

**ULTRASOUND ASSESSMENT OF LUNG
AERATION LOSS DURING A SUCCESSFUL
WEANING TRIAL PREDICTS
POSTEXTUBATION DISTRESS**

Thesis

Submitted for partial fulfillment of the master degree of Critical Care

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2015

Abstract

Ultrasound assessment of lung aeration loss during a successful weaning trial predicts postextubation distress.

Aim of work: To assess whether lung derecruitment during spontaneous breathing trial and postextubation assessed by lung ultrasound is predictive of postextubation distress.

Patients & methods:

Fifty patients on invasive mechanical ventilation fulfilling criteria of weaning from mechanical ventilation were shifted to SBT. Lung ultrasound score before and at the end of a 60-min spontaneous breathing trial and 4 hrs after extubation was calculated to quantify lung aeration.

Results:

Mean age was 56.66 ± 6.36 , 56% were males. Twelve patients failed the spontaneous breathing trial, 38 were extubated. 24 were definitively weaned (postextubation success group), and 14 suffered from postextubation distress. Loss of lung aeration at end of spontaneous breathing trial was marked in patients with postextubation distress, and increased from (11.57 ± 2.24) to (14.93 ± 2.23) . ROC curve has an excellent predictive value for postextubation distress with area under the curve (AUC) 0.972 & cutoff value LUS ≥ 11 at the end of spontaneous breathing trial, with a sensitivity of 100% & a specificity of 88%. ROC curve for difference in LUS between basal & end of trial showed an excellent predictive value for postextubation distress with sensitivity 100% & specificity 83% at cutoff value ≥ 3 (area under the curve = 0.91).

Conclusion: Lung ultrasound determination of aeration changes during a successful spontaneous breathing trial accurately predict postextubation distress

Key Words: lung ultrasound; mechanical ventilation; postextubation distress; weaning.