Oscillation and Lung Expansion (OLE) therapy was delivered with The MetaNeb® System, combining Continuous Positive Expiratory Pressure (CPEP) and Continuous High Frequency Oscillation (CHFO).

This data, published in the August issue of the Journal of the American College of Surgeons (JACS), suggest that OLE may contribute significantly to greater value-based quality care for these patients.

OVERVIEW

New research shows that an aggressive pulmonary treatment after surgery known as oscillation and lung expansion (OLE) reduced the rate of post-operative pulmonary complications (PPCs) in high-risk patients. Such complications may cause high morbidity, mortality, and healthcare expenditures.

STUDY DESIGN

This was a 419 patient, non-randomized pre-post intervention study. Three academic facilities (Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Lahey Hospital and Medical Center, Carolinas Medical Center) which had not previously used OLE conducted the study in patients undergoing open thoracic, aortic, or upper abdominal surgery.

STAGE I: DEVELOP BASELINE

For the retrospective cohort, CPT, ICD 9 and 10 codes for thoracic, upper abdominal and aortic procedures were queried. Patients (210) were then randomly selected based on pre-defined entry criteria. This group provided the control group for comparison to the Stage II practice change cohort.

STAGE II: IMPLEMENT SOLUTION

Stage II began after implementation of a practice change. Eligible patients (209) received OLE therapy with the MetaNeb System in addition to standard care. Demographic, clinical and outcome data for patients were collected. Outcomes were tracked for each day from postsurgical hospital admission (PSHA) through post-surgery day seven.
HIGH-RISK STUDY PARTICIPANT ENTRY CRITERIA

- Surgical procedures were opened with incisions at or above the umbilicus.
- ASA class ≥ 3 OR ASA class 2 AND one or more of the following:
  - Current smoker or smoking history (past 6 months)
  - History of COPD
  - Documented obesity and/or BMI ≥ 30 kg/m2
  - Age ≥ 75 years

PPC DEFINED

A significant PPC was defined as occurrence of one or more of the following within seven days of the PSHA:

- Prolonged invasive mechanical ventilation
- Diagnosis of pneumonia
- Readmission to the ICU
- Prolonged high-level respiratory support
- Requirement for non-invasive ventilation or CPAP above patient’s baseline

OLE THERAPY TREATMENT REGIMEN

Intubated patients received CHFO six times a day. Non-intubated patients received therapy treatment four times a day, alternating between CHFO and CPEP.

- Treatment delivered for 10 minutes, minimum of 48 hours
- 85% of patients received treatment in the first 6 hours
- 76% of patients received ≥ 4 treatments in the first 40 hours

PRIMARY OUTCOMES

Reduction of Postoperative Pulmonary Complications

- **31%** ↓ ALL PATIENTS FROM 22.9% DOWN TO 15.8%
- **47%* ↓** INTUBATED PATIENTS FROM 69.8% DOWN TO 36.7%
- **45%* ↓** PATIENTS WITH ASA 4/5 FROM 48.6% DOWN TO 26.9%

SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Reduction in ICU and hospital length of stay

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<tr>
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<th>ICU LOS</th>
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<tr>
<td>ALL PATIENTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>INTUBATED PATIENTS</td>
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Reduction of average time on the ventilator

- **94.1 HOURS**
- **29.7 HOURS**

*Statistically significant

CLINICAL OUTCOMES LEAD TO FINANCIAL SAVINGS

Based on these proven clinical outcomes, savings can be up to $10,800 per patient.2

References