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# CRITICAL CARE ANESTHESIA

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## Number one motto!

- Be Prepared



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## Overview

- Intro/general suggestions
- Specific cases



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### Tip #1: Choose cardiovascularly sparing agents

- Avoid drugs with negative cardiovascular side effects
  - Propofol
  - Iso/Sevoflurane
  - Acepromazine
  - Dexmedetomidine




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### Tip #2: Pre-oxygenate

- Adds oxygen to functional residual capacity
  - Amount of air in lungs after exhalation
- Provides extra O<sub>2</sub> when intubating
- Enhances oxygen delivery
  - $DO_2 = \text{Cardiac Output} \times \text{Arterial Oxygen Content}$




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### Tip #3: Reduce MAC of gas anesthetic

- Typically done through use of cardiovascularly sparing drugs AND/OR locals
  - Adding a pre-med
  - Switching from Buprenex/Torb to Pure mu opioid
  - Local block
  - Sedative (Diazepam)
  - Intra-op CRI




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### Tip #4: Know how to calculate a CRI- USE them!

- Ketamine
- Lidocaine
- Pure Mu Opioid




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### How to calculate a CRI

- Information needed:
  - Patient weight
  - Drug dose
  - Drug concentration
  - Volume of fluids to add into/rate
- Step 1: Patient weight x drug dose (mg/hr)
- Step 2: Drug dose / drug concentration (mls/hr)
- Step 3: Figure out how long fluids last (hours)
- Step 4: Multiply hours x mls/hr (mls to add to IVF)

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Fentanyl CRI:  
 • Dose: 5ug/kg/hr  
 • Drug concentration: 50ug/mL  
 • Patient Weight: 10 kg  
 • IV Fluids: 900 ml at 10 ml/hr

Step 1- Calculate the drug dose (mg or ug)	➔	$\frac{5\cancel{ug}}{\cancel{kg}} \times 10 \cancel{kg} = \frac{50ug}{hr}$
Step 2- Calculate the drug volume (ml's)	➔	$\frac{50\cancel{ug}}{hr} \times \frac{1\cancel{mL}}{50\cancel{ug}} = \frac{1\cancel{mL}}{hr}$
Step 3- Calculate the amount of hours IVF will last	➔	$900\cancel{mL} \times \frac{1\cancel{hr}}{10\cancel{mL}} = 90\cancel{hrs}$
Step 4- Calculate the volume of drug to add for total hours	➔	$90\cancel{hrs} \times \frac{1\cancel{mL}}{\cancel{hr}} = 90\cancel{mL's}\text{ add}$

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### Tip #5: SpO2 and ECG are NOT your friends

- Monitoring
  - SpO<sub>2</sub>
  - BP
  - ECG
  - End-tidal CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Temperature
  - Ancillary
    - Blood Glucometer
    - Blood Gas Machine



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### Why not?

#### ECG

- Pulseless electrical activity
  - ECG says nothing about mechanical function

#### PULSE OX

- Oxygen level DOES NOT correlate directly with SpO<sub>2</sub> %
  - On 100% O<sub>2</sub>: Patient SHOULD have oxygenation around 400-500 with SpO<sub>2</sub> of 98-100%
  - Patient with SpO<sub>2</sub> of 94-96% has oxygen content = 80-100 mmHg



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### Limitations of Pulse ox technology

#### Pulse ox lag

- Most oximeters report data from 30 seconds prior to real-time

#### Needs decent waveform to function

- Pigment, poor perfusion

#### Only reports saturation of hemoglobin

- Not oxygen "level" in blood

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## Pulse oximetry

- Saturation of hemoglobin
- Light is sent through an artery and is detected on the other side
- Observes oxyhemoglobin wavelengths if present
- Correlates to dissolved O<sub>2</sub> gas in blood stream




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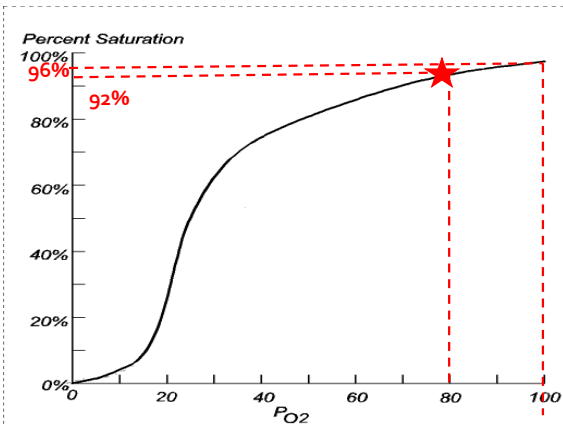
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## Important info

- Arterial oxygen level (PaO<sub>2</sub>) SHOULD be 5x inspired O<sub>2</sub> (FiO<sub>2</sub>)
- So if breathing 100% oxygen (inspired O<sub>2</sub> = 100%):
- Fi O<sub>2</sub> = 1
- PaO<sub>2</sub> SHOULD BE:
- 500 PaO<sub>2</sub> (mmHg)




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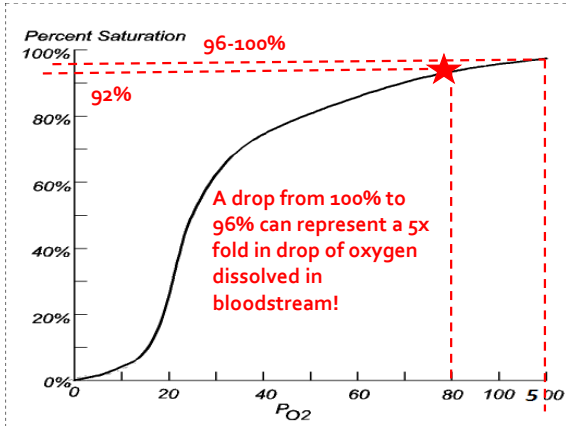
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### Ventilation

- Chest wall compliance/movement
- CO<sub>2</sub> levels (arterial or venous)



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### Measuring ventilation

- CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Arterial blood gas
  - End-tidal CO<sub>2</sub>
- End-Tidal CO<sub>2</sub> monitor important tool in cutting edge critical care

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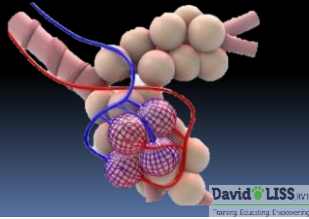
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## End-Tidal CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring

- Measures the CO<sub>2</sub> at END-expiration
- Closely correlates with alveolar (and arterial) CO<sub>2</sub>



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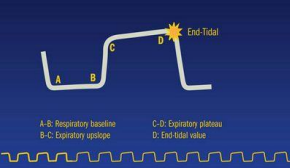
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## Normal waveform/values

Figure 1: Normal Capnography Waveform



- Values are lower than arterial CO<sub>2</sub>
- Normal is about:
  - 30-40 mmHg
- ETCO<sub>2</sub> < 30 = hyperventilation
- ETCO<sub>2</sub> > 40 = hypoventilation

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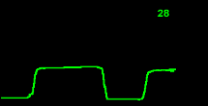
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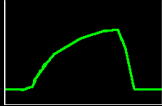
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## Some abnormal waveforms

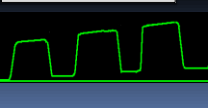
Hypothermia



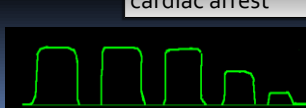
Bronchospasm



Rebreathing



Impending cardiac arrest



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## ECG's

- Arrhythmias are common in critical patients
- Have to be able to recognize them
- ECG's are a great "life" monitor- gives you a HR, and is fairly non-invasive
- Can buy pediatric ECG pads and tape them onto the patient



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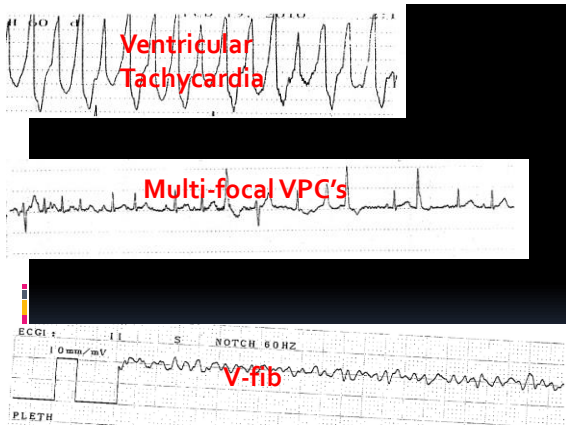
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## Another common one

- "Slow" V-tach
- Accelerated Idioventricular Rhythm



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# Basics of Arrhythmia interpretation- The 5 Q's

- 1- Is there a P-wave for EVERY QRS complex?
- 2- Is there a QRS complex for EVERY P wave?
- 3- Assess HR
  - Atrial vs. ventricular rate
- 4- Rhythm regular or irregular?
- 5- Look at PR interval  
Width of QRS complex  
Premature beats

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**If the R is far from P, then you have a FIRST DEGREE.**



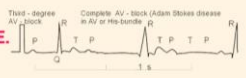
**Longer, longer, longer, drop! Then you have a WENCKEBACH.**



**If some P's don't get through, then you have MOBITZ II.**



**If P's and Q's don't agree, then you have a THIRD DEGREE.**



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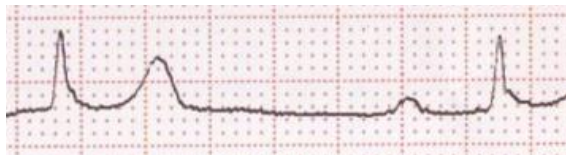
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- 1- Is there P-wave for every QRS?
  - 2- QRS for every P-wave?
  - 3- HR:
    - 34 little boxes between beats:
      - $1500/34 = 44$  BPM
  - Rhythm: Regular or irregular
  - P-R interval, QRS complex, Premature beats
- SINUS BRADYCARDIA**
- 1<sup>ST</sup> DEGREE AV BLOCK**

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- 1- Is there P-wave for every QRS?
- 2- QRS for every P-wave?
- 3- HR:
  - 1500/# of boxes
- Rhythm: Regular or irregular
- P-R interval, QRS complex, Premature beats

**SECOND DEGREE AV BLOCK**




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### "Good" monitors

- BP
  - Prioritize arterial catheter > Doppler > Oscillometric
  - Tips: Arterial Catheter and Manometer
  - Tips: Doppler cuff held at 90 mmHg
- End-Tidal CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Real-time (second to second) measurement of ventilation and perfusion
  - Sensitive to detect hypoperfusion/hypothermia/impending cardiac arrest

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### Blood Pressure

- Macro-perfusion parameter
- Very important trend
- Reflects cardiac function AND blood vessel wall strength

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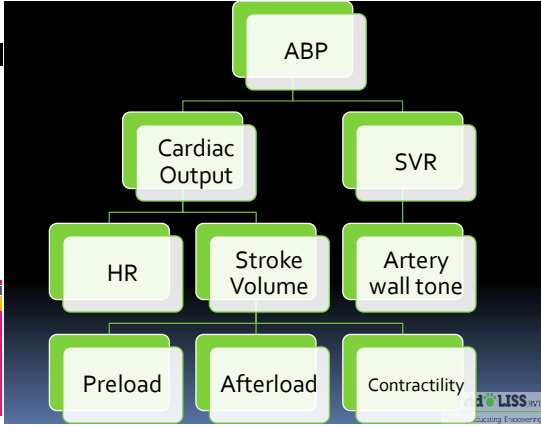
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How do we use blood pressure?

- An indirect measure of cardiac function/vascular tone:
  - 1- Enough fluid in vasculature?
  - 2- Cardiac output sufficient?
  - 3- Tubes too tight or too dilated?

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**Major troubleshooting- Hypotension**

Reasons	Action steps
1- Vasodilation- anesthetics	▫ Administer crystalloid fluid bolus
2- Volume depletion- fluid loss, hemorrhage	▫ Administer colloid fluid bolus
3- Bradycardia	▫ Attempt to reduce MAC of isoflurane
	▫ Administer vasopressor/inotropic medication
	• Dopamine
	• Dobutamine
	• Norepinephrine

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## Major troubleshooting, cont.

### Hypothermia

- Warmed surgery table
- Warmed IV fluids
- Warmed abdominal flush
- Forced air warmers/ circulating water blankets
  - Avoid heating blankets




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## In conclusion

- Take home tips
  - 1- Avoid certain meds in critical patients (Ace, Alpha-2's)
  - 2- Use all monitors available
  - 3- Pre-oxygenate/ensure IVC access
  - 4- Maintain homeostasis
    - BP/HR/Temp
  - 5- Be prepared to reduce OR time

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# Thank You!

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