

Use of Capnography for Monitoring Pressure Status Raymond L. Fowler, M.D., FACEP Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine *The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Director Mid Georgia Ambulance Service Douglas, County, Fire Department* 

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The medical and ethical performance of ENIS professionals has never been more important than it is today

# The emerging of a profession:



# The End of the Beginning

### The End of the Beginning

 Innocence is over •You are COMPLETELY accountable for what you do Becoming a professional requires you to always be able to explain your actions • EMS is ONLY and ALWAYS about patient care

As we assess patients, we must quickly determine fundamental parameters of their respiratory and circulatory status.



## How do we do it?

Standardized Patient Examinations!

Makes Sense Out of Chaos!!



**Primary Survey** From Basic Trauma Life Support, 1983 **Scene/Mechanism/# of Patients** LOC/Airway/Cspine **Respiratory Rate and Labor Pulses, Rate and Quality, Neck and Wrist** Skin CMT/CRT Neck appearance, NVD, Trachea **Chest appearance Breath sounds present and equal, percussion** Brief exam of abd, pelvis, LE, UE, Back



### **Conclusions:**

•Medics learn as adult learners do (rote memorization works poorly) •Medics must be allowed more practice time in stations, avoid long lectures •Periodic quality assurance and retraining on patient assessment is vital •Assuming that all experienced paramedics will retain material from intense training periods is wrong •Tempus fugit

# "Tweaking" the Process

The Third Survey (MGA ~ 1994)
Annual Skills Reviews (MGA ~ 1995)
Improved assessment measures for performance including improving patient care report document and procedure notes

## **Third Survey**

Level of Consciousness Airway Breathing Circulation

Any other pertinent positive or negative following initial resuscitation

# **Understanding Resuscitation Requirements**

We MUST maintain Normal Physiology

Statement of Concern: What we DO to unstable patients during resuscitation is often BAD physiology

### Understanding the body by regions

Positive pressure Negative pressure Positive pressure



The negative pressure inside the thorax "pulls" blood back from the positive pressure areas.

Positive pressure Negative pressure

Positive pressure



Maintaining the "negativity" of the pressure inside of the thorax is one of the most vital areas of understanding resuscitation

#### Negative pressure



### ...and!!!

Maintaining negative pressure is one of the LEAST understood requirements!!

#### Negative pressure











# How Does Blood Get Back from My Big Toe?



# Does the heart PUMP it around?



# Nope...



# The heart sucks blood back on the intake stroke



# **Only through** MAINTAINING the negative intake stroke can the pumping action (cardiac output) be preserved



### Cardiac output x Volume x Peripheral resistance



### A heart thing & a volume thing & a blood vessel thing...ALWAYS!

### What does a low blood pressure mean?



Or a combination of any of these

> ...from BTLS, editions 2, 3, 4, and 5 Fowler, Pepe et al

### **Signs of Shock**



Weak, thirsty, lightheaded Pale, then sweaty Tachycardia Tachypnea Diminished urinary output



Hypotension Altered LOC Cardiac arrest Death



# Shock

#### Cardiogenic

Rapid pulse Distended neck veins Cyanosis

#### Volume Loss

Rapid pulse Flat neck veins Pale



Vasodilatory Variable pulse Flat neck veins Pale or pink










### What is the problem with shock?

Oxygen deprivation to the tissues below an absolute level of about 10 mmHg at the tissue level, causing cell membrane damage, ion depolarization, and calcium shifts with cell death. **Rationale for Fluid Resuscitation** 

Series of Canine Experiments in 1950s and 1960s...

Shed 60 -70% blood volume = 80% Mortality Rate

#### **Mortality Rate in Animals**

with 60 -70% of their Blood Volume Shed





## ASSUMPTION

## Elevating Blood Pressure is Always a Good Thing



### **Bill Bickell and Paul Pepe**









#### **1990's -- New Series of Animal Experiments**

(uncontrolled hemorrhage in rats, dogs, pigs, sheep)

BP < 40 mmHg May Be a Hypotension Threshold

## THUS!!!

Providing a base level of a few CC's of oxygen per 100 cc of blood (far less than normally carried in arterial blood – 15 to 20 cc's/100 cc blood) may prevent cellular injury and death





#### Bleeding Control

<u>Choose the</u> <u>Method for</u> <u>Bleeding Control</u>

Horizontal Position Direct Pressure ?? Tourniquets ?? ?? MAST ??

#### Establish IV Access

#### Based on Need for Fluid Administration or IV Drugs

NOT NECESSARILY ROUTINE!!

#### Compute IV Fluid Rate

Based on Need to maintain hemodynamic status

NORMALIZE BP ONLY IN PATIENTS WITH CONTROLLED HEMORRHAGE



15-20 cc/kg Volume Bolus IF BLEEDING IS CONTROLLED

15-20 cc/kg Volume Bolus IF BLEEDING IS NOT CONTROLLED <u>UP TO THE</u> <u>APPEARANCE OF</u> <u>A RADIAL PULSE</u> <u>ONLY</u>

#### IV Fluid Rate

 Controlled External Hemorrhage 20 cc/kg until normalized Uncontrolled External Hemorrhage = 20 cc/kg until radial pulse appears Uncontrolled Internal Hemorrhage = 20 cc/kg until radial pulse appears Head-injured trauma with circulatory compromise = 20 cc/kg until radial pulse appears

Begin Intake and Output Recording **Keep NPO** 

IV Fluids, if any

Note amount of Urine Output (0.5 – 1 cc/min in adults; adjust down by weight for kiddies)

**NG or PEG output** 

**Vomitus or Diarrhea** 

Don't forget diaphoresis and burns!! Be AWARE that the Patient's Condition may CHANGE

"Third Survey" every five minutes Hemothorax may develop after a tension

Bleeding from the abdomen may occur later without warning

Volume expansion may blow off a clot

Your selected ventilation rate might drop venous return and cause impaired circulation

#### Determine need for HBOC!

Decreasing CO<sub>2</sub> especially in setting of Hypotension Pale Patient Altered Mental Status Any severe hemorrhage Arrhythmia development "PROTECTION FROM **ANOXIC DAMAGE**"



## **Current Ventilation**

## <u>Concepts in</u> <u>Critical Care</u>

# Cardiac Arrest

A 55 year old man is found down in Cardiac Arrest by his wife. EMS is called. Citizen CPR is being done



He was well until this happened. He has no medical problems and takes no medications.

## After defibrillation the patient remains in VF



He does not improve after administration of CPR, epinephrine, or amiodarone,

## What do you do??



## Our normal breathing is NEGATIVE PRESSURE breathing!

Negative pressure breaths improve venous return to the heart and increase cardiac output



### Physiology



Alveoli: The Place Where Gas Exchange Happens


## Carbon dioxide physiology

 $CO_2 + H_2O \longrightarrow H_2CO_3 \longrightarrow H^+ + HCO_3^-$ 

# What is Carbon Dioxide?

- Capnos comes from the Greek word for "smoke"
  - smoke from the fire of metabolism
  - a natural waste product of cellular activity
- CO<sub>2</sub> is a compound molecule
  - 2 elements of oxygen and 1 element of carbon
  - colorless and heavier than air
  - green plants clean up after our exhaled CO<sub>2</sub>

## Carbon dioxide physiology

- 0.03% concentration in air
- Resting adult produces
   2.5 mg/kg/min, or about 185 mg in a guy my size

(okay, okay...195 mg...4% of a teaspoonful)









# AVOID **OVERVENTILATION!** Only ventilate as fast as the amount of CO2 being produced **Bagging too fast RAISES** intrathoracic pressure, drops venous return, and reduces cardiac output







# CAT Scans in The Field?

Well, not any time soon, Though in Odessa, Texas One of the first studies On field ultrasound machines Is now being conducted!

## Rates greater than 8 per minute by ET tube in patients with circulatory collapse <u>MAY</u>

drop blood pressure...or worse!

Previous and Ongoing Studies by Pepe et al A swine model was cannulated and nearly exsanguinated

Hyperventilation was induced

**Pepe showed that** coronary perfusion pressures **DROPPED** dramatically during overventilation



Aufderheide found, medics routinely overventilate patients even when specifically trained to avoid overzealous ventilation

## Patient in PEA being Overventilated at Rate of 30 and CO<sub>2</sub> of about 15



## Same Patient in PEA at Rate of 10 and CO<sub>2</sub> increased to 25



## Patient in Severe Sinus Brady Being Overventilated at a rate of 40 and a CO2 of 8



## **CONCLUSIONS:**

**Professional rescuers were observed** to excessively ventilate patients during out-of-hospital CPR. Subsequent animal studies demonstrated that similar excessive ventilation rates resulted in significantly increased intrathoracic pressure and markedly decreased coronary perfusion pressures and survival rates.

A one hand squeeze at a rate of one every eight seconds is ALL the ventilation that a patient in circulatory collapse needs!

**Breathing the patient** faster than that may reduce venous return, worsen shock, and kill the patient!

# Let capnography guide you!



1 sec 🛏



# **Capnography Wave with Obstructive Component?**



# **Capnography Wave with Restrictive Component?**





## What Happened in Block 2?







The endotracheal tube became dislodged!

### Ann Emerg Med 2001 Jan;37(1):32-7

### Misplaced endotracheal tubes by paramedics in an urban emergency medical services system.

### Katz SH, Falk JL

Department of Emergency Medicine, JFK Medical Center, Atlantis, FL, USA.

### •A total of 108 intubated patients were studied

- •On arrival in the ED, 25% (27/108) of patients were found to have improperly placed endotracheal tubes. Of the misplaced tubes, 67% (18/27) were found to be in the esophagus, whereas in 33% (9/27), the tip of the tube was found to be in the hypopharynx, above the vocal cords.
- •Of the patients with misplaced tubes noted in the hypopharynx, 33% (3/9) died while in the ED. For the patients found to have tubes in the hypopharynx, 56% (5/9) had evidence of ETCO(2) on ED arrival.
- •For the patients found to have esophageal tube placement on ED arrival, 56% (10/18) died in the ED.
- <u>CONCLUSION</u>: The incidence of out-of-hospital, unrecognized, misplaced endotracheal tubes in our community is excessively high and may be reflective of the incidence occurring in other communities. Data from other communities are needed to clarify the scope of this alarming issue.

Patient's Name:	Age: C	Case #	Date://
Check all appropriate items:	Intubating Medic's Name (Print):	Medic Number:	
Care prior to EMS arrival	Arrival Of EMS: Status of Pt's Airway/Ventilation	Indication(s) for ETT	Indications for ETT continued:
CPR Outh-to-Mouth BVM Oral/Nasal Airway Manual Maneuvers ET/Combitube Placed	Airway not open on arrival     Open, -Pt Ventilating Well     Open, not Ventilating Well     Open, in Respiratory Arrest     Foreign Body Obstruction     Vomitus/Blood in Airway     Facial/Tracheal Trauma	Asthma Aprea Cardiac Arrest Head Injury Hypoxia	Prophylactic     Major Trauma     Low Tidal Volume'     Respiratory Rate     Other
Type of Intubation (ETT)	Verification Check #1 (ETT)	Verification Check #2	Verification Check #3
□ Oro-tracheal □ Nasal □ Digital	Direct Visualization     (ET seen through vocal cords)     ET Over Arytenoids     Unable to Visualize	Esophageal Air Aspiration Aspirated 60ec's or more of a Unable to Aspirate 60ec of air	Breath Sounds air B/S Present 5 area chec B/S RightLeft onl B/S Absent
Verification Check #4	Verification Check # 5	ETT Placement	Combitube Placement
Epigastric Sounds Absent epigastric sounds Epigastric sounds present Unable to determine	Pulse Ox Reading Pre ETT:% Post ETT:% Capnometry Pre-ETT: Yellow Purple Post-ETT: Yellow Purple	YES     NO       Gag Reflex Present	(First Responder or EMS) Combitube NOT Attempted Combitube WAS Attempted Number Of Attempts Lung Sounds? Yes NO Chest Rise? Yes NO

PLACEMENT SECURED BY: C ETT HOLDER C-COLLAR OTHER

#### PHYSICIAN OR RESPIRATORY THERAPIST STATEMENT

TO THE PHYSICIAN OR RESPIRATORY THERAPIST ACCEPTING CARE OF THIS PATIENT, PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION AS PART OF OUR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

 ETT Position upon Arrival in your ER:

 Trachea Esophagus

 RECEIVING HOSPITAL:

 Combitube Position upon Arrival in your ER:

 Trachea Esophagus

 RECEIVING HOSPITAL:

 Method of Verification:

 Direct Visualization

 Breath Sounds

Comments:

PHYSICIAN/RT SIGNATURE:

DATE OF SIGNATURE:

Please attach this form to the Douglas County Fire Department's copy of the DHR on this patient





k ( /) all appropriate items	Intubating Medics Name (Print):	Medic ID ii
<section-header><section-header></section-header></section-header>	<ul> <li>is over when we can justing whether an endotrached is in place or not.</li> <li>not be able to intubate events ALWAYS know if the is in place or not.</li> </ul>	ify not al tube





### Compute Tidal Volume

Based on Need for Oxygen:

10-15 cc/kg Big squeeze big folks, full bag

Little squeeze little folks (1/3 bag for 12 y/o)


On the low side if using BVM

On the low side if tension pneumo

10-15 cc/kg

Big squeeze big folks Little squeeze little folks



Choose the Route for Ventilation

Mouth to Mask BVM ET NT Surgical Airway



### Respiratory Rate

•Trauma Arrest = 6-8/min •Cardiac Arrest = 8-10/min •Altered LOC with unilateral blown pupil no circ comp = 15/min Head-injured trauma with circulatory compromise = 8-10/min •Asthma = 8-10/min •Hypovolemia = 8-10/min •COPD = 8-10/min



**Based on Capnometry: Slow ventilation** rate until you see yellow in the capnometry reading (or better, use waveform and slow ventilation until CO<sub>2</sub> crosses about 20 or greater)

## Capnometry



- A (purple) = < 4 mm Hg
- B (tan) = 4-15 mm Hg
- C (yellow) = > 15 mm Hg



### Wayne et al:

Showed that in cardiac arrest patients whose endtidal CO<sub>2</sub> was less than 10 mmHg, no one survived

## So, what do we do with this guy??





## Evaluate capnography or capnometry five minutes later



## Adjust the ventilation rate from there



## Slow the ventilation rate down until exhaled CO2 rises above 20, paired with good, compressions and e time off chest

...and, if you do this... AND YOU MUST... you will likely be the only guy on the team who understands that this is now the standard



# Major

**<u>Fauna</u>** 

Bubba was shot in the chest during an intellectual discussion about the value of certain goods and services where one individual did not feel that the goods rendered equaled the value transferred



He was well until this happened. He has no medical problems and takes no medications. Enroute his capnography shows 40 on exhalation, and you begin O's, IV's, and rapid transport



Shortly thereafter, his CO2 drops to 20 and he is acting a little confused

What is happening?

## He is going into circulatory collapse



## What do you do?

### Administer sufficient fluid to maintain radial ("permissive hypoperfusion") Examine for the development of a tension

If you have to assist ventilation start with a one hand squeeze at a rate of eight and keep your eye on the Capnography Waveform

### ...and contact the trauma team...



...and drive fast...



**EMS** professionals have never been more important to emergency medicine than they are today and their knowledge base must continue to grow indefinitely...



The Medics of the Near Future will be "Out of Hospital Intensivists"







### QUESTIONS and COMMENTS??