

Optimizing Mechanical Ventilation: The Art and Science

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Objectives

- **Review the components of mechanical ventilation**
- **Discuss options for choosing initial ventilator settings based on individual pathophysiology**
- **Consider ways to avoid oxygen toxicity**
- **Outline strategies for weaning**

Neonatal Ventilation ca. 1975



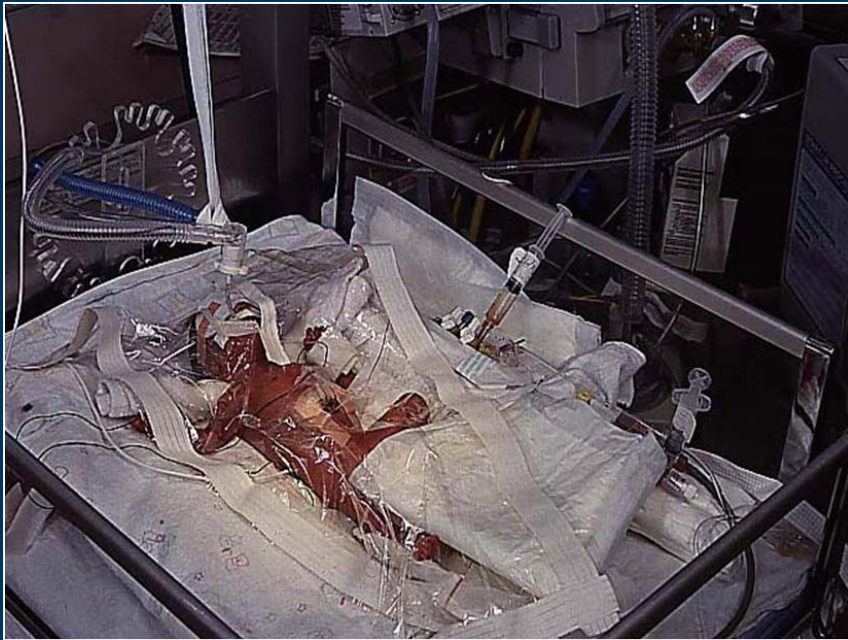
The Baby Bird



- Flow 8-10 LPM
- PIP 20 cm H₂O
- PEEP 4 cm H₂O
- T_i 0.4 sec

It Didn't Matter...

Preterm Baby RDS



Term Baby MAS

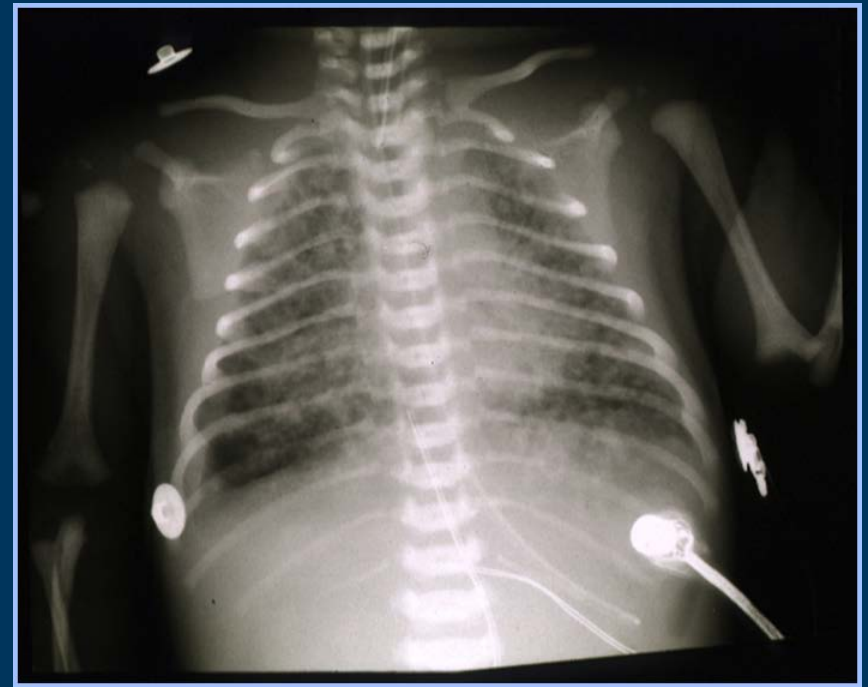


It Didn't Matter...

Preterm Baby RDS



Term Baby MAS



Neonatal Ventilation ca. 2016



Optimizing Mechanical Ventilation: Choosing the Initial Settings



A Patient

- 25 weeks, 720 grams
- 17 y/o G₁P₀
- C/S for severe pre-eclampsia, treated with MgSO₄
- One dose of betamethasone to mom
- Apgar scores 2 (HR 136) and 5 (HR 140, color pink with bagging, no tone, no respiratory effort, minimal grimace)

Initial Evaluation

- **ABG: 7.21/55/47**
- **Hgb/Hct:
14.0/43%**
- **Cord Mg⁺⁺: 5.5**
- **BP: 36/20 (25)**



Define the Pathophysiology

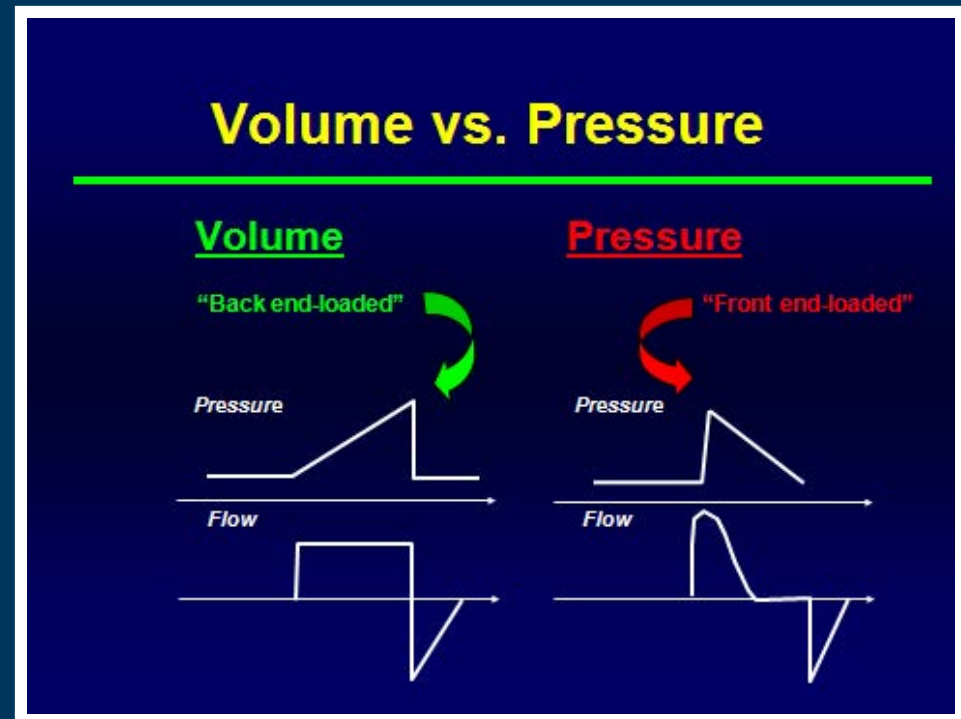
- Lung volumes?
- Compliance?
- Resistance?
- Time constant?
- Respiratory drive?
- Oxygenation?
- Ventilation?

Initial Ventilatory Options

- CPAP
- Conventional (tidal) ventilation
- High-Frequency ventilation
 - HFJV
 - HFOV

Target Variables

- Pressure
 - Pressure Limited
 - Pressure Control
- Volume



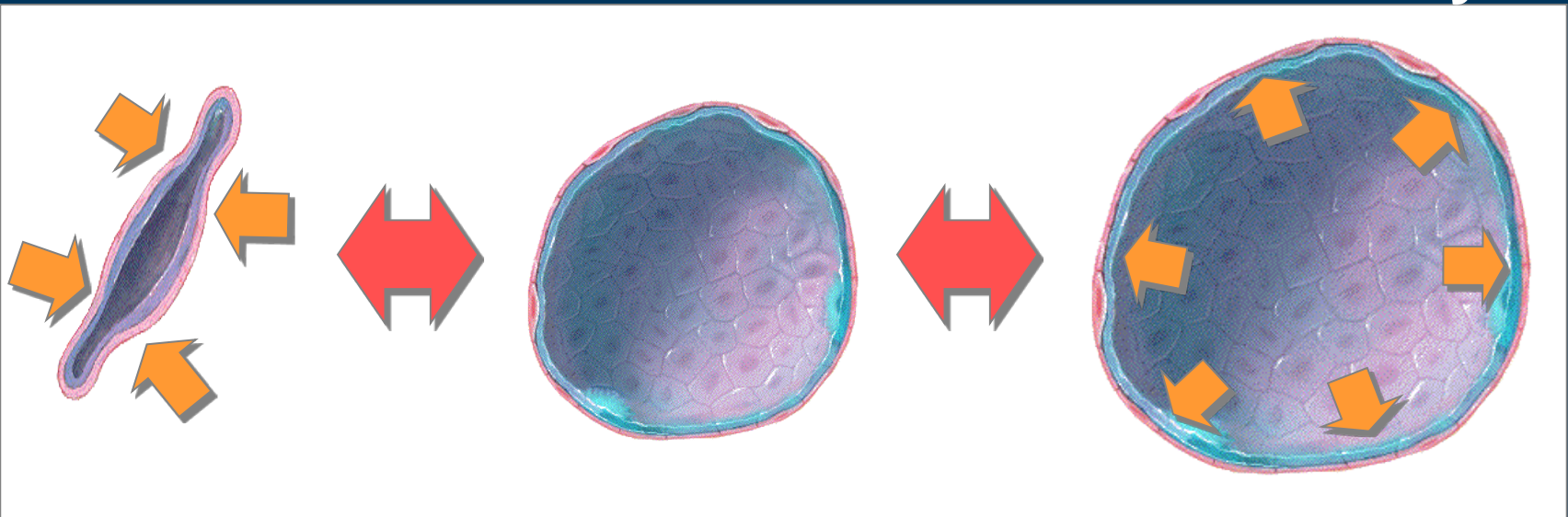
Ventilator-Induced Lung Injury

Atelectotrauma:

Repetitive alveolar opening and closing of under-recruited alveoli

Volutrauma:

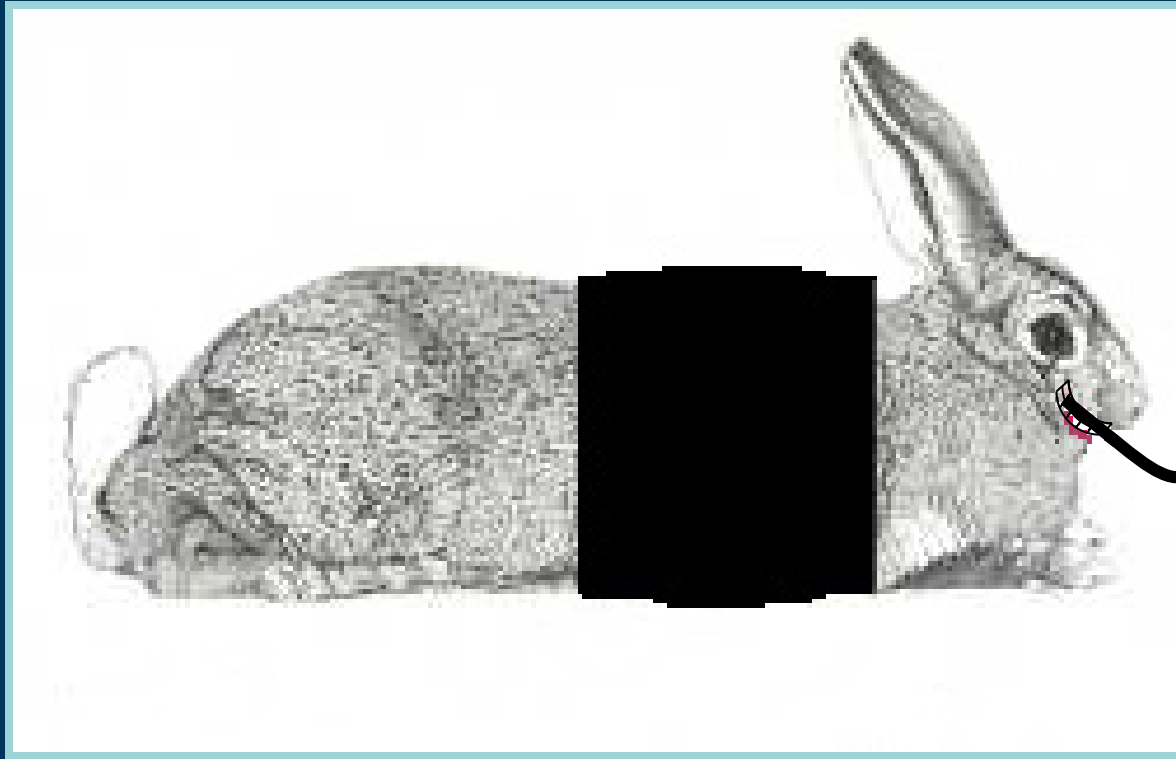
Over-distension of normally aerated alveoli from excessive volume delivery



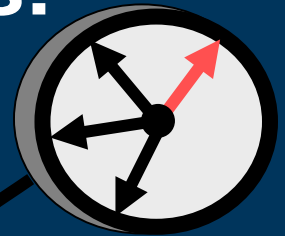
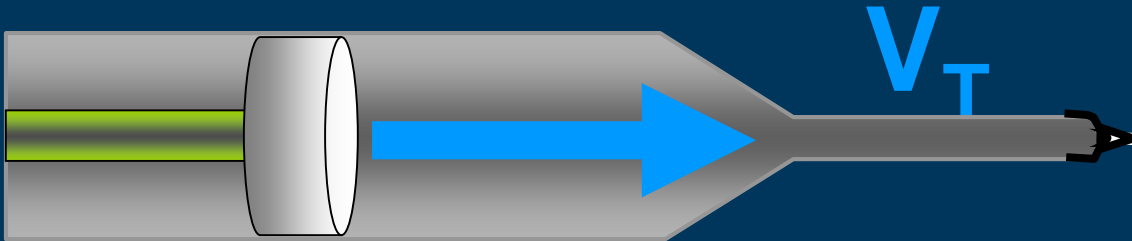
Hernandez et al (1989) and Dreyfus et al (1998)

- Demonstrated severe acute lung injury occurred in small animals using large V_T
- When the chest cavity was bound and the lungs exposed to high pressures, the acute lung injury markers were much lower than the injury that ensued once the binding was removed
- Excessive V_T -and not high pressure- is primarily responsible for lung injury

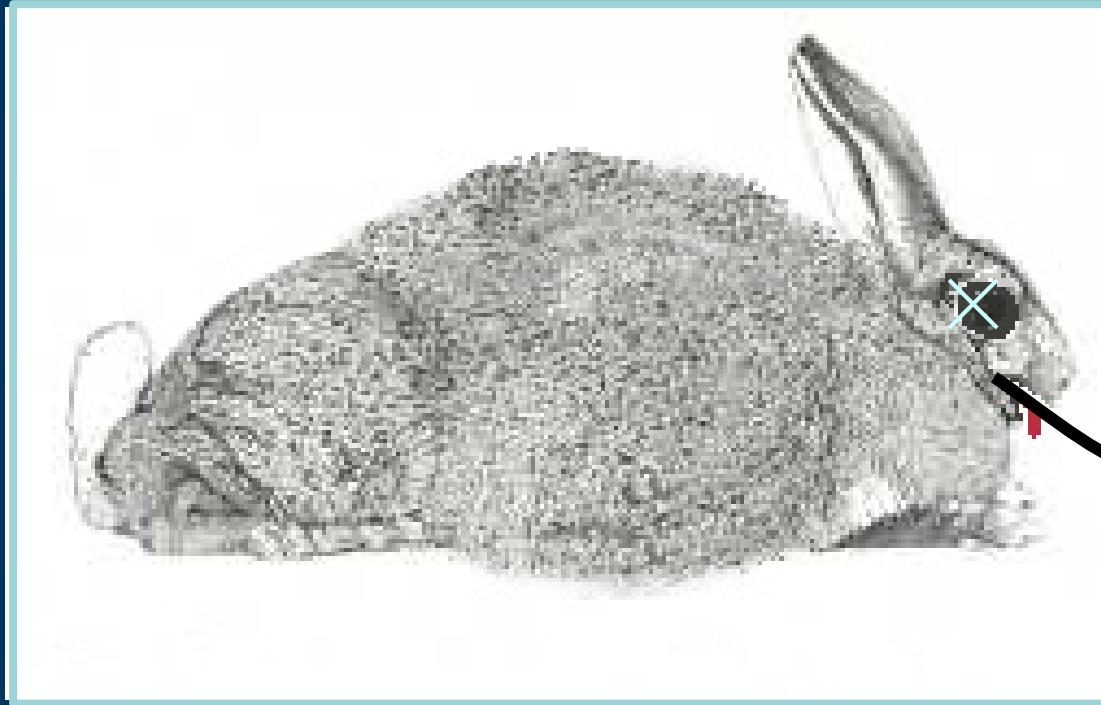
A large V_T injected into a critter with a strapped chest doesn't hurt its lungs:



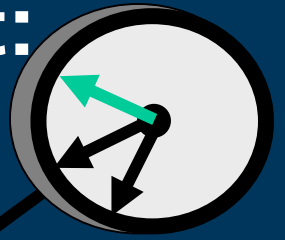
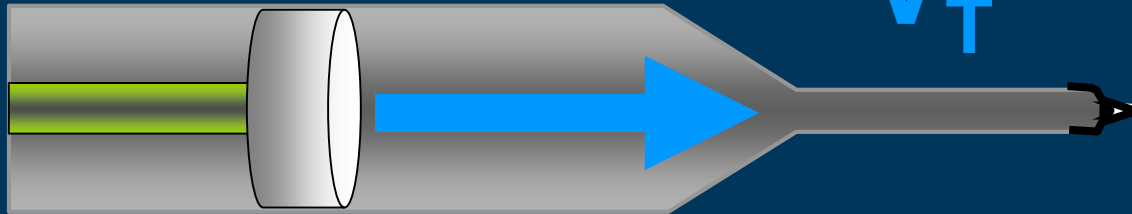
Even if
PIP is
very high!



If one pushes in that same V_T without the strap, it causes the lungs to burst:



V_T

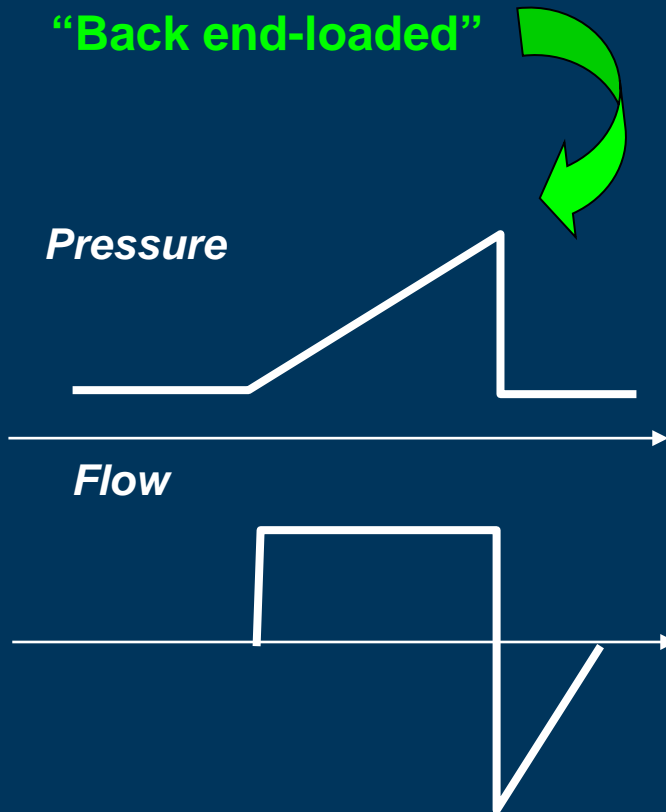


Even if
PIP is not
very high!

Volume vs. Pressure

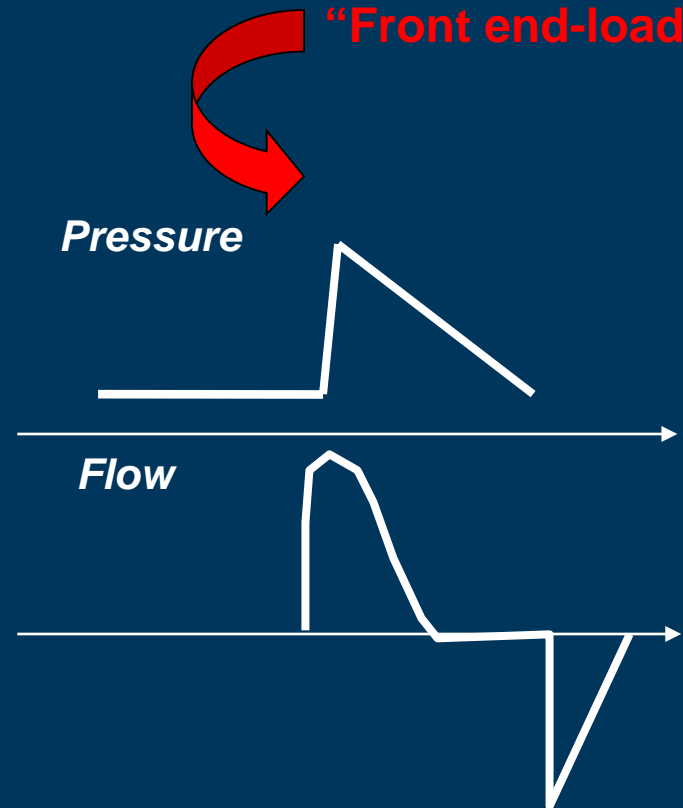
Volume

“Back end-loaded”



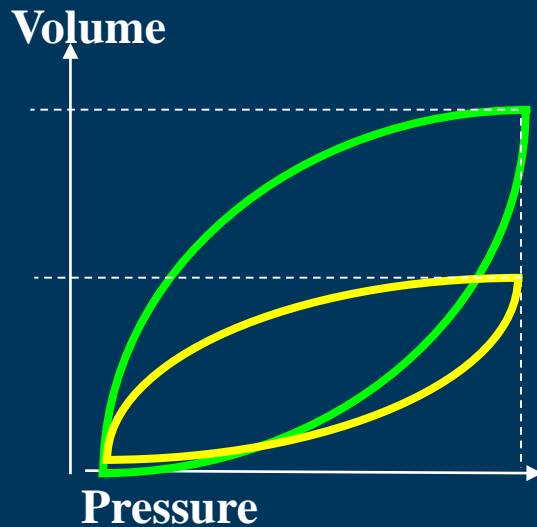
Pressure

“Front end-loaded”

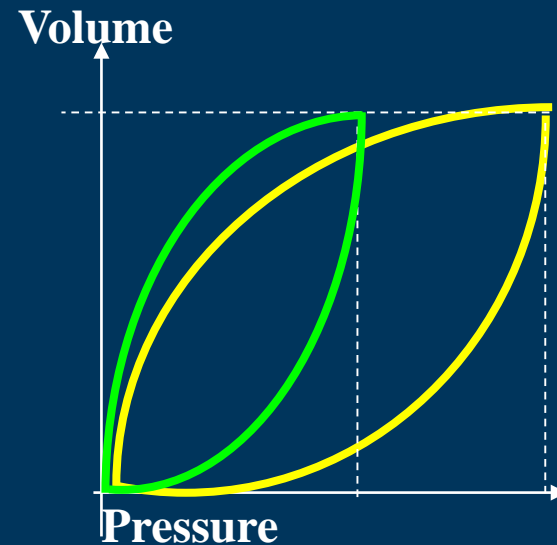


Pressure vs. Volume (Control variables)

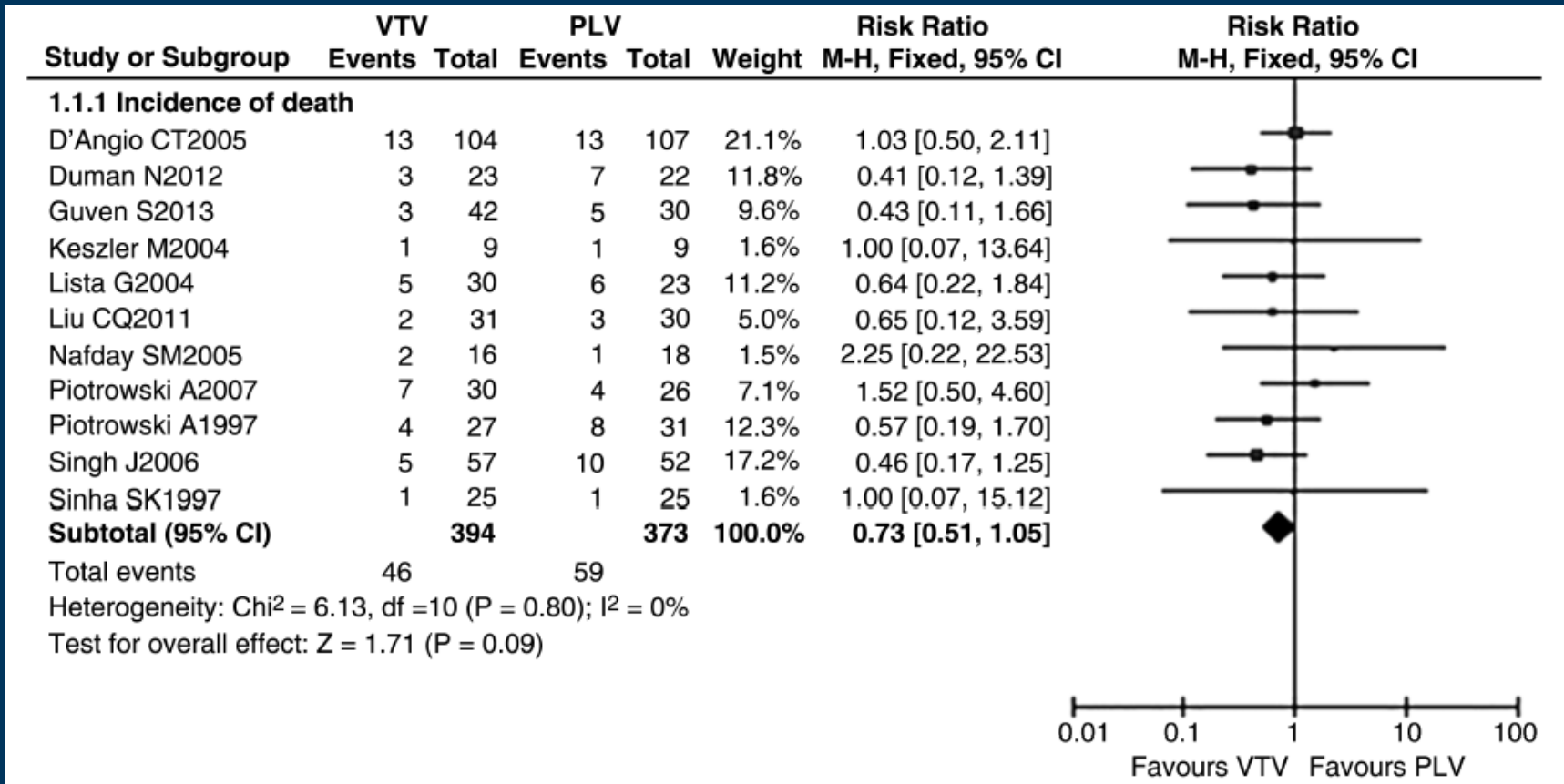
Pressure Targeted



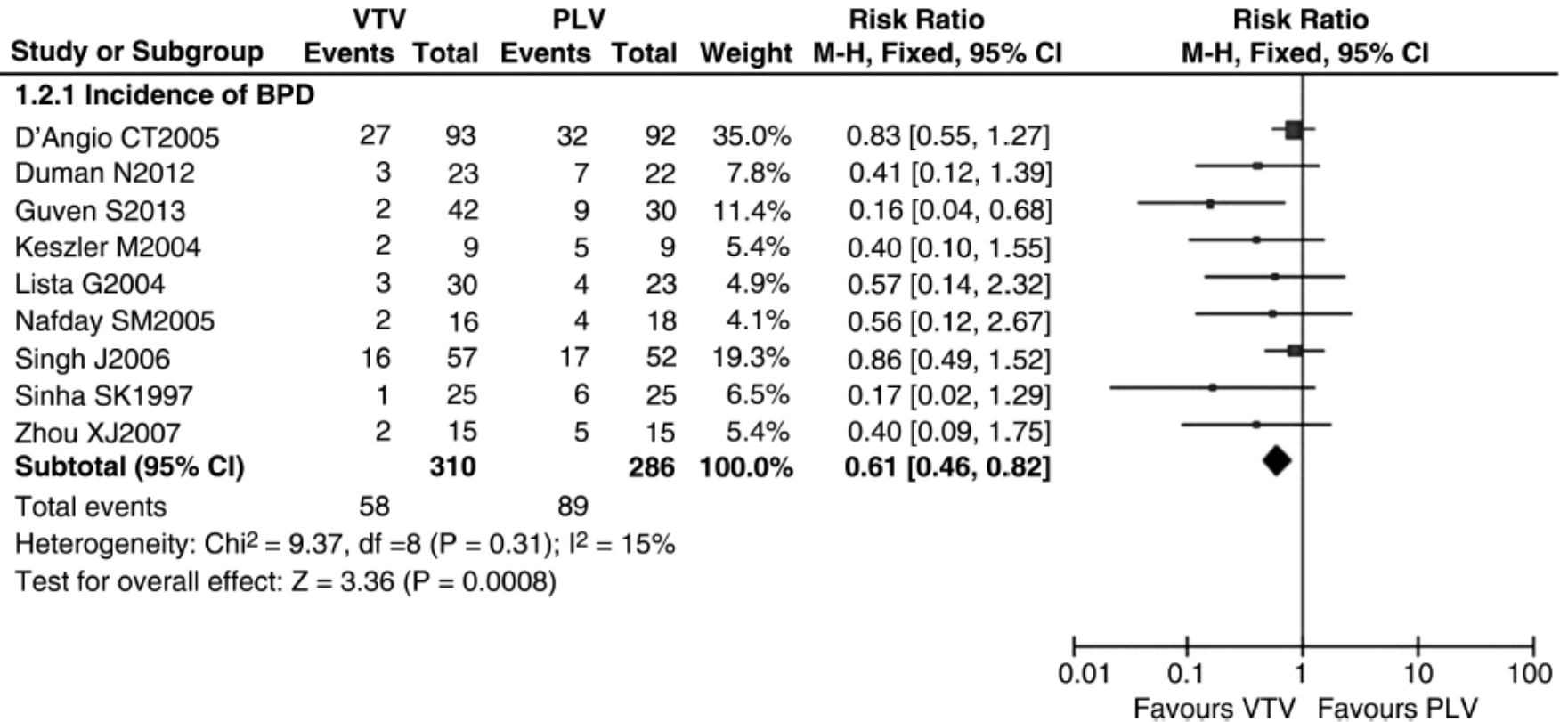
Volume Targeted



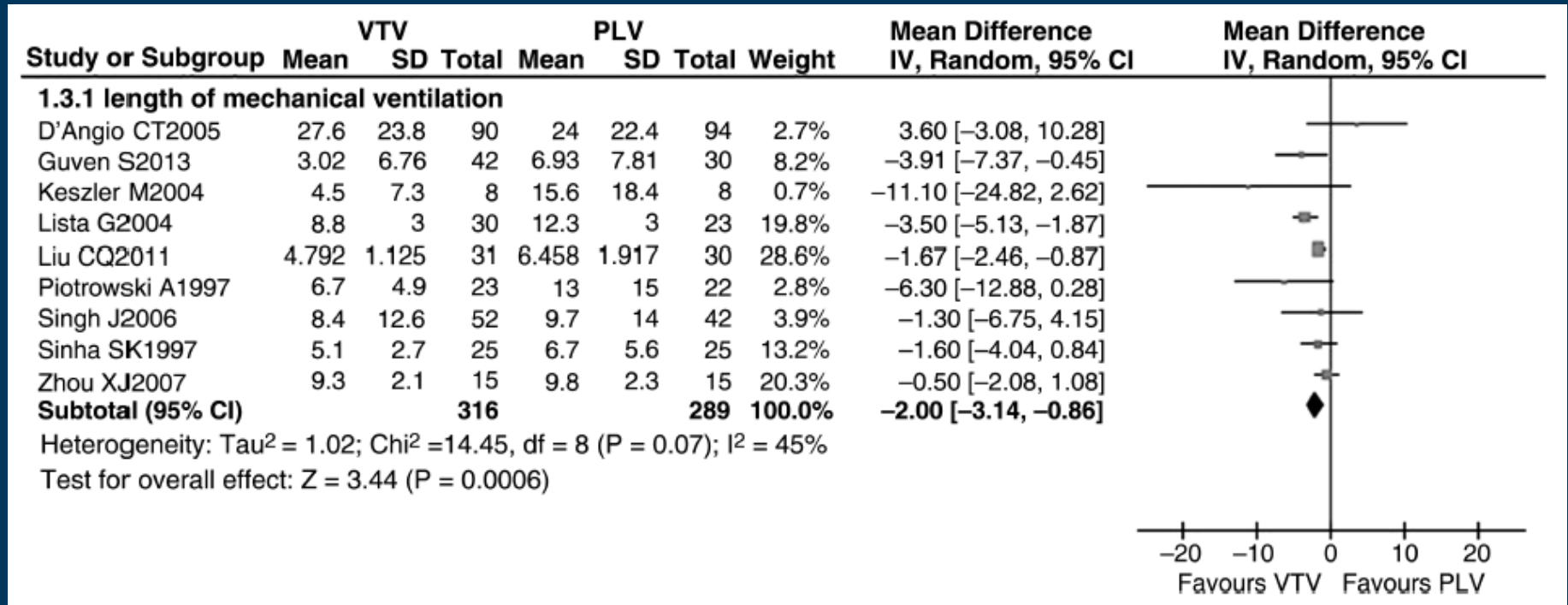
Mortality



Incidence of BPD



Duration of Ventilation

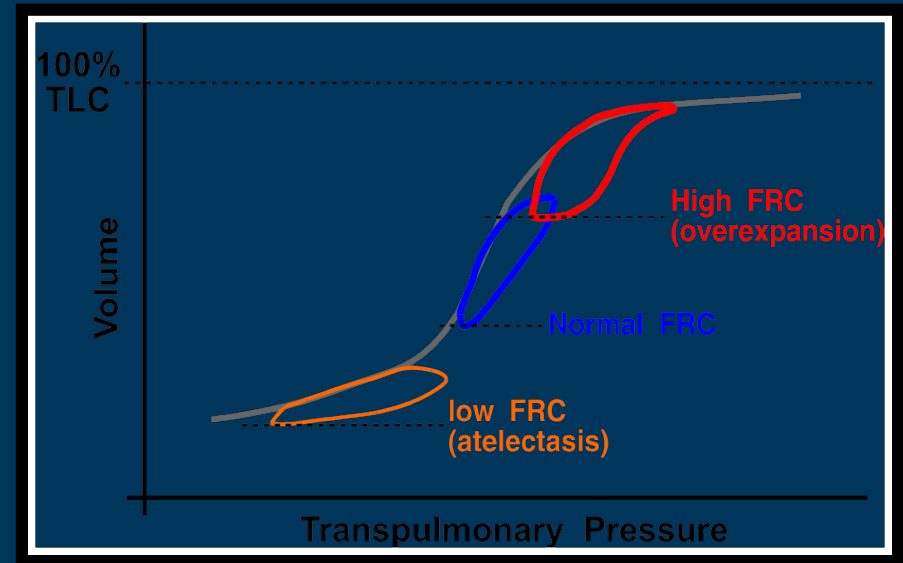


VTV reduced the incidence of BPD, duration of mechanical ventilation, failure of primarily assigned ventilatory mode, grades 3/4 IVH, PVL and air leaks compared to PLV modes.

[Peng, IBID]

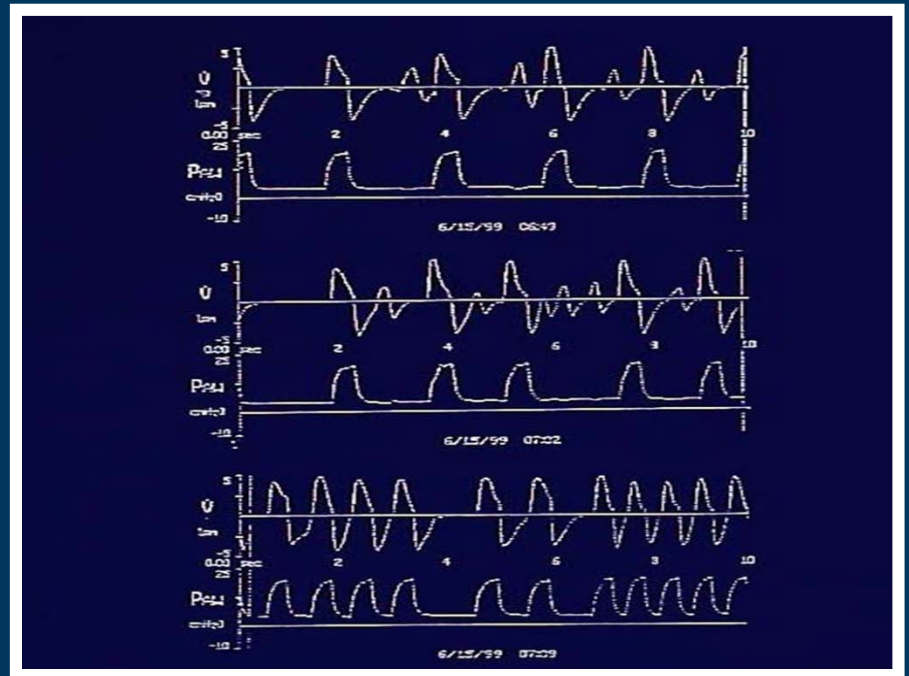
Volume Targeting

- Adjust pressure or volume to provide 4-7 mL/kg
- Avoid both hyperinflation and underinflation
- A happy baby will breathe at 40-60 bpm



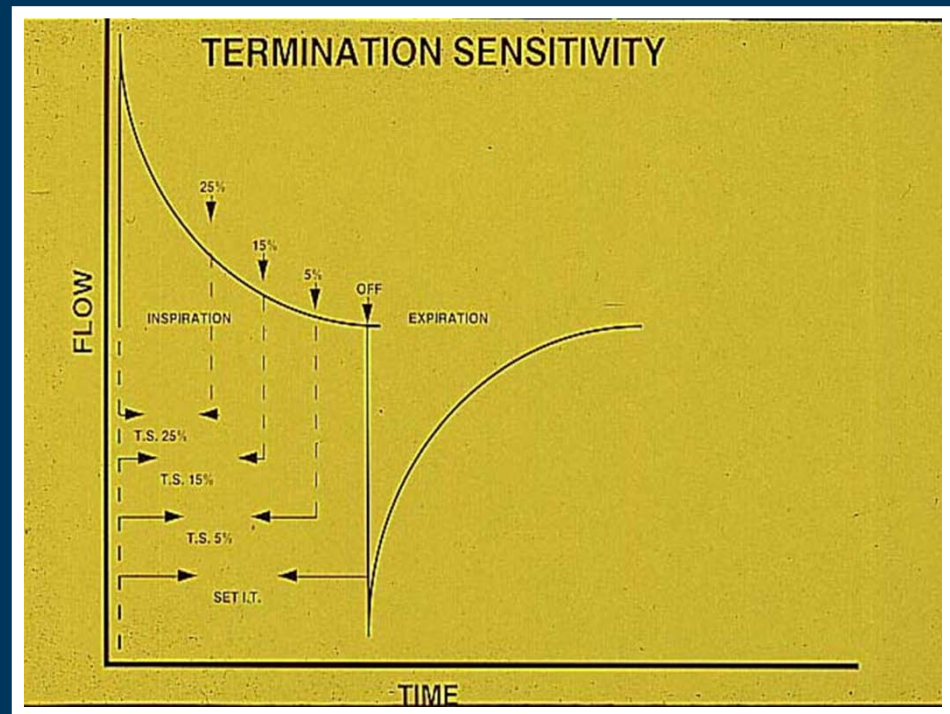
Mode

- IMV
- SIMV
- Assist/Control



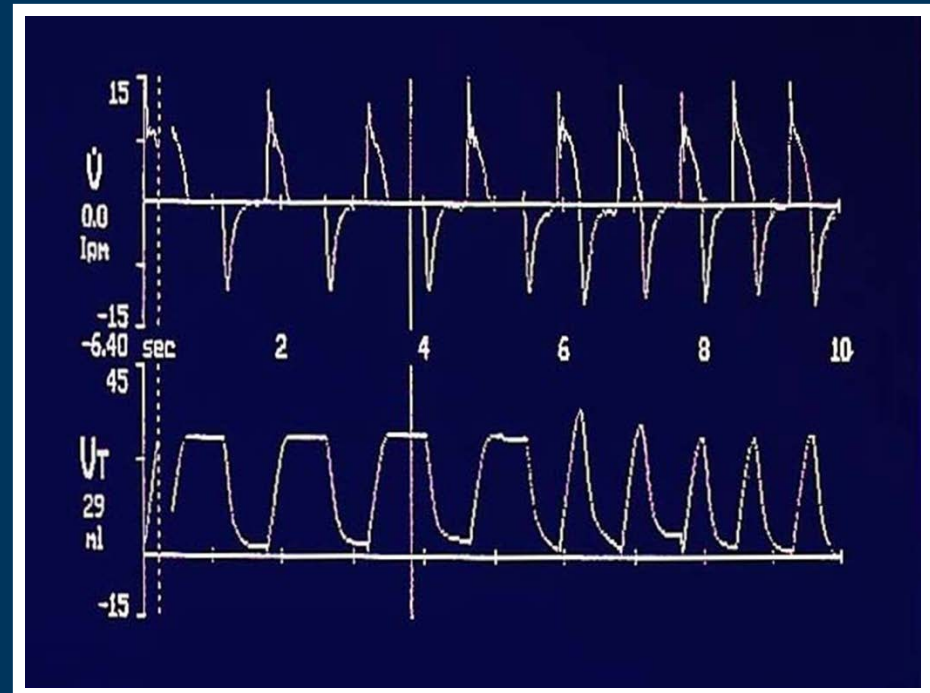
Cycling

- Time
- Flow



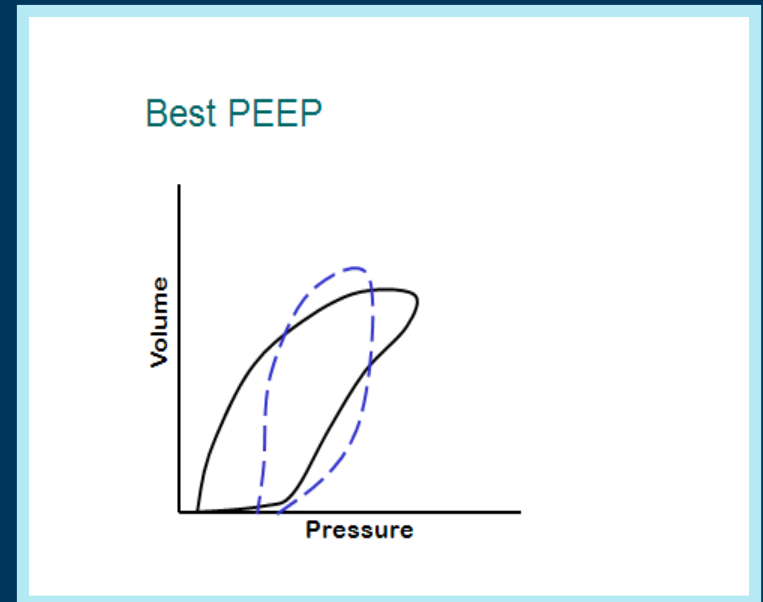
Inspiratory Time

- Time Constant
- I:E ratio
- Gas trapping



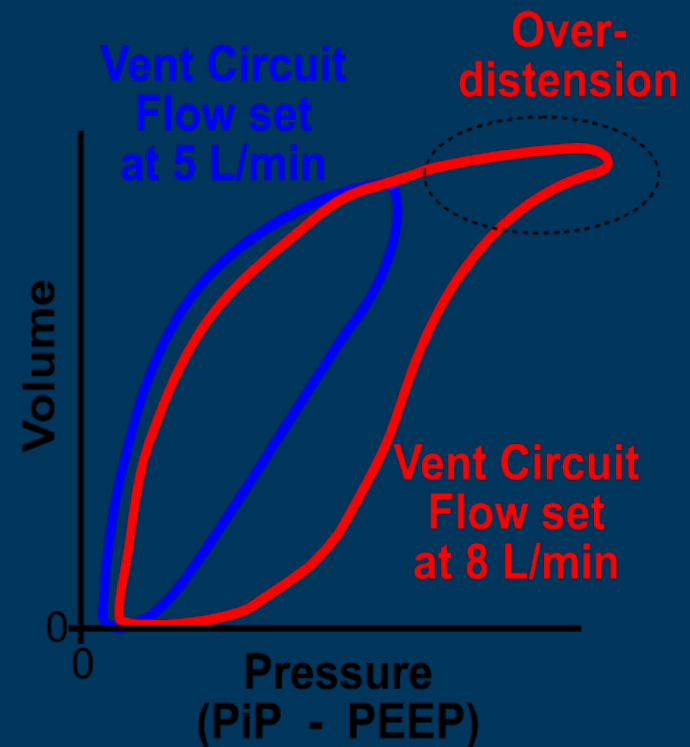
PEEP

- One size does not fit all
- Optimize inflation
- Find best compliance



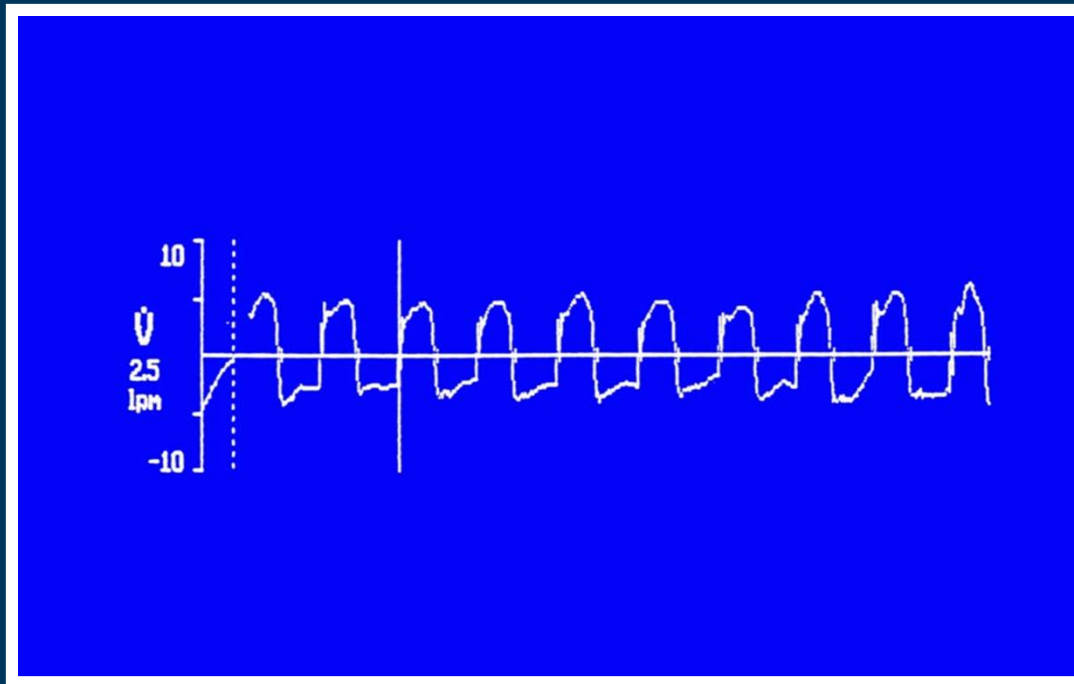
Flow

- Avoid rheotrauma
- If too high
 - Turbulence
 - Inadvertent PEEP
- If too low
 - Flow starvation
 - Inability to reach PIP or desired V_t



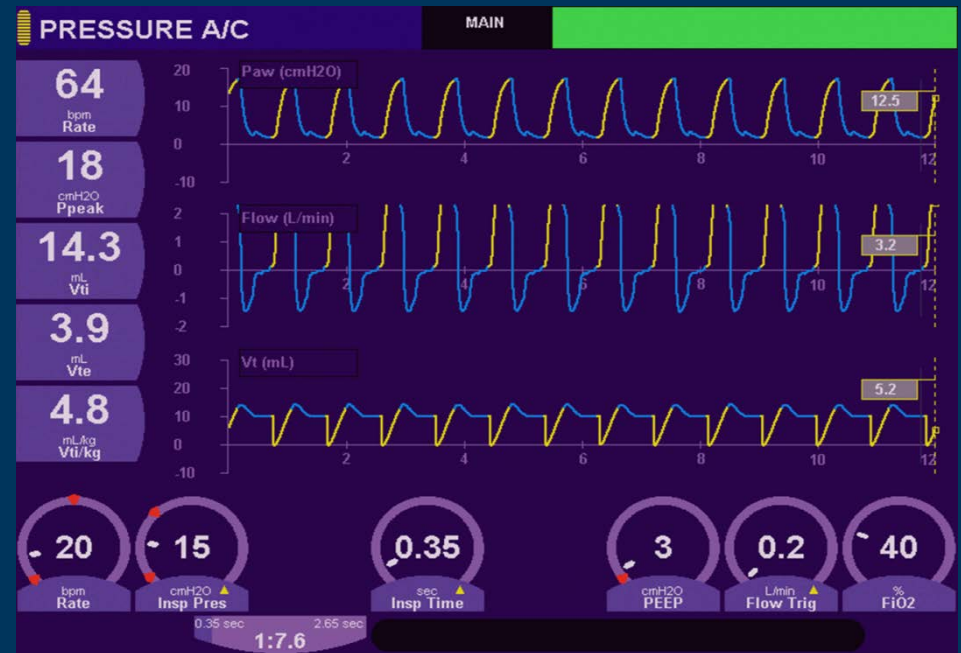
Rate

- Encourage spontaneous breathing
- Provide adequate safety net
- Follow minute ventilation, if possible



Trigger

- Set at lowest level that avoids autocycling



Oxygen Therapy: Can We Get It Right?



Introduction

Oxygen

- An integral part of all respiratory support
- One of the most commonly used drugs in the neonatal intensive care unit

Introduction

Goal of Oxygen Therapy:

- To achieve adequate delivery of oxygen to the tissues without creating oxygen toxicity

The Controversy

- The recent trials of oxygen therapy suggest that lower SpO₂ can reduce severe retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), but is associated with a higher mortality.
- Babies often display wide fluctuations in SpO₂
- How can we better control both oxygen delivery and limit these fluctuations?

Closed-Loop Control of Oxygenation



Background

- **Most preterm infants exhibit spontaneous fluctuations in SpO_2 .**
- **Preterm infants often require supplemental oxygen, increasing risk of:**
 - **Retinopathy of prematurity**
 - **Lung injury**
 - **Oxidative stress injury**
 - **Necrotizing enterocolitis**

Background

- **Delayed responses to these fluctuations result in hyperoxemic and hypoxemic episodes, as well as:**
 - **Increased risk of impaired oxygen delivery**
 - **Increased risk of ROP and chronic lung disease**

Background

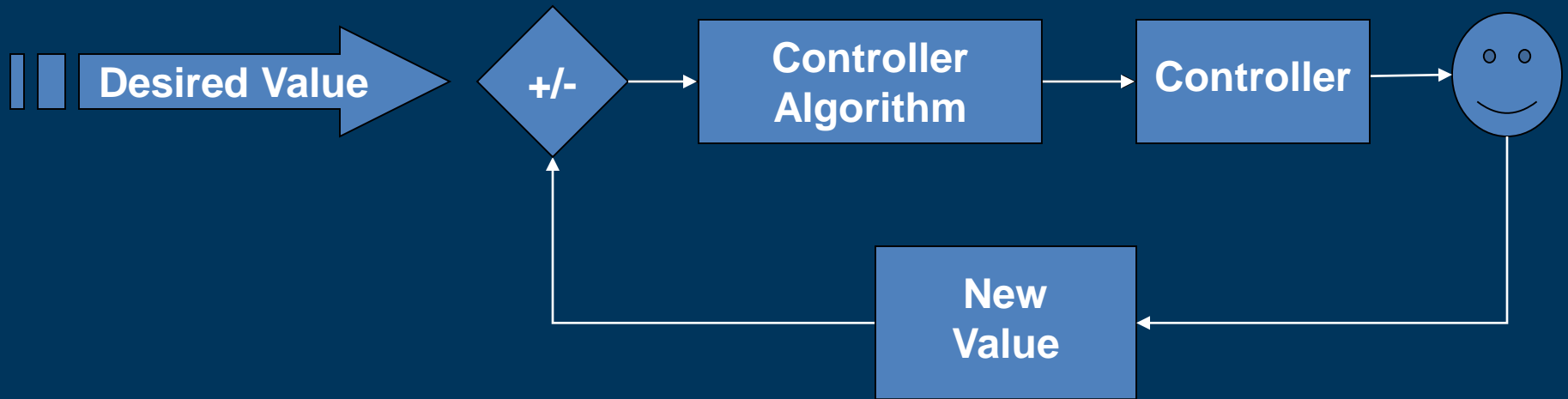
- Only about 50% of the time, is SpO₂ within the desired range.
 - Laptok et al (J Perinatol 2006)
 - N=74, 1 center, 19 months
 - 27% below, 58% within, 15% above
 - Hagadorn et al (Pediatrics 2006)
 - N=84, 14 centers (3 countries), 8 months
 - 16% below, 48% within, 36% above

“The computer allows you to make mistakes faster than any other invention, with the possible exception of handguns and alcohol.”

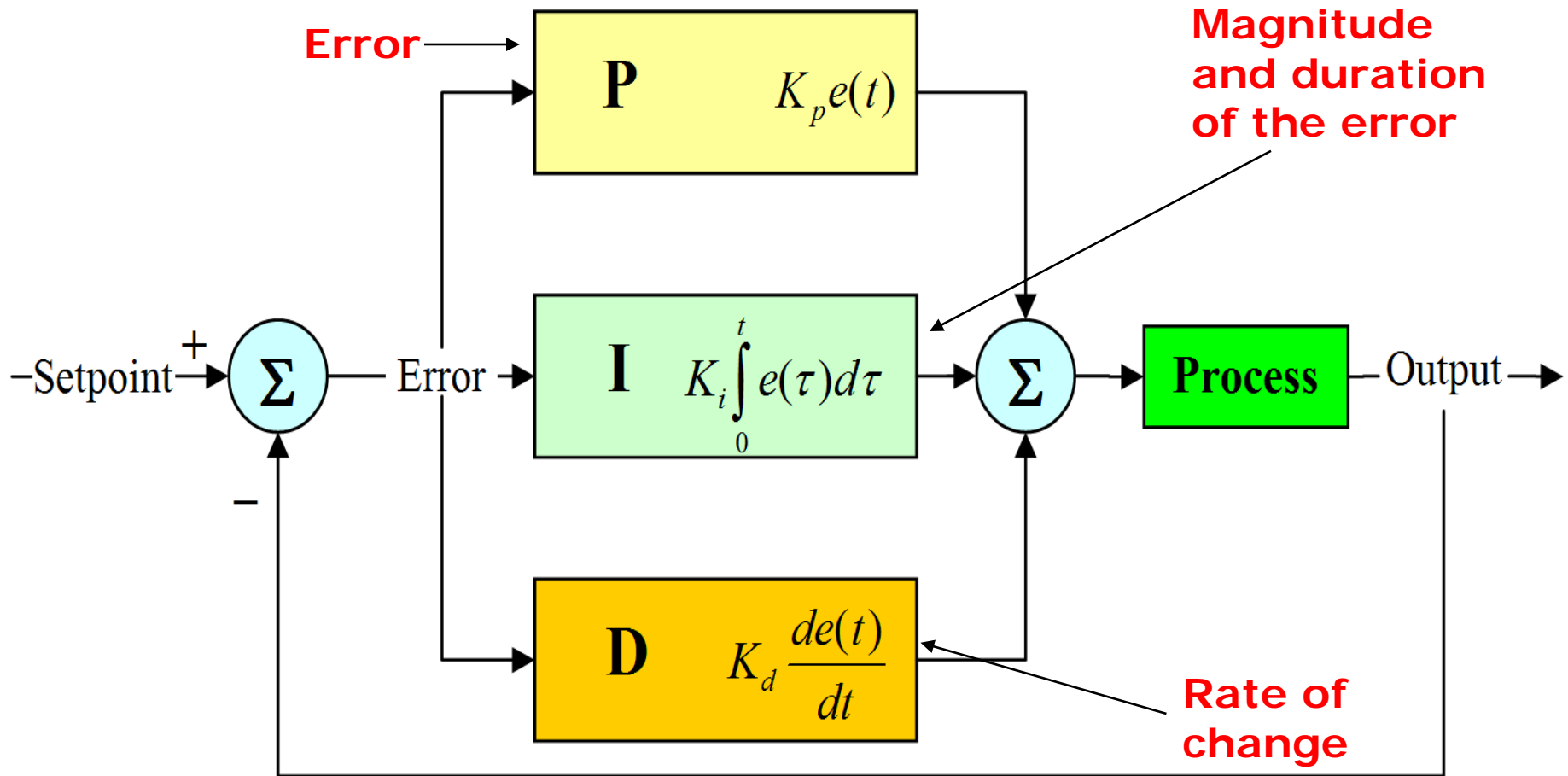


- Mitch Ratcliffe

Closed-Loop



Closed-Loop



Proportion – Integral - Derivative

Closed-Loop Control

- **Goal**
 - **Minimize time out of target SpO₂ range, especially high SpO₂**
 - **Reduce modulation of SpO₂**

Algorithm Goals

- **Normoxemia**
 - Minimize change in SPO_2
 - Gradually wean FIO_2
- **Hypoxemia**
 - Rapidly increase FIO_2 to bring SPO_2 in bounds
 - Reduce FIO_2 as SpO_2 approaches target.
- **Hyperoxemia**
 - Minimize the further increase in SPO_2
 - Gradually wean FIO_2

CLiO₂ Pilot Trial Summary

- In ventilated infants with frequent episodes of hypoxemia, automated regulation of FiO₂ in comparison to routine care:
 - Increased time within intended SpO₂ range
 - Reduced severe hyper- and hypoxemia
 - Reduced the fraction of inspired O₂
 - Reduced manual interventions

Automated Adjustment of Inspired Oxygen in Mechanically Ventilated Preterm Infants: A Multicenter Crossover Trial

**N. Claire ¹, E. Bancalari ¹, C. D'Ugard ¹,
L. Nelin ², M. Stein ², R. Ramanathan ³, R. Hernandez ³,
S.M. Donn ⁴, M. Becker ⁴ and T. Bachman ⁵.**

¹ University of Miami

² Ohio State University

³ University of Southern California

⁴ University of Michigan

⁵ California State University

Hypotheses

- In ventilated preterm infants with frequent fluctuations in oxygenation, automated FiO_2 adjustment is more effective than standard care in maintaining SpO_2 within the intended range under routine clinical conditions

Hypotheses

- **Automated FiO₂ adjustment reduces severe hyper- and hypoxemia, supplemental O₂ and the number of manual FiO₂ adjustments**

Objective

- **To evaluate the efficacy and safety of automated FiO_2 adjustment in maintaining SpO_2 within the intended range in preterm infants with frequent spontaneous episodes of hypoxemia in the standard clinical setting in a multicenter crossover trial**

Study Approval

- **Approved by the each institution's IRB**
- **Conducted under approval for use of the “Automated FiO₂ Adjustment Function” of the Avea infant ventilator as an investigational device by the US FDA (G060031/S009)**
- **Written informed parental consent**

Eligibility

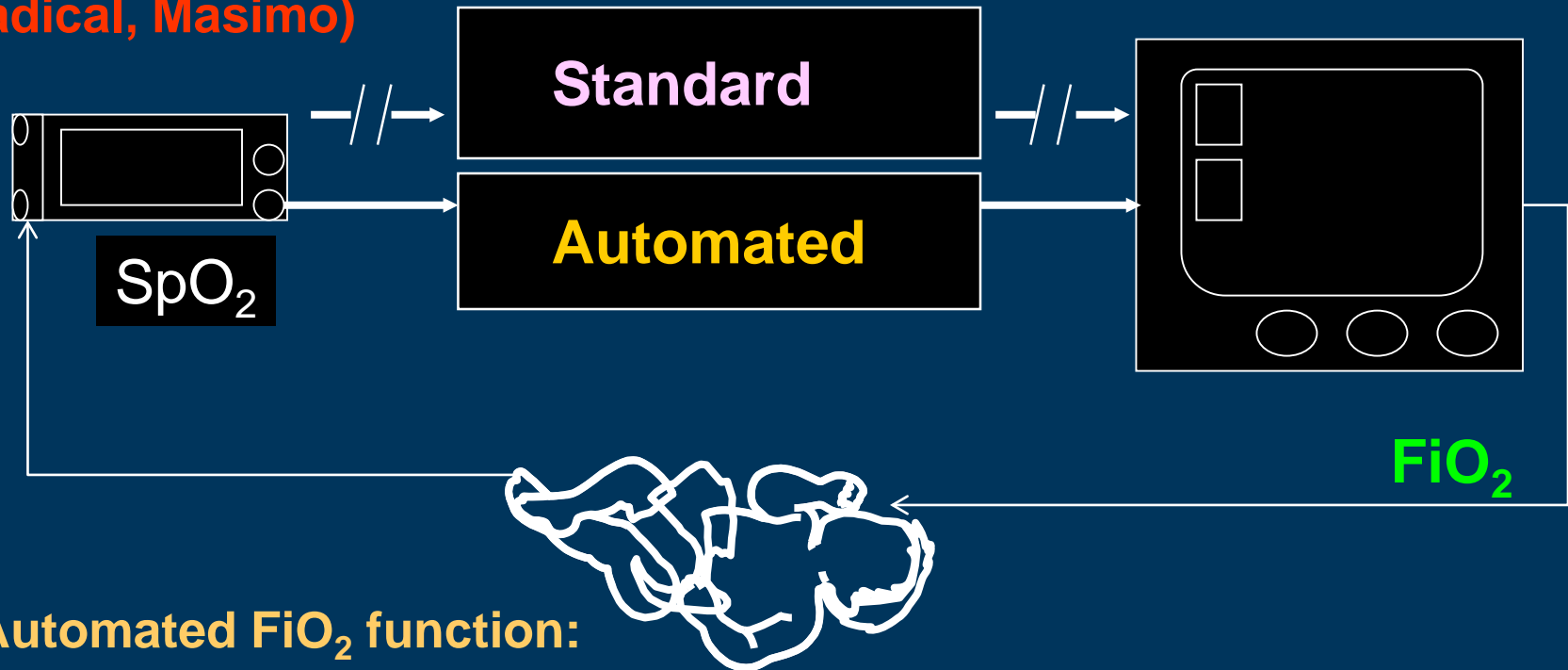
- **Preterm infants on supplemental O₂ and mechanical ventilation**
- **Frequent spontaneous episodes of hypoxemia (SpO₂<80%, ≥ 4 episodes per 8 hrs., during previous 24 hrs.)**
- **Hemodynamically stable**
- **Absence of major congenital anomalies**
- **Absence of seizure activity**
- **Absence of ongoing sepsis or meningitis**

Study Protocol

- Two consecutive periods:
 - 24 hrs. with FiO_2 adjusted routinely by clinical staff (**Standard**)
 - 24 hrs. of automated FiO_2 adjustment (**Automated**)
- Sequence assigned by random blocks per center
- The intended SpO_2 range for both periods was **87 - 93%**

Pulse Oximeter (Radical, Masimo)

Infant ventilator (Avea, CareFusion)



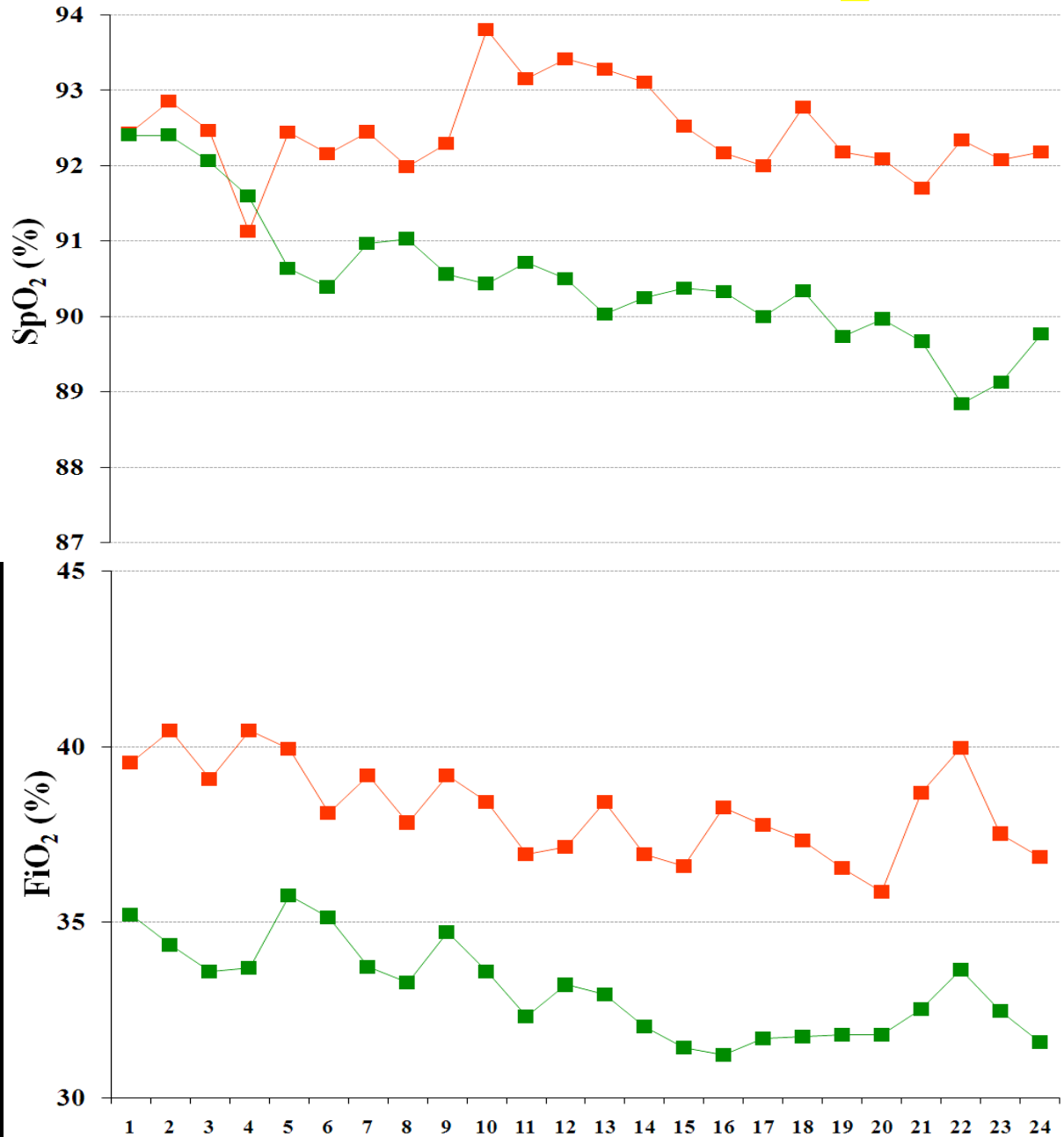
Automated FiO₂ function:

- FiO₂ is ↑ or ↓ step-wise if SpO₂ is < or > the intended range
- Magnitude and frequency of FiO₂ adjustments are determined by:
 - difference between SpO₂ and intended range
 - time outside range
 - trend in SpO₂
 - basal FiO₂
- Basal FiO₂ is adjusted gradually to keep SpO₂ within range

Study Population

Birth weight:	671 ± 156 g
Gestational age:	25 ± 2 w
Postnatal age:	26 ± 15 d
Rate:	27 ± 10 bpm
PIP:	22 ± 6 cm H₂O
PEEP:	6 ± 1 cm H₂O
PSV:	8 ± 2 cm H₂O
FiO₂:	37 ± 11 %

Hourly Median SpO₂ and FiO₂



Intended range

Standard
Automated

*:p<0.05 Two way RM ANOVA

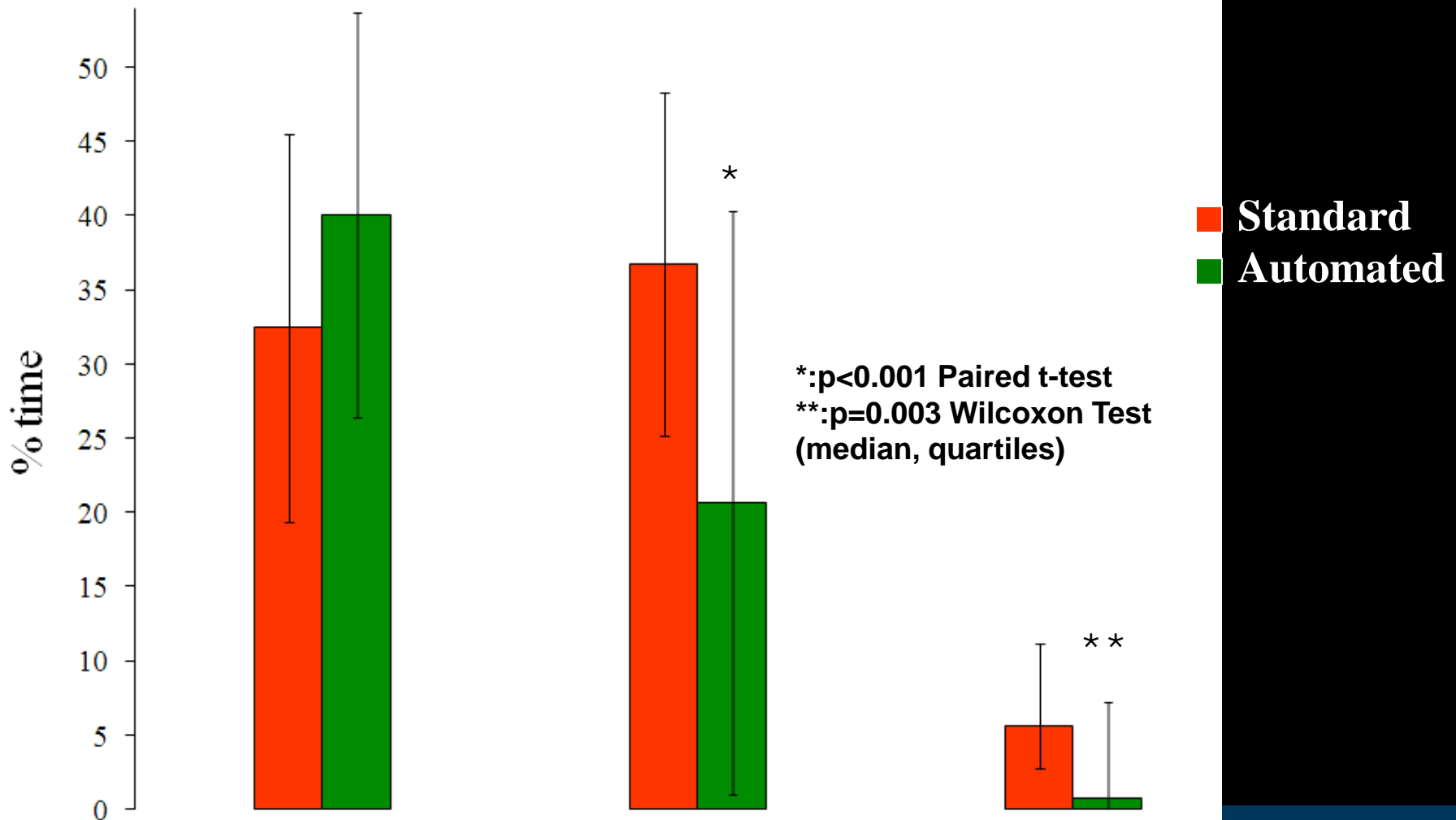
hrs

Time Within or Above Intended Range

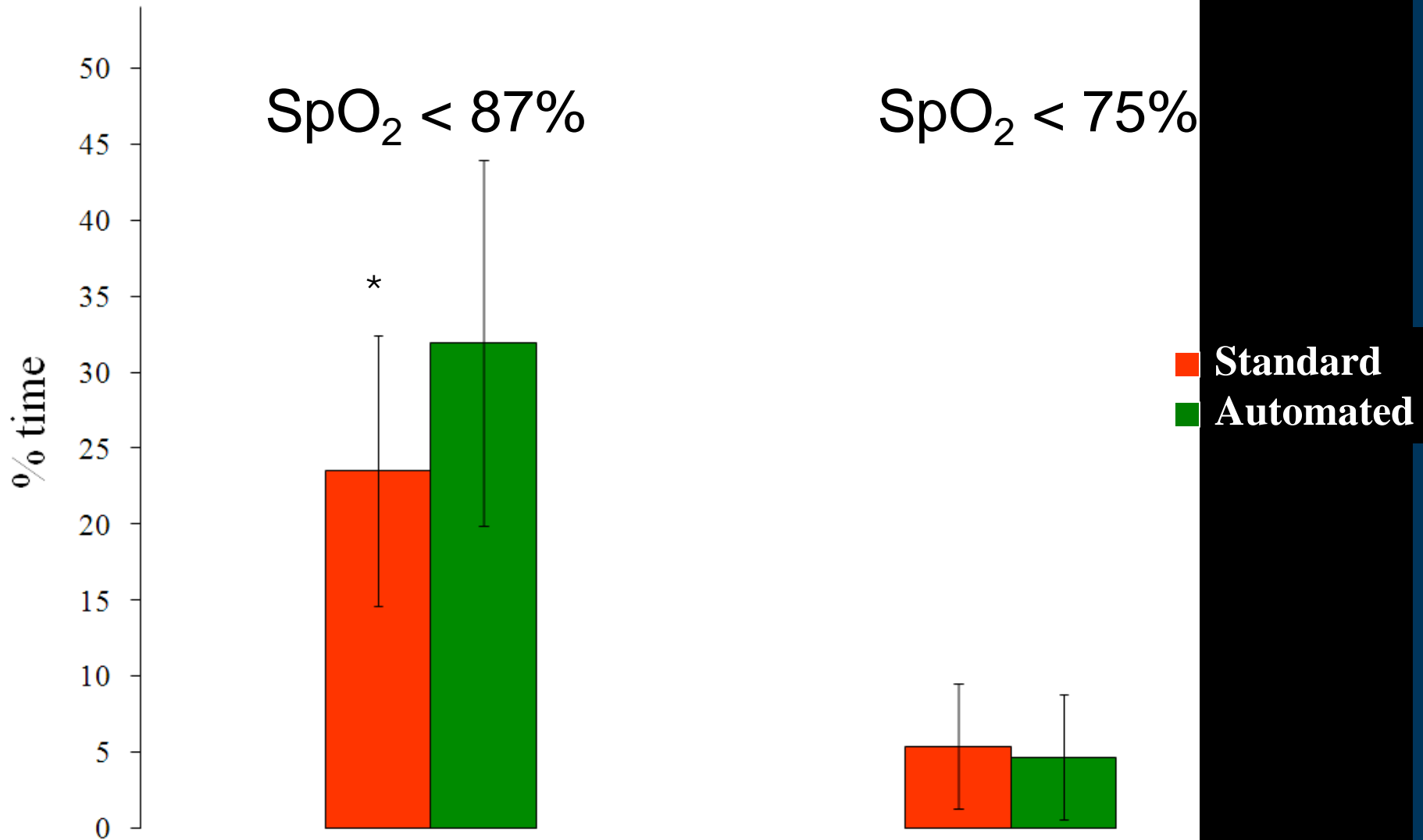
SpO₂ 87-93%

SpO₂ > 93%
(@ FiO₂ > 21%)

SpO₂ > 98%
(@ FiO₂ > 21%)

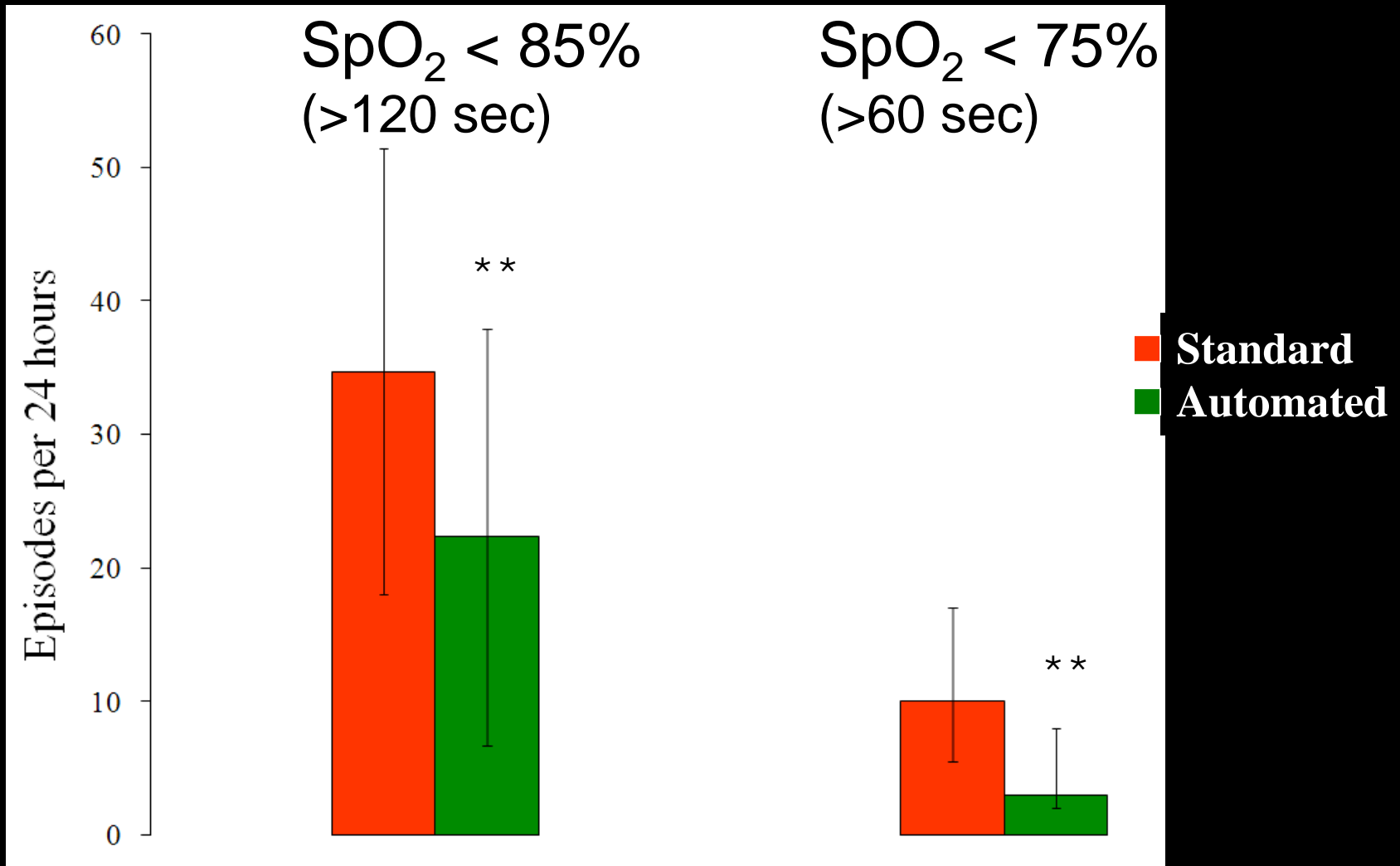


Time Below Intended Range



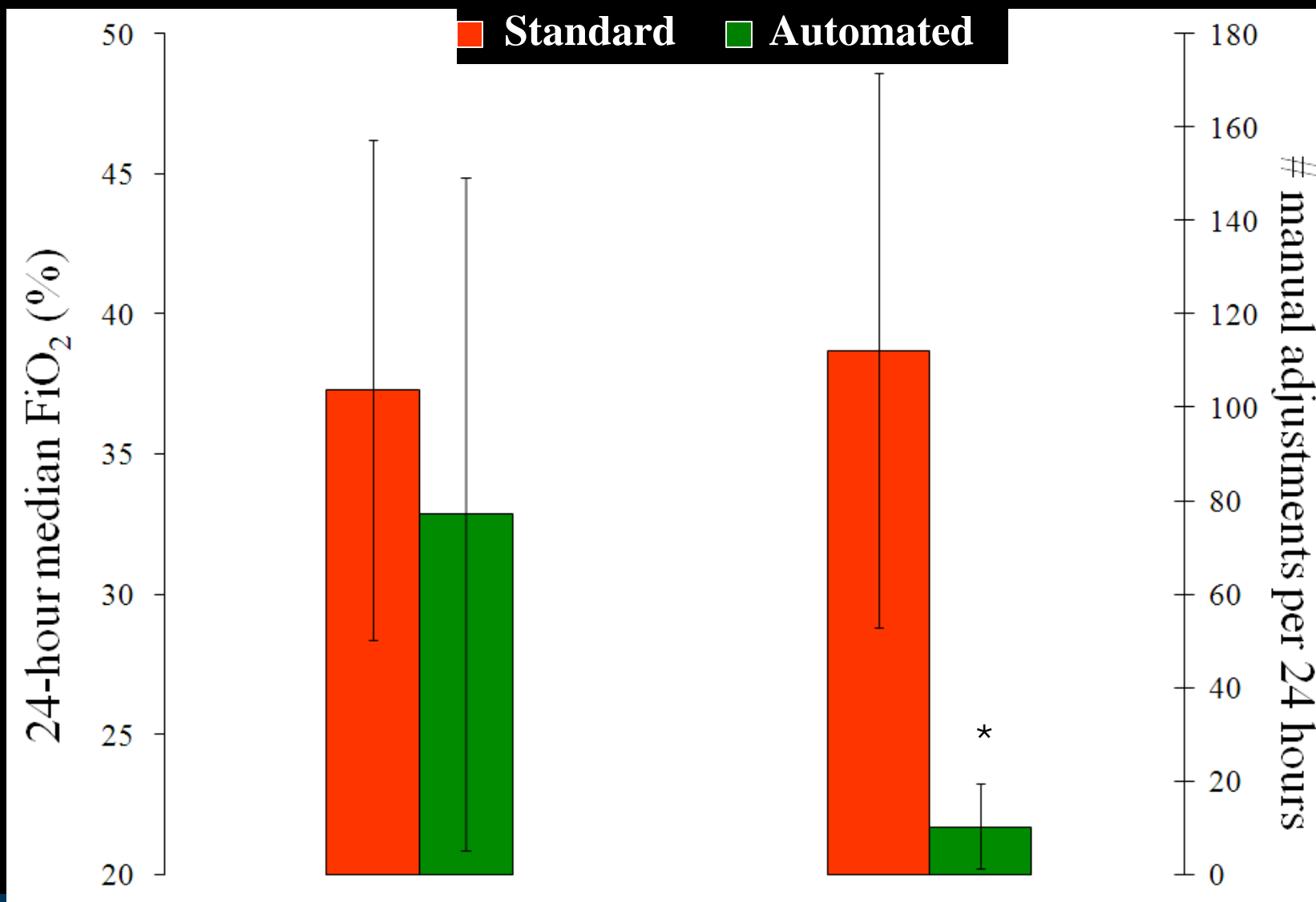
*:p<0.001 Paired t-test (mean±SD)

Prolonged Episodes Below Intended Range



**: $p=0.001$ Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test (median and 25th – 75th percentile)

24 Hr Median FiO₂ and Manual Adjustments



*:p<0.001 Paired t-test (mean±SD)

Conclusions

These data from a group of preterm infants with frequent fluctuations in SpO₂, obtained under standard clinical conditions, showed that:

Automated FiO₂ adjustment

- improved maintenance of SpO₂ within the intended range
- reduced hyperoxemia, supplemental O₂, and staff workload

Conclusions

- **The increased number of mild episodes with SpO₂ below the intended range is likely related to FiO₂ weaning and avoidance of hyperoxemia.**

Limitations

- Automated FiO_2 should not be a substitute for more appropriate observations or interventions
- Automated FiO_2 may give an excessive sense of confidence and lead to reduce attentiveness

Limitations

- **Automated FiO_2 is dependent on pulse oximetry accuracy**
- **Observed differences in this study may be relative to the effectiveness of standard care**
- **Physiologic consequences of different targeted SpO_2 ranges should be taken in consideration**



WEANING INFANTS FROM MECHANICAL VENTILATION



Weaning

The process of transferring the work of breathing from the ventilator to the baby.



Weaning

- Weaning- or at least the consideration to wean- should begin as soon as a baby is intubated.
-

Weaning and Extubation

- Still largely determined by personal preferences
 - Tends to be experiential or anecdotal
 - Very little clinical data
-

Weaning is a Dynamic Process

- Changing disease and/or patient status
- Interaction between heart and lungs (e.g., PDA)
- Caloric intake vs. expenditure
- Relationship between central control of breathing and respiratory muscles

Physiologic Essentials for Extubation

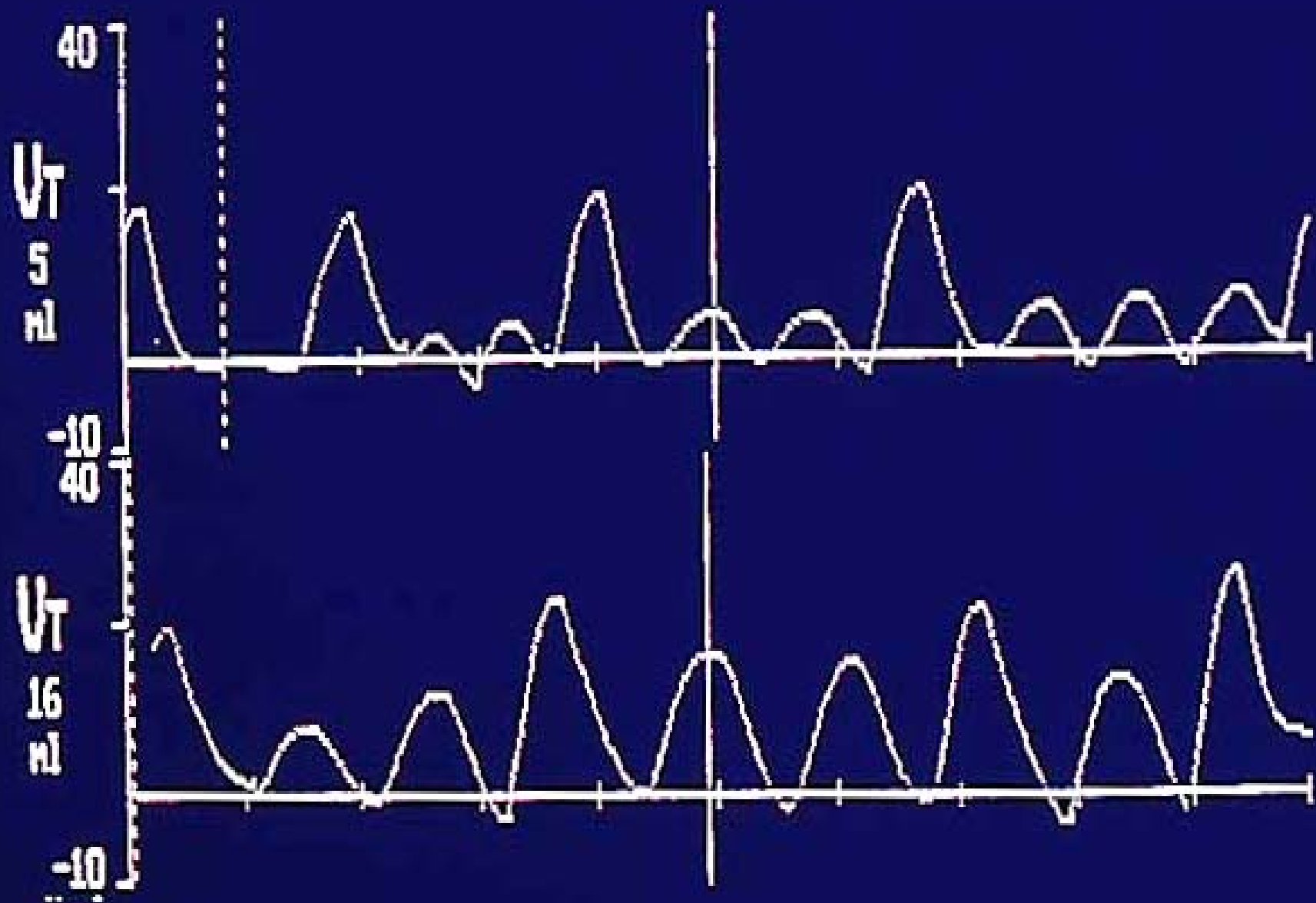
- Reliable respiratory drive
 - Neuromuscular competence
 - Reduction in respiratory system load
-

Impediments to Successful Weaning

- Infection
 - Neurologic dysfunction
 - Neuromuscular incompetence
 - Inadequate caloric intake
 - Excessive fat/CHO intake
-

Impediments to Successful Weaning

- Electrolyte imbalance
 - Metabolic alkalosis
 - Congestive heart failure
 - Anemia
 - Pharmacologic agents
-



"The biggest reason for failure to wean is failure to wean."

-Donn