS**

- Lower 30-day mortality
- Less need for renal-replacement therapy
- Lower rate persistent renal dysfunction

## But wait!

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### BaSICS trial, 2021

#### Plasma-lyte vs. NS

- No difference in 90-day survival
- No difference in incidence of AKI, need for RRT, hospital or ICU death, length of stay

## The verdict

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NS may not be as bad we thought!

In large volume resuscitation, consider using a balanced crystalloid



	Na	Cl	K	Mg	Ca	HCO <sub>3</sub>	Glucose	Acetate	Osm	pH
Plasma	140	104	4.5	1.25	2.5	24	0.08		290	7.4
0.9% NaCl	154	154							308	5.5
0.45% NaCl	77	77							406	
LR	130	109	4		1.5	28 (as lactate)			273	6.5
Plasma-Lyte	140	98	5	1.5				27	294	7.4
D5W							5		278	
Albumin	130-160	100-130	<2						309	

1 L of NS = 9 g Na  
 WHO recommendation = 2g/day  
 Average Na intake in the US = 3.3 g/day

# What about albumin?

**Harm  
or  
no evidence**



Extraperitoneal infections in patients with liver cirrhosis

Acute brain injury



**Possible role  
but evidence  
limited or  
uncertain**



Diuretic resistance



Cardiac surgery

Sepsis



**Recommended**



Sepsis resuscitation after large volumes of crystalloids

Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis



Hepatorenal syndrome

Large volume paracentesis



Ultrafiltration in patients with hypoalbuminaemia



## Which IV fluid should I use?

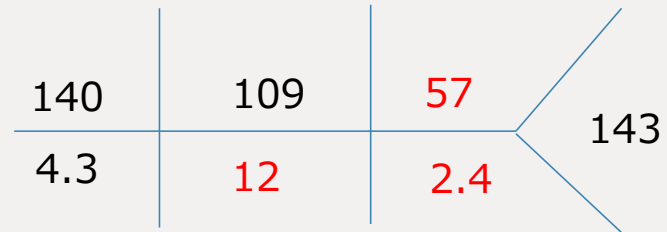
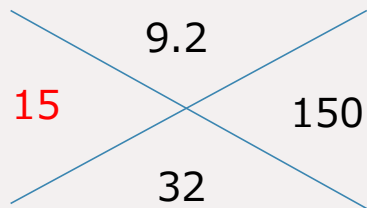
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Type of Fluid	Hospital Cost	Patient Cost
<b>NS</b>	\$ 1.25	\$78.40
<b>LR</b>	\$ 2.00	\$82.00
<b>Plasma-Lyte</b>	\$ 2.00	\$82.00
<b>500 mL 5% albumin</b>	\$33.25	\$266.00
<b>100ml 25% albumin</b>	\$66.30	\$234.00



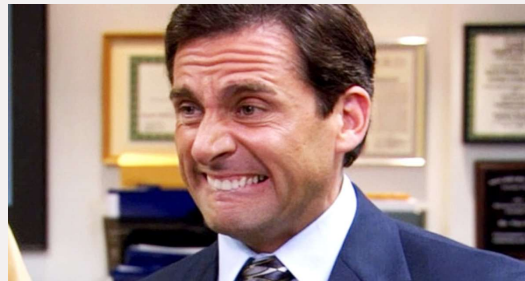
# Mr. Scott

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**Lactate: 8.7**

**Procalcitonin: 5**



# Bicarb?

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## BICAR-ICU trial, 2018

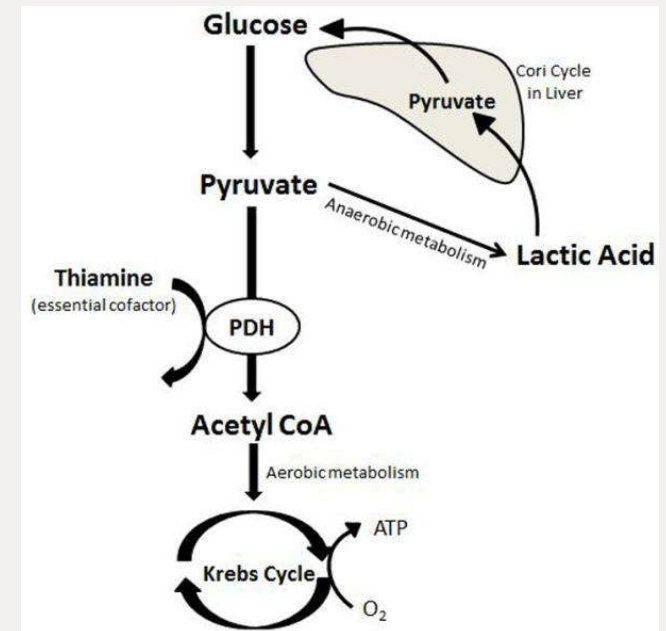
### When do we give bicarb in metabolic acidosis?

- 28 day mortality was no different (bicarb vs. placebo).
- No difference in LOS, ICU days
- ?less RRT

# Lactate

Produced by most tissues (mostly muscle)

Cleared mostly by the liver.



# Causes of elevated lactate

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## **Shock**

### **Post-cardiac arrest**

### **Regional tissue ischemia**

- Mesenteric ischemia
- Limb ischemia
- Burns
- Trauma
- Compartment syndrome
- Necrotizing soft tissue infections

## **DKA**

### **Drugs/toxins**

- Alcohols
- Cocaine
- CO
- Cyanide

### **Thiamine deficiency**

## **Medications**

- Linezolid
- NRTIs
- Metformin
- Epinephrine
- Propofol
- Acetaminophen
- Beta2 agonists
- Theophylline

## **Anaerobic muscle activity**

- Seizure
- Heavy exercise
- Increased WOB/asthma exacerbation

## **Malignancy**

## **Liver insufficiency**

## **Mitochondrial disease**

# Lactate Clinical Pearls

Lactate  $\geq 4\text{mmol/L}$  is associated with an increased mortality within 72 hours

Lactate clearance has a greater prognostic value than the initial lactate level

Can obtain by either arterial or venous samples

# Which IV fluid should I use?

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## Does LR affect lactate levels?

**No!**

- LR contains *sodium* lactate (not lactic acid), and is therefore not acidotic
- Lactate is very rapidly metabolized to bicarbonate
- Also you can use it even in hyperkalemia (it doesn't have a ton of K and NS can actually worsen HyperK if hyperchloremic acidosis created)

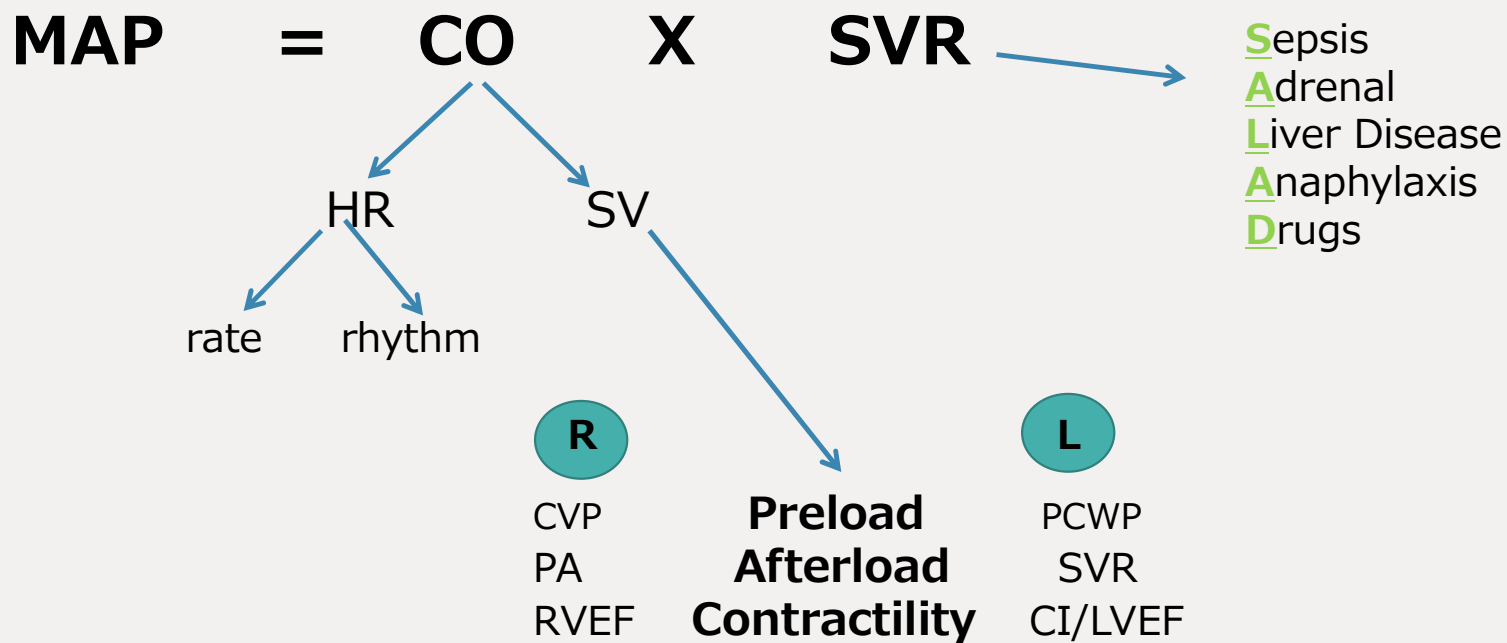
## Mr. Scott

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He continues to have a fever of 38.7 even after a dose of Tylenol.

After you give him a 500cc fluid bolus...his BP is still low at 87/49.

# Hypotension





# **SVO2/ScVO2**

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## **SVO2 = venous O2 saturation**

- The amount of O2 “left over” after the tissues have used up everything they need
- Normal = 65-70%

A true SVO2 is drawn from a PA catheter, but you can get an ScVO2 from any central line (including PICC)

# SVO<sub>2</sub>

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## HIGH SVO<sub>2</sub>

- ↑ **O<sub>2</sub> delivery** (increased FiO<sub>2</sub>)
- ↓ **O<sub>2</sub> demand** (hypothermia, anesthesia)
- **High flow states** (sepsis, hyperthyroid, etc)

## LOW SVO<sub>2</sub>

- ↓ **O<sub>2</sub> delivery**
  - ↓ Hgb
  - ↓ SaO<sub>2</sub> (hypoxemia)
  - ↓ forward flow (heart failure)
- ↑ **O<sub>2</sub> demand** (hyperthermia, shivering, pain, seizures)

# Hypotension Clinical Pearls

Monitor clinical response by:

- UOP
- Peripheral perfusion assessment
- Mental status
- Lactate/acidosis

**Not all patients with  
hypotension have shock!!**

## Mr. Scott

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Blood cultures started growing GPC within three hours

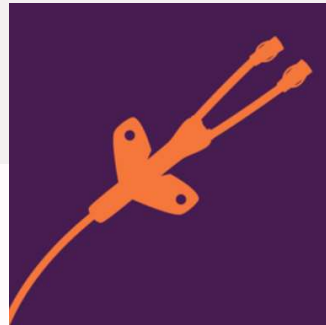
- ScVO<sub>2</sub> came back at 39%
- Stat echo showed an EF of 25% (from a previous normal)



# Did we even need the PICC?

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DOWNLOAD MICHIGAN MAGIC - IOS



DOWNLOAD MICHIGAN MAGIC - ANDROID



**You get a full  
2 minutes to  
sit and  
attempt to  
write a note,  
when you are  
asked to do an  
ICU transfer….**

The patient is a 43 female, Ms. Smith, who has been in the ICU for the past **64 days** with COVID-19 ARDS….

# Post ICU Considerations

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**PICS (Post ICU Syndrome)** = term that describes the cognitive, psychological, physical and other consequences that plague ICU survivors

- Cognitive impairment occurs in 30-80% of ICU survivors
- Anxiety, depression, PTSD occur in 8-57%
- New physical impairments in 25-80%
- Others can develop other new symptoms including: dyspnea and DOE, reduced exercise tolerance, sexual dysfunction, etc.

# Prevention of PICS

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During ICU care:

**A**ssess & manage pain

**B**reathing trials & spontaneous awakening

**C**hoice of sedative (non-benzodiazepine)

**D**aily delirium monitoring

**E**arly mobility

**F**amily engagement & empowerment

**\*Big emphasis on prevention & treatment of delirium\***



# Treatment of PICS

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PICS clinics are becoming more prevalent & have had a lot of success with this patient population

- Their aim is to help connect post ICU patients to the resources they need following discharge, to help them achieve the most successful recovery available to them

# Post ICU Considerations

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## Opioid use after intensive care

Study examined opioid-naïve patients, who received invasive mech vent in the ICU

- 20% on opioids after hospital discharge  
(7.6% from MICU, 33% from SICU)
- 2.6% filled the following year – new persistent opioid use  
(1.3% from MICU, 4.1% from SICU)

**Time to go  
home!**



# Questions?

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