

Title of Abstract:

Respiratory management of Preterm infants: When to Intubate ? When to Extubate ? Lack of Consensus and Urgent Need for Guidelines

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Abstract Description:

The indications for intubation and extubation vary from NICU to NICU and within the same NICU among physicians. Variability in the reported guidelines from randomized ,controlled trials (RCTs) makes it difficult to compare the outcomes between NICUs or between RCTs. There is urgent need for gestational age or birth weight specific intubation and extubation guidelines in neonates to improve pulmonary and non-pulmonary outcomes. These guidelines will be valuable in academic and non-academic centers as well as for allied health practioners, who are increasing being utilized in the care of sick neonates.

We reviewed the literature about criteria for intubation,extubation and reintubation from 7 RCTs published between 2008 and 2012. Following studies were included in our analysis: COIN (2008),

Nasal CPAP or CNRN (2009),CURPAP{ (2010), SUPPORT (2010), DRM 9 2011), AMV (2011) and NEOCOSUR (2012).

Intubation and extubation criteria based on gestational age or birth weight may help improve pulmonary and non-pulmonary outcomes in this very high-risk population. There is urgent need to establish patient or disease specific consensus guidelines in very preterm infants.

Table 1 and Table 2.

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None