

# Oxygen Utilization In Critical Illness

What's the Evidence?

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# Learning Objectives

- Describe the history of oxygen utilization in medicine
- Define the clinical indications for oxygen administration
- Describe different oxygen delivery devices
- Review the current evidence regarding oxygen administration in specific patient populations
- Review the current recommendation for oxygenation goals during oxygen administration

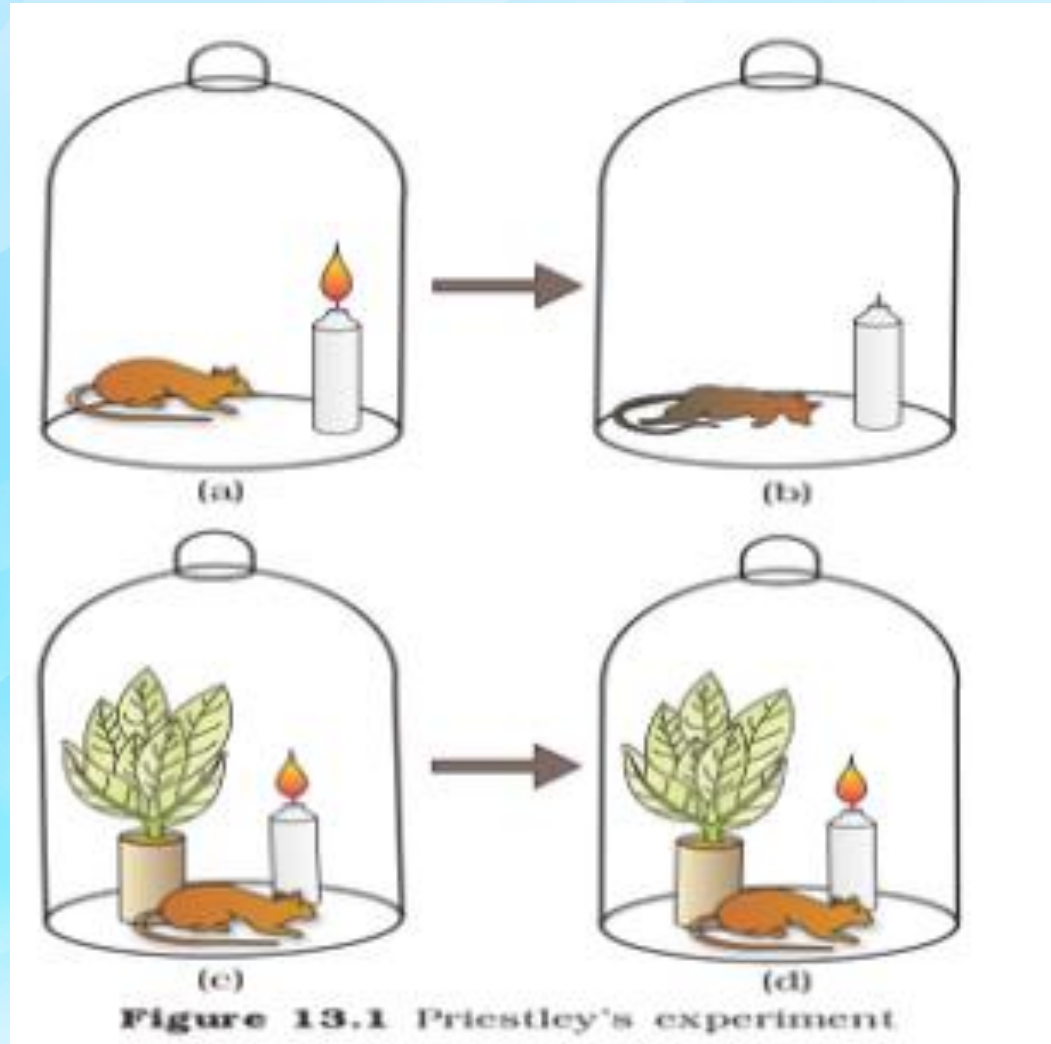
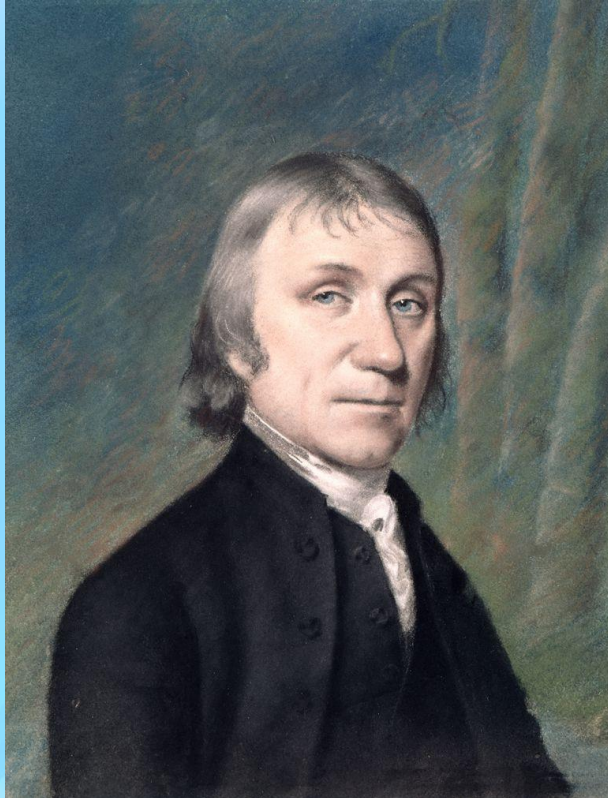


# Discovery Of Oxygen

- Discovered in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century by Joseph Priestley
  - Isolated a colorless gas by heating mercuri oxide
  - Increased the flame of a candle
  - Prolonged life of mice in a container
  - Warned that if over-used could be dangerous
- Named by Antoine Lavoisier
  - French chemist that use oxygen in human experiments

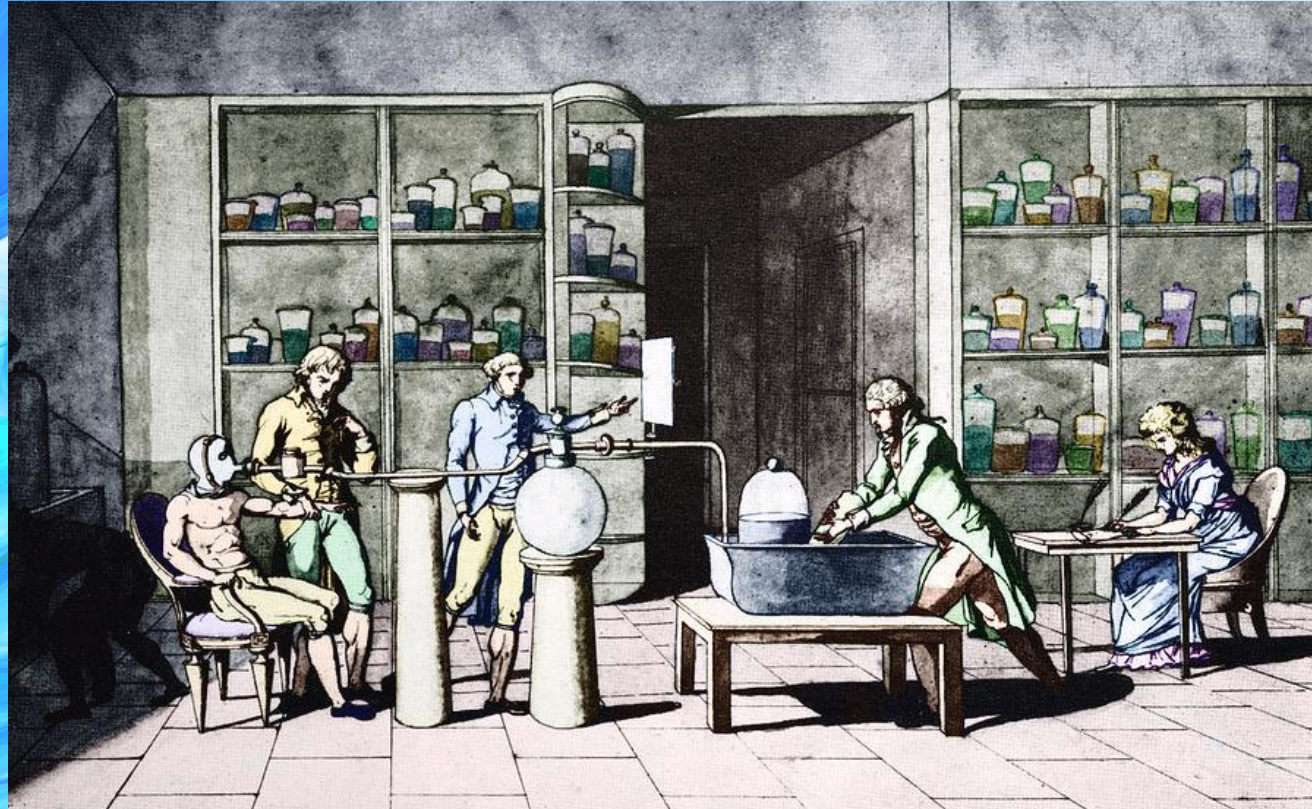


# Joseph Priestley

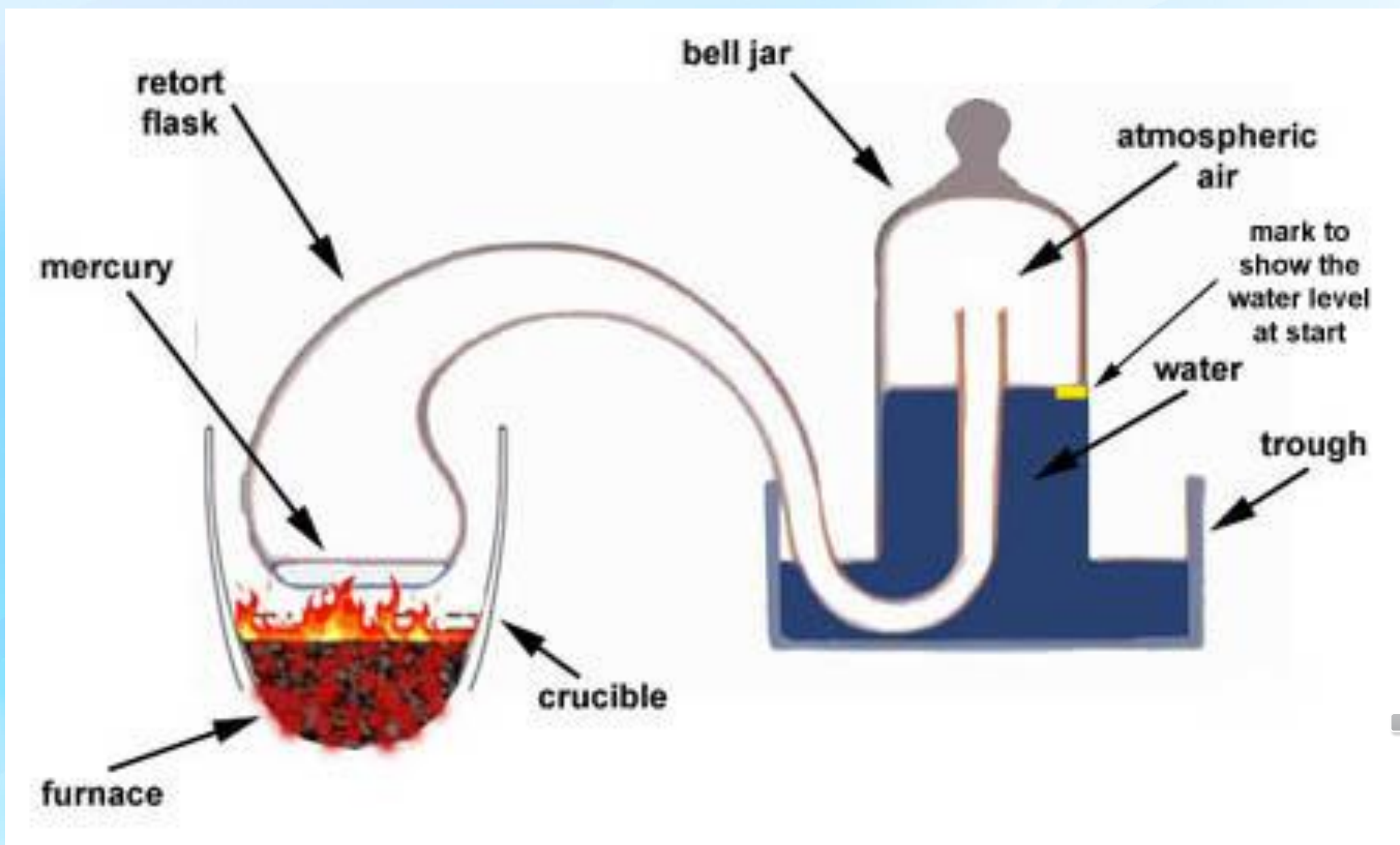




# LAVOISIER RESPIRATION EXPERIMENT



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Also discovered  
Nitrous Oxide



Laughing gas parties: 😊





Nitrous Oxide  
Parties Today!!

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# Thomas Beddoes “Oxygen Lab”



# Medical Use of Oxygen

- 1798 Thomas Beddoes founded the pneumatic institution for inhalation gas therapy in Bristol England
- First common use for oxygen was for the treatment of Tuberculosis
- Oxygen supplies and delivery system were very scarce and primitive



# First Widespread Use of Oxygen Administration

- Management of toxic gas inhalation by soldiers during World War I
- John Haldane develop the first “gas” mask
- Also warned against the excessive use of oxygen







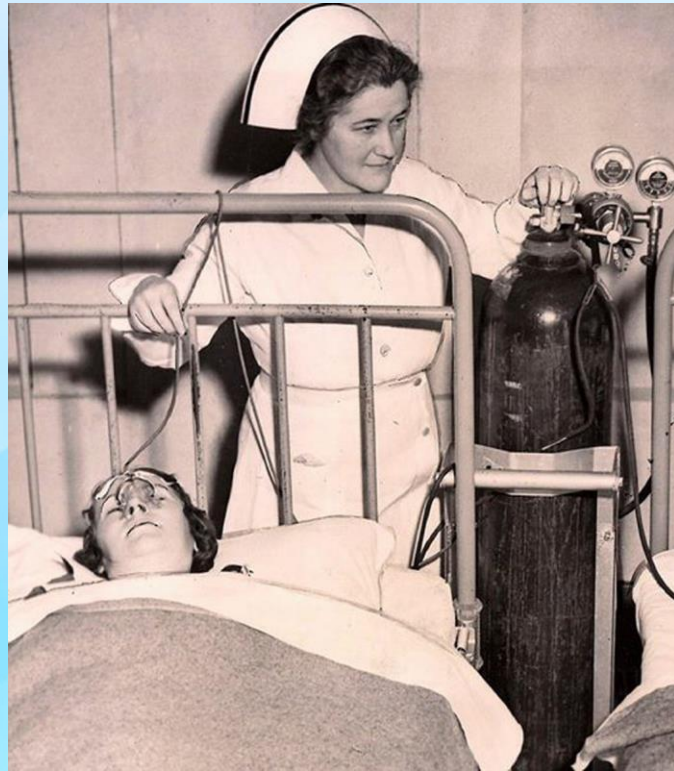
Haldane's Gas Mask



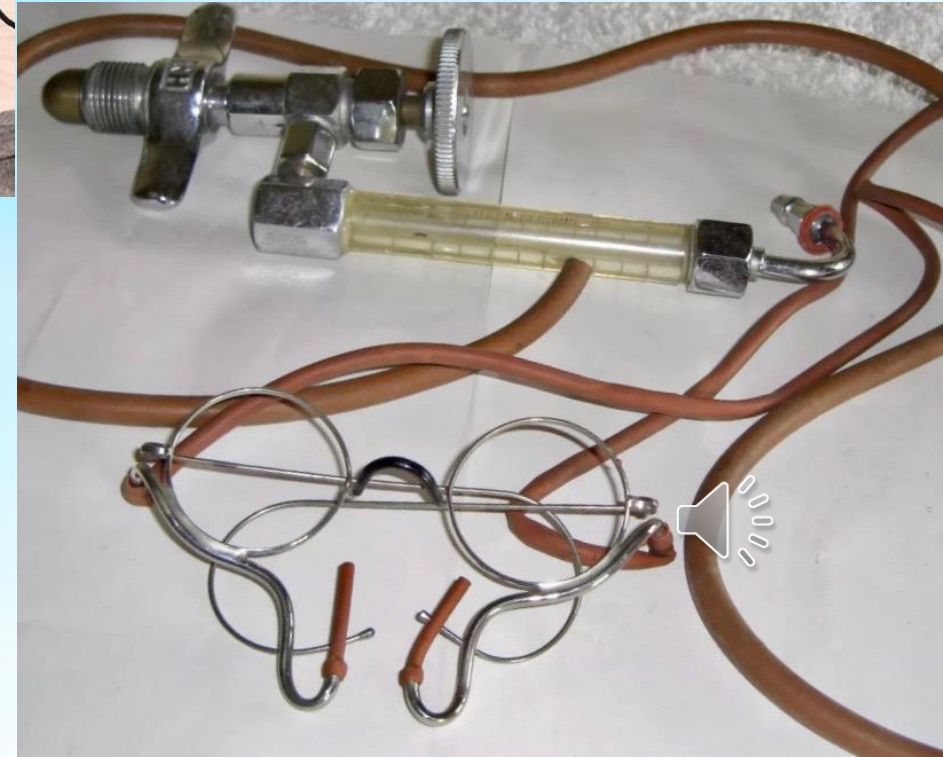
First nasal cannula





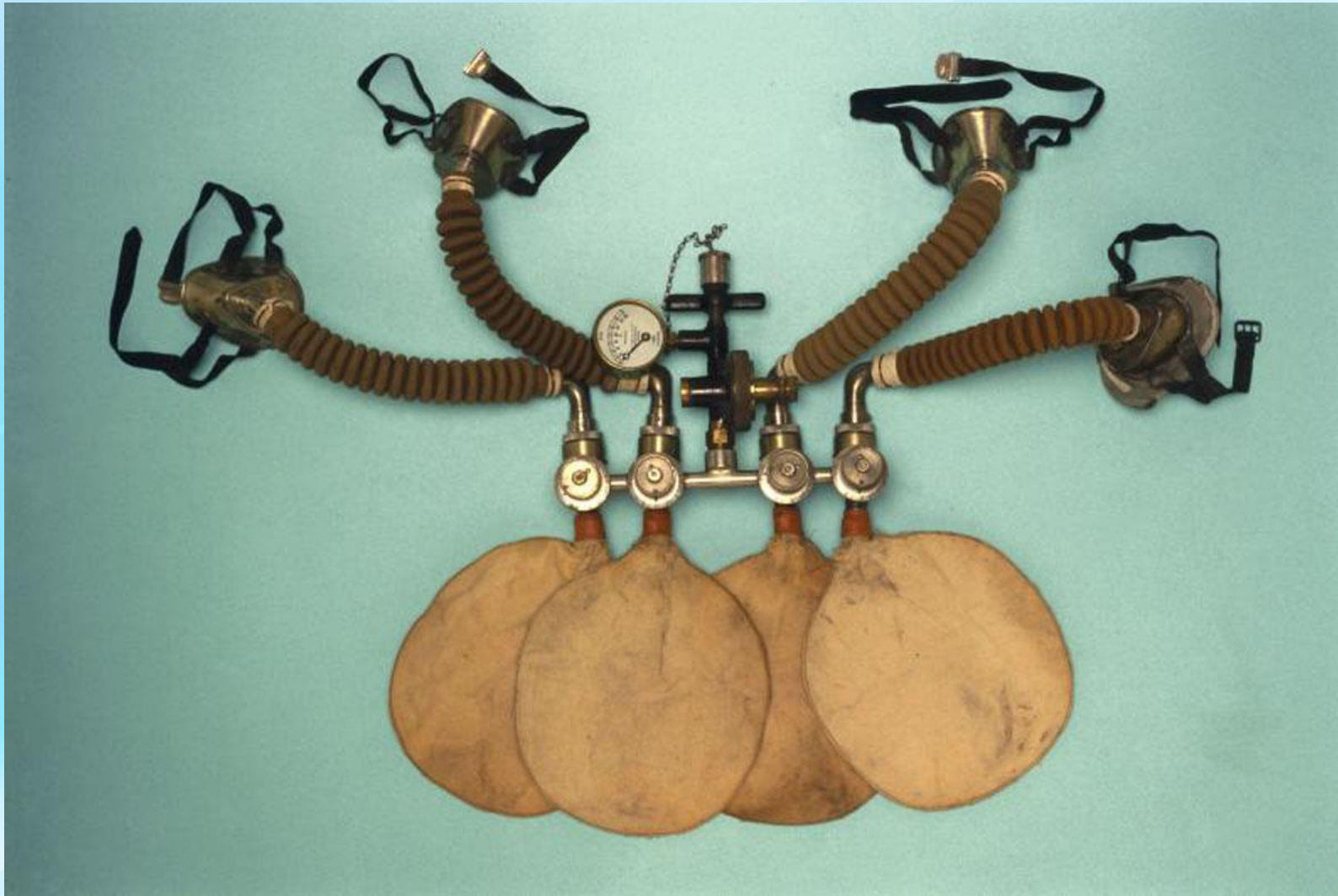


## Early Oxygen Administration devices





# Haldene's 4-person mask



# History of Oxygen Use in The Critical Care Patient Population

- 1950s: first ICUs and blood gas analysis was developed in Copenhagen Sweden during the polio endemic, which hospitalized hundreds of respiratory failure cases
  - Utilized Iron lungs
- 1960/1970 the advent of the mechanical ventilator which required entrained gases to be used, always involved the use of oxygen to power.





# 1953 Polio Epidemic







**Multi-person Negative Pressure Ventilator  
Boston Children's Hospital, 1950's**

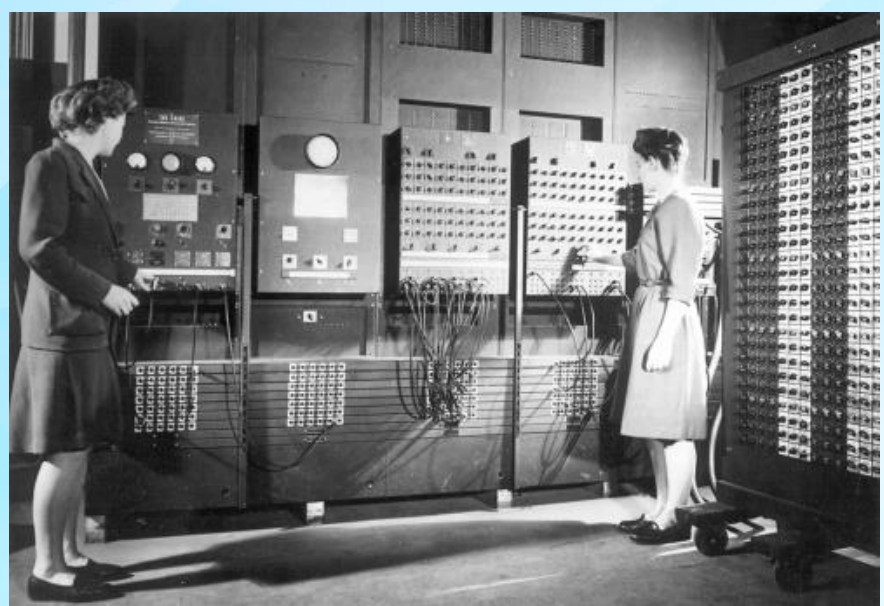
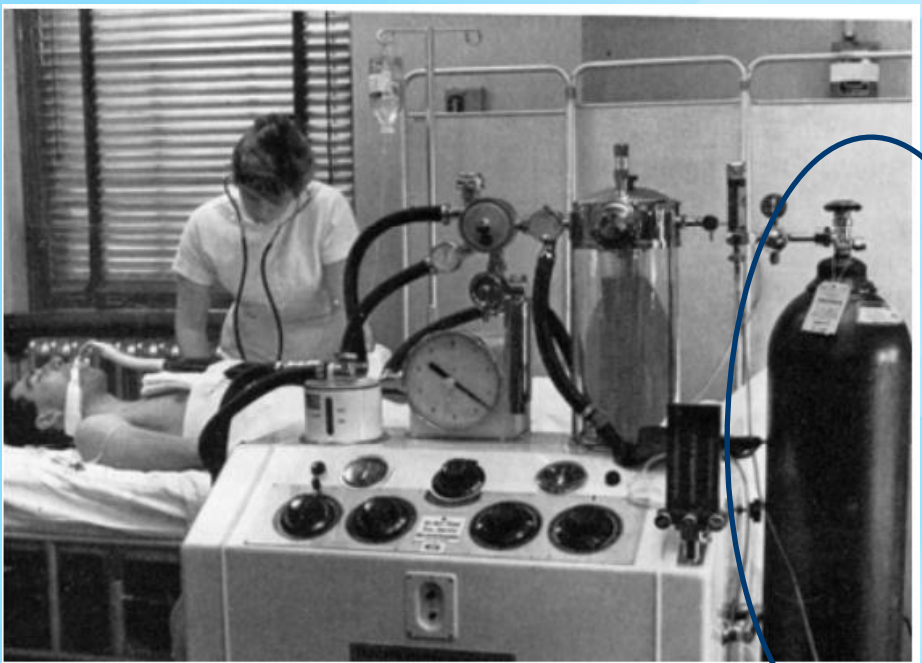




**Pneumomotor chest cuirass with rocking bed**



Engstrom Ventilator-Weight 500 lbs!!!

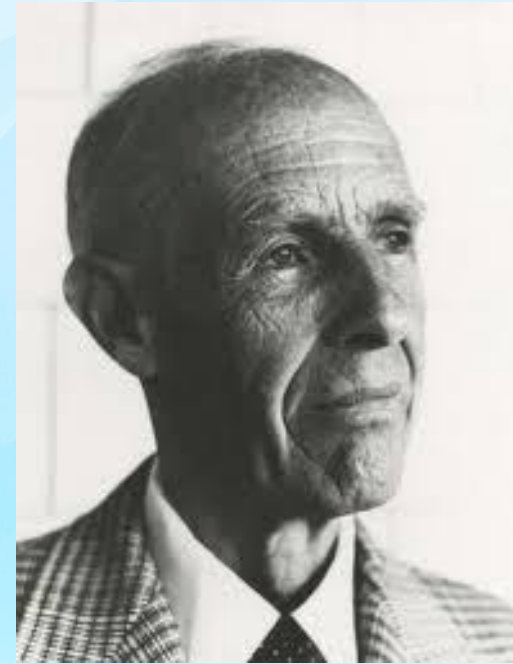
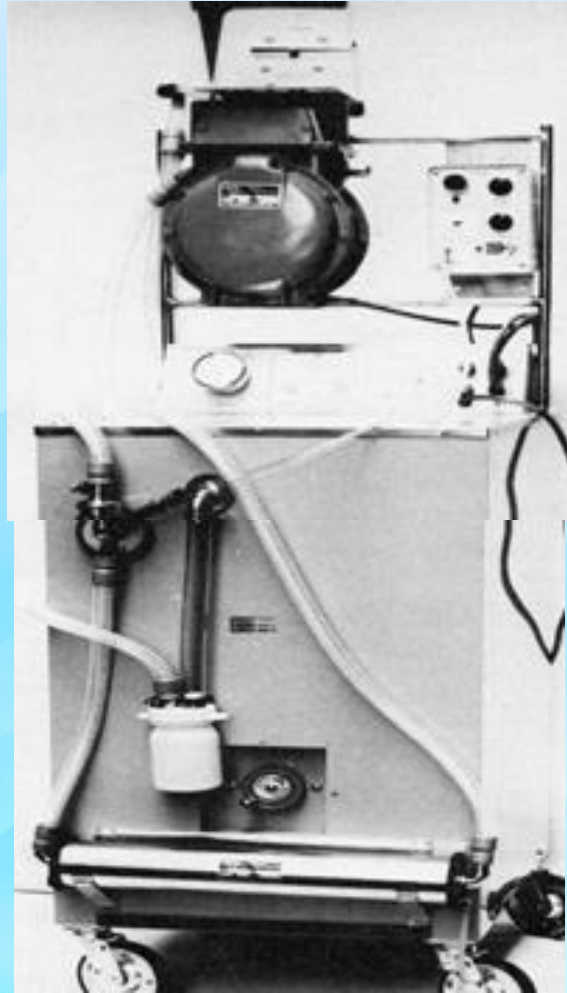


First computers





Emerson  
Post-op  
Ventilator



Jack Emerson

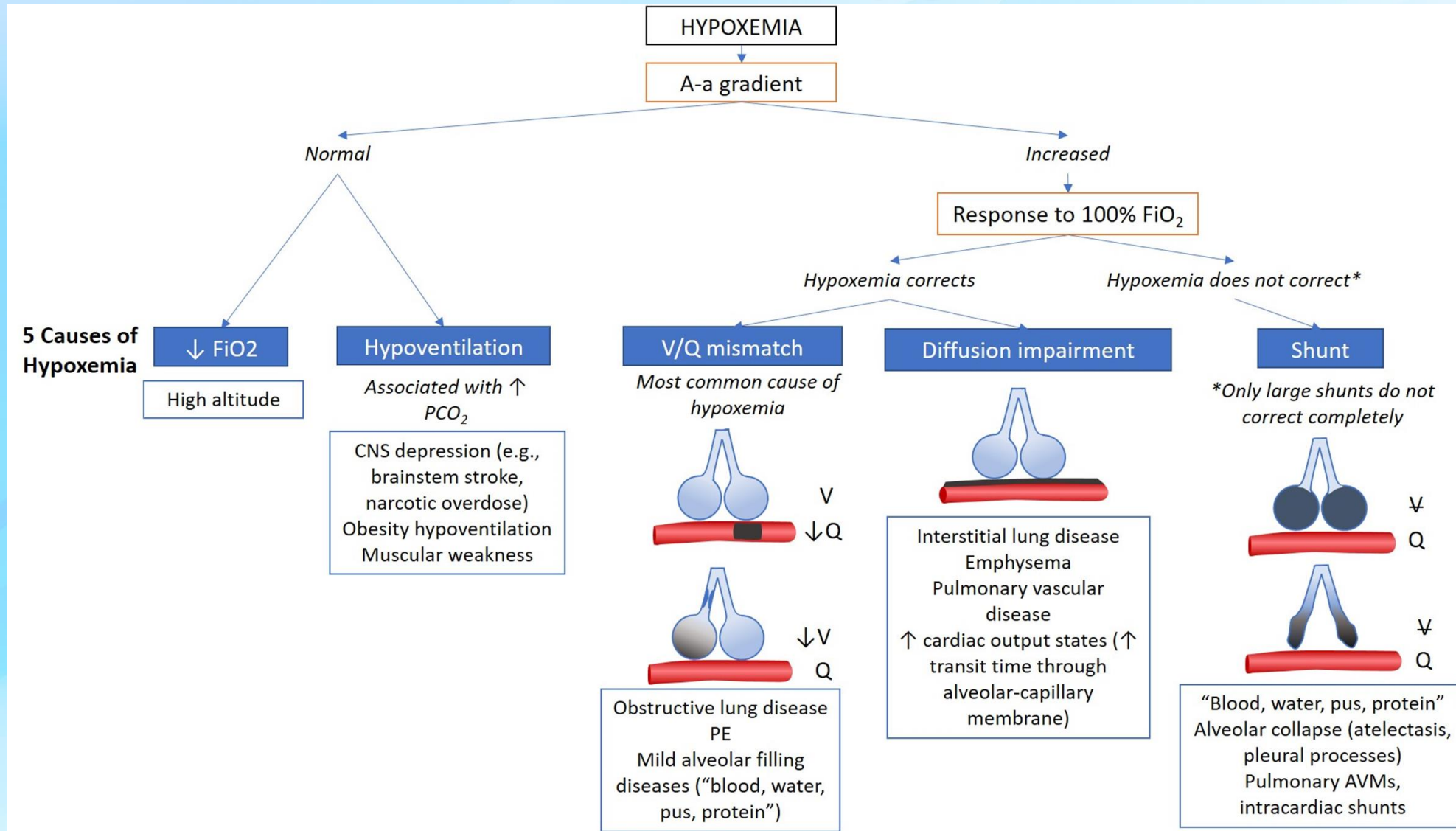




### Puritan Bennett MA-1



# Clinical Indications For Oxygen Administration



# Clinical Management of Oxygen

- Was focused on normalization of physiological parameters
- More oxygen was better always started on 100%
  - Majority of PaO<sub>2</sub>s were >100 torr in the ICU in 1970-1980
  - 1990-2015 PaO<sub>2</sub> >85 torr
- Deadly in COPD patients
  - Induced apnea
- Injurious to newborns
  - Retrolental Fibroplasia





# Evidence of Harm From Excessive Use of Oxygen Administration in the ICU

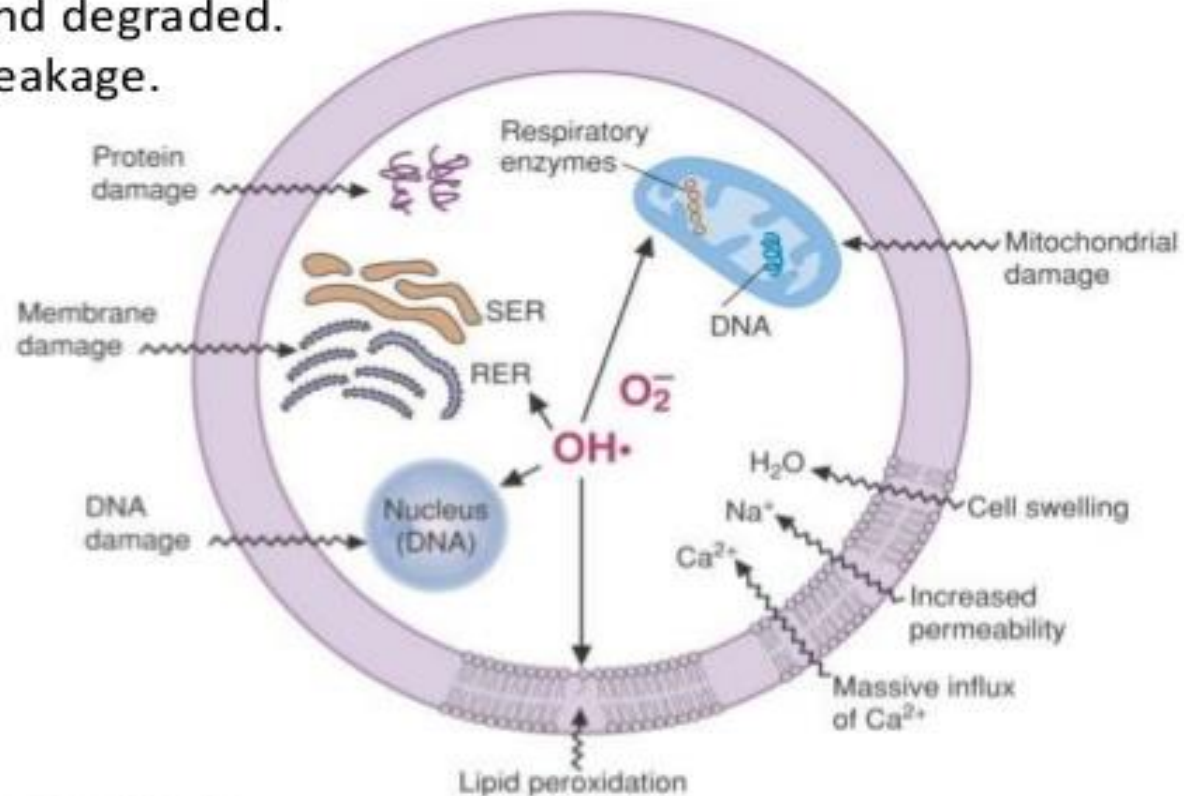
- High levels of PaO<sub>2</sub> still exist in most ICUs today despite an increasing body of evidence that demonstrates harm
- High oxygen concentrations have always been known to cause lung injury
  - FIO<sub>2</sub>>70% for 4 days cause fatal pneumonitis in rats
  - FIO<sub>2</sub>>50% for >7 days cause alveolar edema in humans
  - Causes vasoconstriction and absorption atelectasis
  - VILI to increase PaO<sub>2</sub>
- Currently there has been several retrospective studies showing the harmful effects of hyperoxemia



## Harmful effects of these radicals...

Oxygen radicals react with cell components:

- Lipid peroxidation of membranes.
- Increased permeability → influx  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  → mitochondrial damage.
- Proteins oxidized and degraded.
- DNA oxidized → breakage.



# Hemoptysis After Prolonged Periods of High FIO<sub>2</sub>





## Symptoms of **Oxygen toxicity**

### **Eyes**

- Visual field loss
- Near-sightedness
- Cataract formation
- Bleeding
- Fibrosis

### **Central**

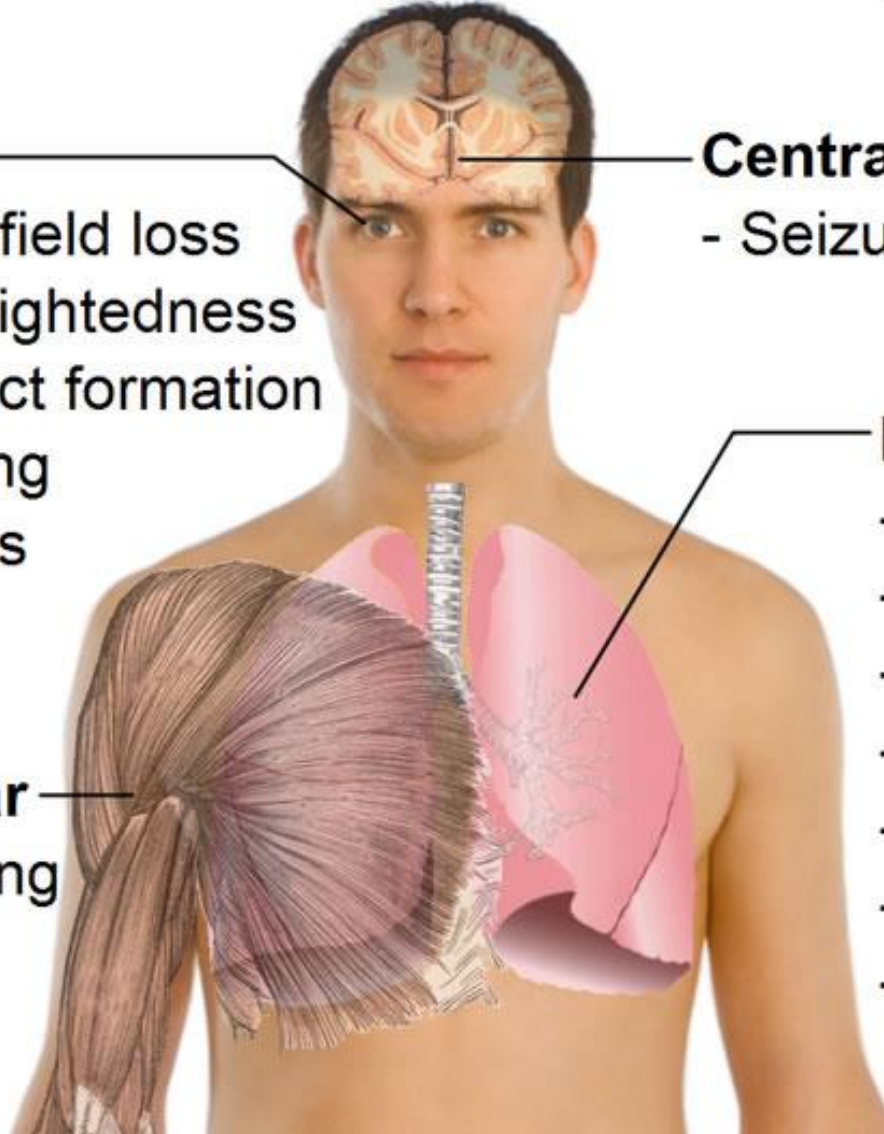
- Seizures

### **Respiratory**

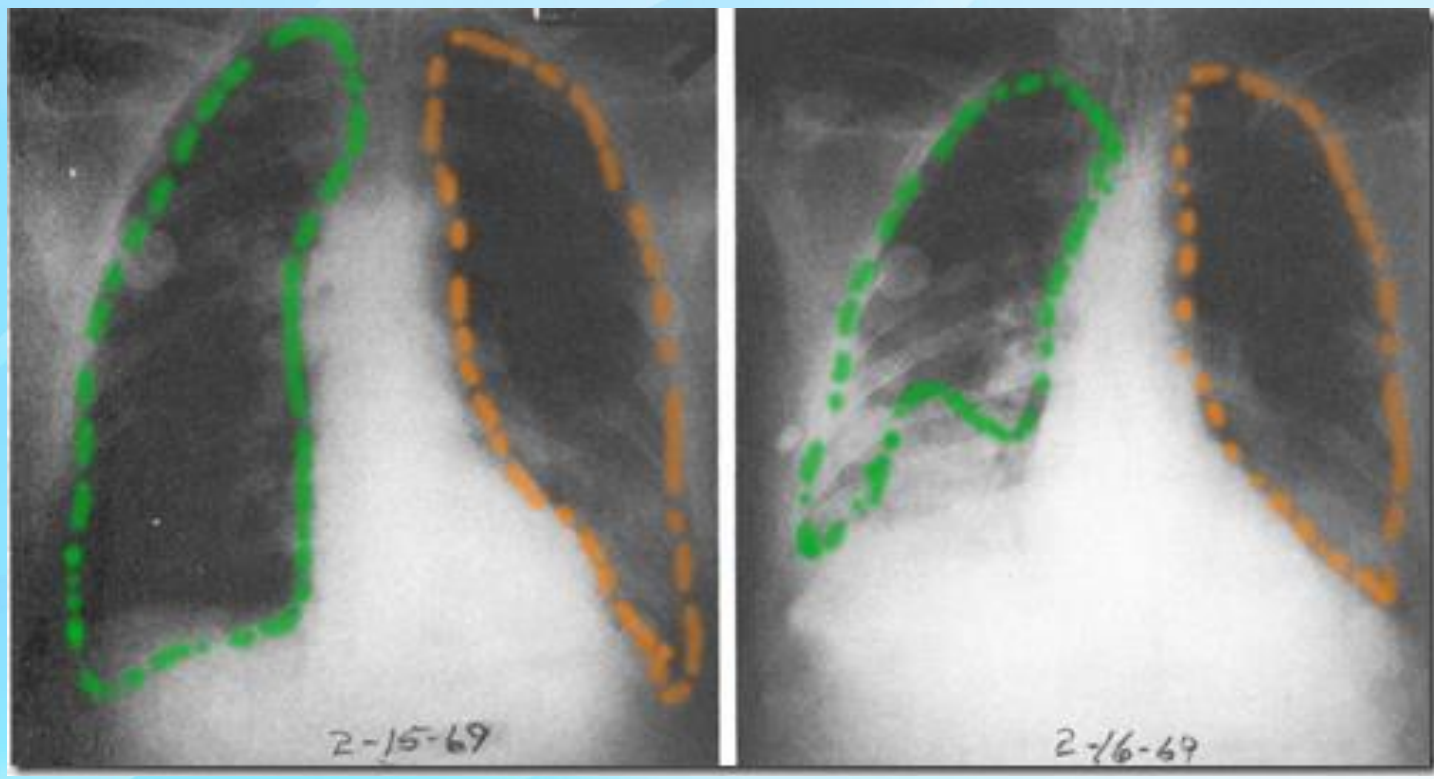
- Jerky breathing
- Irritation
- Coughing
- Pain
- Shortness of breath
- Tracheobronchitis
- Acute respiratory distress syndrome

### **Muscular**

- Twitching



# Absorption Atelectasis 100% O<sub>2</sub> for 24 hrs.



# Evidence of Harm In Specific Patient Populations





# Survivors of CPR

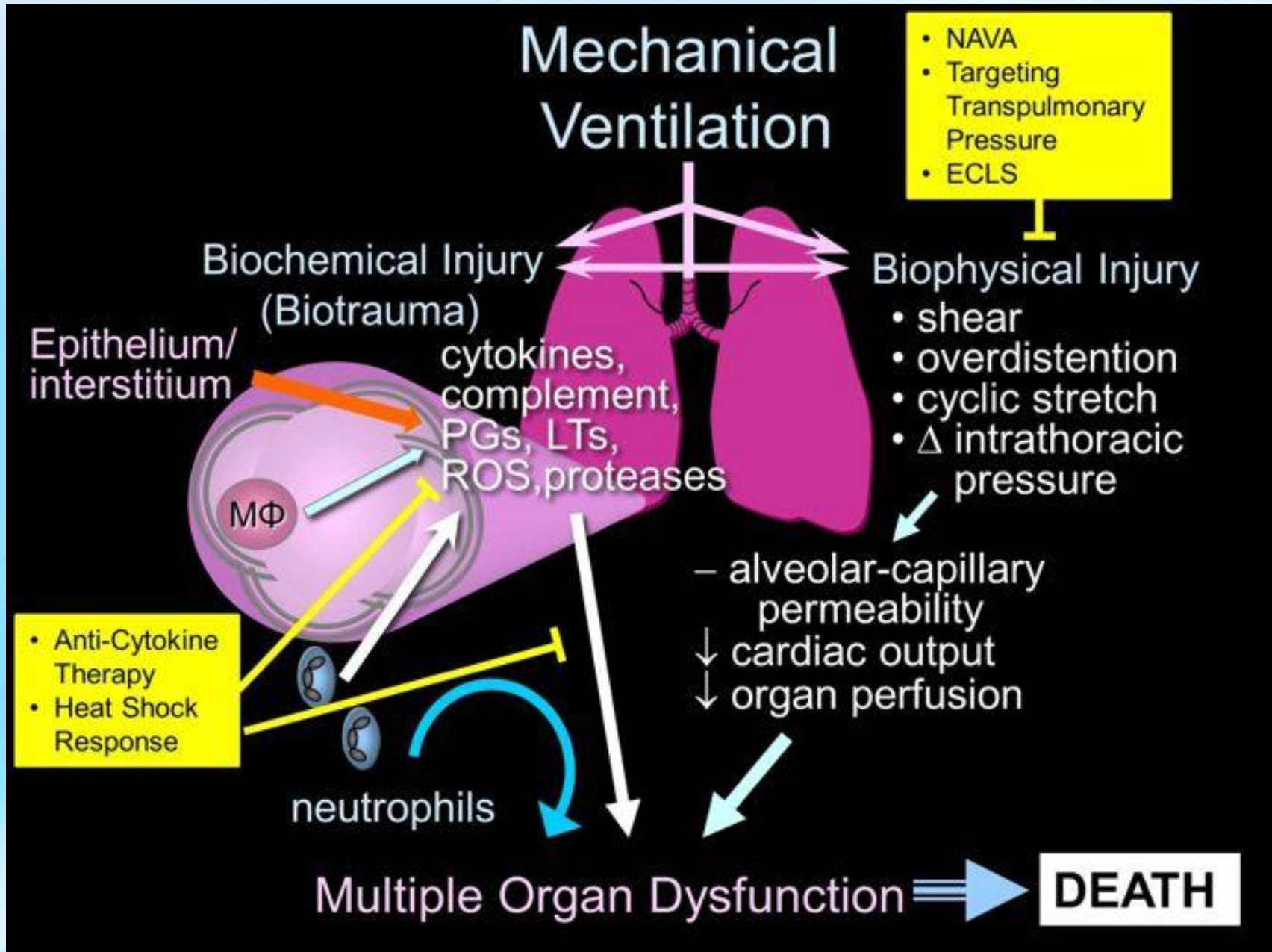
- 1.8 times increase risk of hospital mortality for patients who has a  $\text{PaO}_2 > 300$  torr post resuscitation thirty minutes
- In the first 24 hrs. those patients with  $\text{PaO}_2 > 300$  torr were 57% more likely to die than those patients with  $\text{PaO}_2 < 300$  torr
- Clinical rationale: oxygen radicals may be released during re-perfusion of distal organs



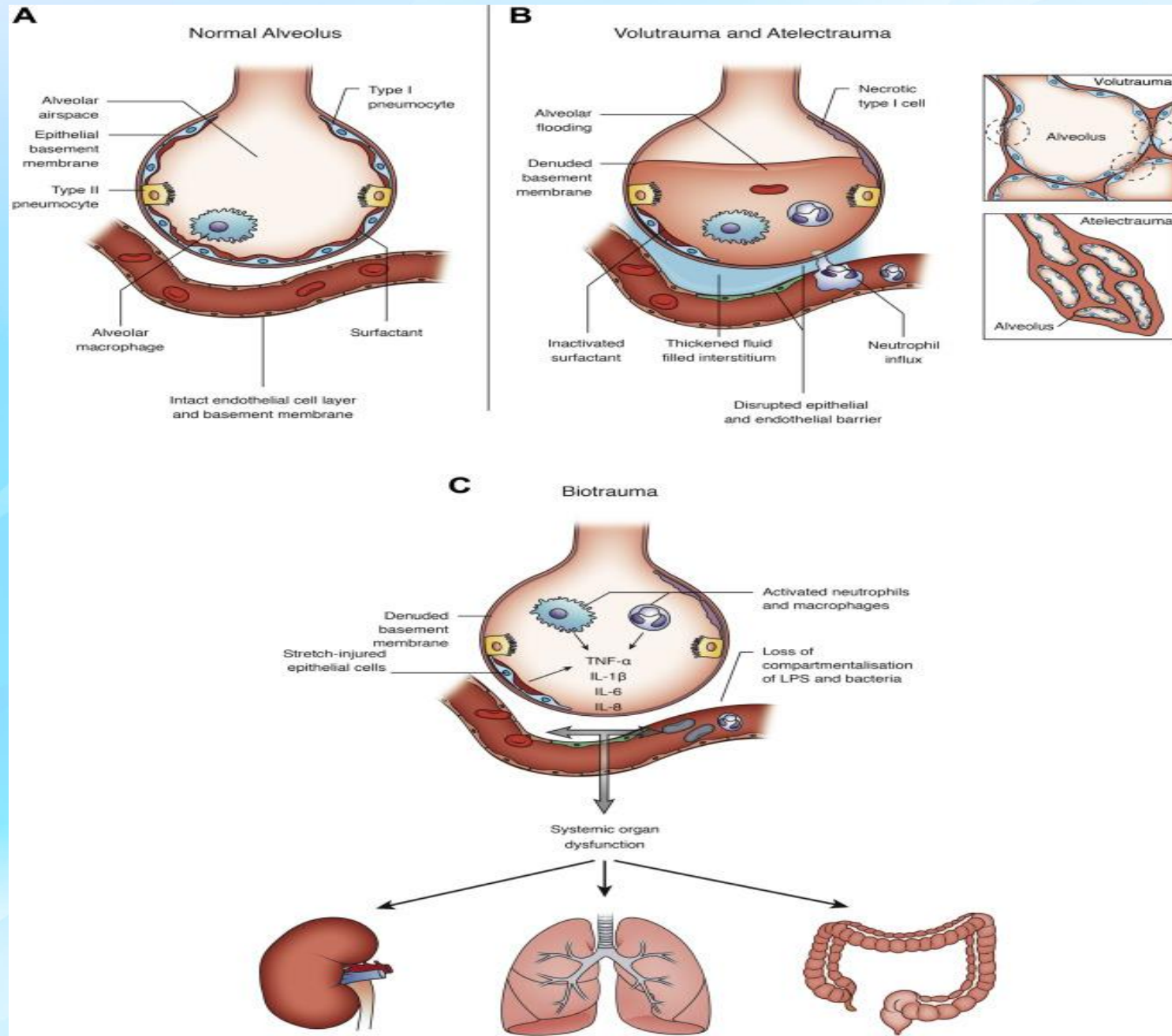
# Mechanical Ventilated Patients

- Patients with  $\text{PaO}_2 > 100$  torr had twice the mortality than patients with  $\text{PaO}_2$  60-80 torr 24 hours post intubation
- In almost every ARDS study patients with the lower  $\text{PaO}_2$  had higher survival rates than those patients with higher  $\text{PaO}_2$
- Clinical rationale: VILI maybe be more evident in patients with higher a  $\text{PaO}_2$ . The cost of higher  $\text{PaO}_2$  may lead to more VILI









# CVA/TBI Patients

- Low flow oxygen administration @ 2-4 lpm demonstrated improved outcomes compared to patients on oxygen mask
- Optimal SpO<sub>2</sub> range for CVA patients 90-94%
- Optimal SpO<sub>2</sub> range for TBI 90-92%
- Clinical rationale: high PaO<sub>2</sub> may cause vasoconstriction and lead to increased intracranial pressures



# MI=NRB Mask?





# Myocardial Infarction Patients

- Higher SpO<sub>2</sub> was associated with increased levels of cardiac enzymes and infarction size
- No evidence that oxygen administration via a NRB mask is beneficial in MI patients and should not be considered a standard of care
- Clinical rationale: oxygen may cause re-perfusion injury to occur



# Randomized Trials of Oxygen Therapy in the ICU

- Italian study:
  - 94-97% had 11.6% mortality rate
  - >97% had 20.1 % mortality rate
- ICU-ROX Study
  - 24% risk reduction in patients with SpO<sub>2</sub> 90-94%
- NICU study with Sepsis
  - Terminated secondary to increased atelectasis and muscle weakness in the hyperoxia group (PaO<sub>2</sub>>100 torr)



# So Why Have We Used too Much Oxygen for Decades???

- Old habits die hard
- Dyspnea is associated with hypoxemia
- High oxygen administration demonstrated success in:
  - WWI victims to gas attacks
  - Tuberculosis
  - Pneumonia
- Aggressive use of oxygen historically was used without reliable oxygen measuring tools
  - No ABGs/SpO<sub>2</sub> probes
  - Became the standard of care of **ALL** critical ill patients





# Increase Oxygen Carrying Capacity In The Blood

- Maintain a patent airway
- Increased blood volume
- Correct anemia
- Enhance cardiac output
- Give supplemental O<sub>2</sub> only if the patient is hypoxemic
- Treat the reason for the hypoxia (heart failure, pneumonia)



# Different Oxygen Delivery Devices

- Nasal cannula
- Simple/NRB mask
- Venti-mask
- High Flow Oxygen
- CPAP/BIPAP
- Ventilators
- ECMO



# Low Flow Oxygen

- Nasal cannula
  - 1-8 lpm
  - 22-44%
- Simple mask
  - 6-12 lpm
  - 30-60%
- Non-rebreathing mask
  - 10-15 lpm
  - 50-95%



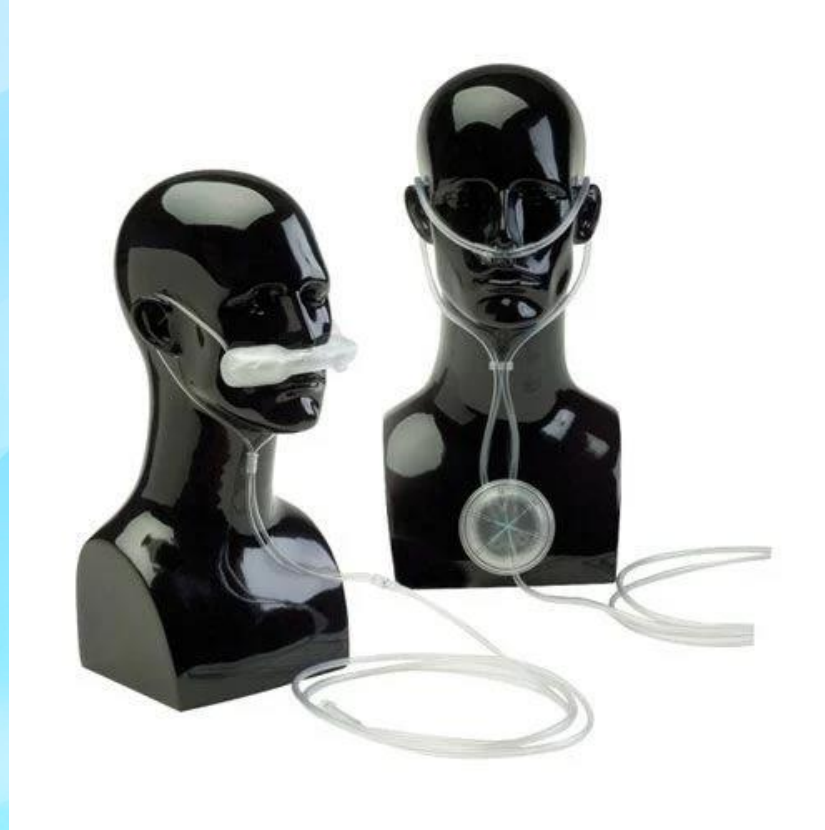
Variable oxygen delivery when respiratory pattern is outside normal parameters





# Mid Flow Oxygen Devices

- Cannula-15 lpm
- Oxygen Pendant
- Oximes



# High Flow Oxygen

- Optiflow
- Vapotherm
- Telflex



- Delivery of exact FIO<sub>2</sub>
- Delivers molecular humidity
- Provides “pseudo CPAP” ?



# Venti-Mask/Oxi mask





# Ventilators

- Conventional
- Oscillators/VDR/HFJV
- Non-invasive



# Hyperbaric Chambers



Wound healing  
CO poisoning  
Deep sea decompression  
Brain abscess



# Lebron James





# Future Directions of Oxygen Administration

- Oxygen is now recognized as a dangerous drug if over-used
- Should only be prescribed in documented hypoxemic patients not as a panacea for all serious ill patients
- We must be careful that oxygen administration does not suffer the see saw pendulum effect
- High oxygen concentrations are indicated for specific emergent situations



# Current Best Practice For Oxygen Utilization In Critical Illness

- Target SpO<sub>2</sub> 90-94% for most patients
- Target SPO<sub>2</sub> 88-92% in ARDS
- Target Spo<sub>2</sub> 88% in COPD, IPF
- 100% Oxygen administration in CO poisoning
- Target SpO<sub>2</sub> 90-92% for CVA/TBI/MI patient populations
- Use high FIO<sub>2</sub> until patient is stabilized or resuscitated
  - Reduce FIO<sub>2</sub>/SPO<sub>2</sub> target with assessment



# Summary

- Untreated hypoxemia and hyperoxemia are both harmful
- The former is much feared but not uncommon, but the latter is common and under recognized
- Utilization of oxygen therapy should be administered with specific clinical end-point targets
- RRTs play a pivotal role in determining best oxygen administration practice





# Questions?

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