

UPENN TREATMENT GUIDE FOR CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS WITH COVID-19

PRESENTATION

NOTABLE Sx

- ~65-80% Cough
- ~10% GI Sx
- ~15% URI Sx
- Acute worsening after early mild sx
- ~45% Febrile initially

HIGH RISK FOR SEVERE DZ

- Age > 55 YO
- Comorbid diseases:
 - Pulm, cardiac, renal
 - DM, HTN
 - Immunocompromise

LABS INDICATING SEVERE DZ

- D-dimer > 1000
- CPK > 2X ULN
- CRP > 100, LDH > 245
- Troponin elevated/uptrending
- Abs lymphocyte count < 0.8
- Ferritin > 300

DIAGNOSTICS

DAILY LABS

- CBC WITH DIFF (TREND LYMPHS)
- CMP
- CPK

RISK STRATIFICATION Q2-3 DAY PRN

- D-dimer
- Ferritin/CRP/ESR
- LDH
- EKG

ONE TIME TEST FOR ALL PATIENTS

- HBV, HCV, HIV TESTING
- Influenza A/B, RSV
- Additional respiratory virus panel per ID
- Tracheal aspirate if indicated
- SARS-CoV2 (if not already sent)

DIAGNOSTICS TYPICALLY SEEN IN COVID19

- LABS: leukopenia/lymphopenia, elevated BUN/SCR, elevated AST/ALT/Tbili
- CXR: hazy bilateral peripheral opacities
- CT: ground glass opacities, consolidation
- Lung POCUS: numerous B lines, pleural line thickening, consolidation

RESPIRATORY FAILURE

Consider early intubation in ICU in Negative Pressure Room

Warning signs: increasing FIO₂, decreasing SaO₂, worsening CXR

LUNG PROTECTIVE VENTILATION

- Vt 4-6 mL/kg predicted body weight
- Plateau pressure < 30
- Driving pressure (Pplat-PEEP) < 15
- Target SpO₂ 90-96%, PaO₂ > 60
- Starting PEEP 10-12

CONSERVATIVE FLUID STRATEGY

- Diuresis as tolerated by hemodynamics/creat
- No maintenance fluids

PEEP TITRATION

Best PEEP by tidal compliance or ARDSnet low PEEP table

PRONE

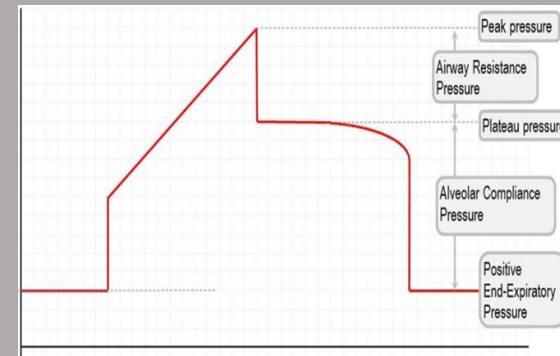
Early consideration if continuing hypoxemia or elevated airway pressures

ADDITIONAL THERAPIES

- Paralytics for vent dysnchro
- Consider inhaled NO if available

ECMO CONSULT (CALL ICU ATTG)

- PaO₂ < 80 on FIO₂ 100% despite proning, hemodynamic instability X 12 hours
- Age < 65
- BMI < 45
- Smoking hx < 30 ppy



VENTILATOR METRICS

Tidal Volume (Vt): The amount of gas the ventilator delivers

FiO₂: Fraction of inspired oxygen. The percentage of oxygen .you set.

PEEP: Positive end expiratory pressure. The ventilator will hold this set pressure once expiratory flow stops.

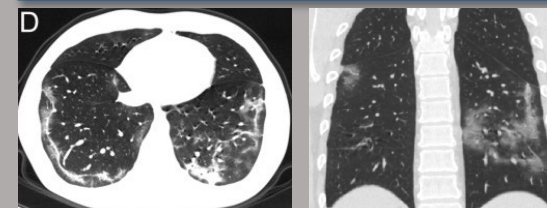
Plateau pressure (Pplat): The pressure measured during an inspiratory pause. This is most reflective of the distending force in the lung by the delivered VT. Above 30 cm H₂O increases risk of barotrauma.

Compliance (alveolar compliance): Describes the degree of flexibility of the lungs and thoracic cavity. A more compliant lung can tolerate higher volumes without dangerous increases in pressure. COVID-19 lungs generally have normal compliance.

Peak pressure: The pressure measured in the airways. This is not delivered to the lung.

MONITORING

- EKG
- Pulse oximetry
- Non-invasive BP versus arterial line
- Central line if on requiring pressors or TPN



HEMODYNAMICS

- Norepinephrine first choice pressor
- If worsening:
 - Consider myocarditis/cardiogenic shock
 - Obtain POCUS echo, EKG, trop, CVO2 (formal TTE if high concern)

CHANGE TO USUAL CARE

- NO ROUTINE DAILY CXR
- MINIMIZE staff contact in room
- HIGH THRESHOLD for bronchoscopy
- HIGH THRESHOLD for travel (to CT, etc)
- BUNDLE bedside procedures
- Appropriate guideline-based isolation for aerosol generating procedures:
 - Bronchoscopy
 - Intubation/extubation (see guidelines)
 - AVOID nebs, prefer MDIs

USUAL ICU CARE

- Sedation vacation daily / assess RASS goals
- Nutrition – start/continue TEN if tolerated
- GI ppx – ranitidine or lansoprazole
- DVT ppx – enoxaparin
- Bowel regimen – daily
- Glycemic control – q6 hours
- POCUS when needed
- Bundle care procedures
- ABCDE bundle

THERAPEUTICS

ALL ICU ADMISSIONS

- Low threshold for empiric abx
- WITH ID GUIDANCE
 - Consider hydroxychloroquine
 - Remdesivir through clinical trials

IMMUNE MODULATION

- Immunomodulatory therapies only in consultation with ID and critical care attending
- NO STEROIDS for resp failure, consider only in s/o additional indications (COPD, asthma) including possibly septic shock