



The Fundamentals of Non-Invasive Respiratory Support

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Objectives

- Familiarity with your ED Oxygen Toolkit
- When to use non-invasive respiratory support
- Understand the ins and out of high flow nasal canula (HFNC)
- Understand when, why and how to use non-invasive positive pressure ventilation
- Become comfortable with delayed sequence intubation



https://www.alibaba.com/product-detail/1-5L-Medical-Oxygen-Regulators-Oxygen_1601159156290.html



ED oxygen toolkit

- Nasal Canula
- Simple Facemask
- Non-rebreather
- High Flow Nasal Cannula
- BiPAP/CPAP
- BVM
- LMA
- Definitive airway



Non-invasive Respiratory Support

Non-Invasive Respiratory Support

- Safe and effective in mild to moderate hypoxemia
- Best when respiratory failure has a reversible cause
 - Serves as a bridge while treatments work on underlying issues
- Preserves physiological pathways for airway protection
- Helps maintain adequate oxygenation and ventilatory support
- Addresses pathology that can result in intubation
 - Hypercapneic encephalopathy
 - Hypoxemia
 - Respiratory muscle exhaustion



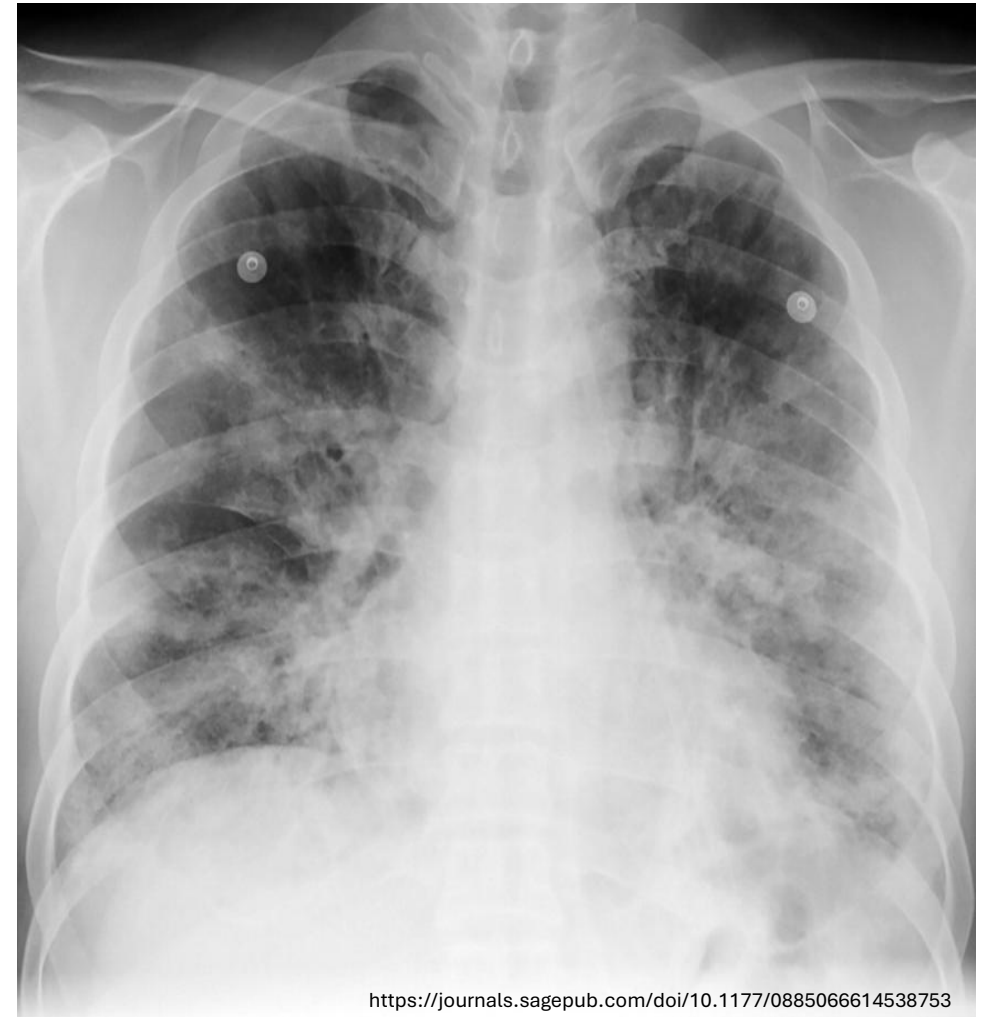
Goals of NIV Respiratory Support

- Maintain adequate oxygenation
- Provide adequate ventilatory support
 - Comfort
 - Decreased respiratory muscle fatigue
- Allow for secretion clearance
- Protect airway
- Maintain stable or improving condition



Case # 1: Multifocal PNA

- 32 yo, PMH HIV, anxiety, presenting with cough and fever x 1 week with worsening over the past 2 days.
- BP: 90/50
- HR: 120
- RR: 30
- O₂ Sat: 90% on ra
- Temp: 39.5 °C



Problem List

- Sepsis
- Respiratory distress
- Immunocompromised?
- Time



What next?

- a) The patient is oxygenating and ventilating OK, keep on NC and admit.
- b) Secure a definitive airway now- we all know where this is going
- c) Escalate oxygen amount delivered via simple facemask then NRB if facemask does not help
- d) Place the patient on CPAP/BiPAP
- e) Place the patient on HFNC

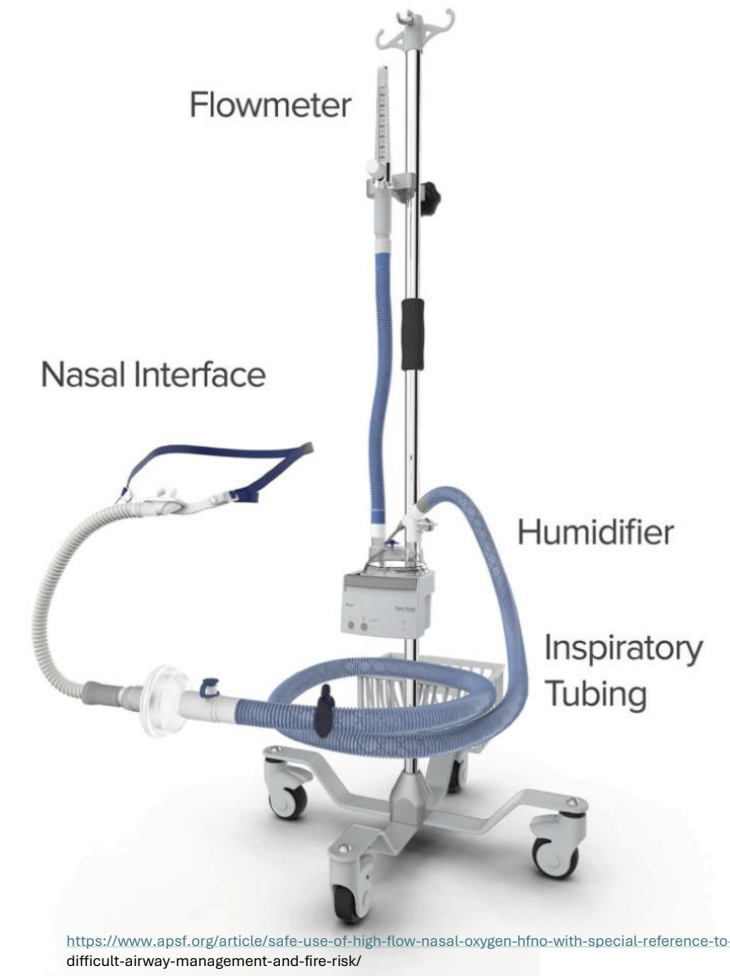
High Flow Nasal Canula

- Unique mode of noninvasive respiratory support:
 - Warmed, humidified oxygen
 - FiO_2 of 0.21 to 1.0
 - Flow rate as high as 60 L/min
- Improved patient comfort
- Many physiological advantages
 - Reduces WOB/RR
 - Anatomical dead space washout
 - PEEP
 - Fraction of Inspired Oxygen



When and How to use HFNC

- High-flow demands
 - Parenchymal disease with low pressure needs
 - Acute respiratory failure with minimal hypercarbia
 - Pre-oxygenation/post extubation oxygenation
- Inability to tolerate NIPPV
- Set flow rate
 - Start at 20-35 L/min (range is 5-60 L/min)
- Set FiO₂
 - Start around 60% (range 21%-100%)
- Hypoxemia severity (PaO₂/FiO₂)



High-Flow Oxygen through Nasal Cannula in Acute Hypoxemic Respiratory Failure

Authors: Jean-Pierre Frat, M.D., Arnaud W. Thille, M.D., Ph.D., Alain Mercat, M.D., Ph.D., Christophe Girault, M.D., Ph.D., Stéphanie Ragot, Pharm.D., Ph.D., Sébastien Perbet, M.D., Gwénael Prat, M.D., [+23](#), for the FLORALI Study Group and the REVA Network* [Author Info & Affiliations](#)

Published June 4, 2015 | N Engl J Med 2015;372:2185-2196 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1503326 | [VOL. 372 NO. 23](#)

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- Acute hypoxemic respiratory failure WITHOUT hypercapnia
- Compared HFNC vs FM vs NIPPV
- Results: Intubation rate same, 90-day mortality & Vent free days better with HFNC

Randomized Controlled Trial of Humidified High-Flow Nasal Oxygen for Acute Respiratory Distress in the Emergency Department: The HOT-ER Study

Peter G Jones ¹, Sinan Kamona ², Owen Doran ², Frann Sawtell ², Margaret Wilsher ³

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 26577199 DOI: [10.4187/respcare.04252](https://doi.org/10.4187/respcare.04252)

- Patients with various underlying pulmonary disease showing sign of respiratory distress
- Compared HFNC vs traditional O2 delivery
- Results: Trends of lower intubation rates after 24 hrs but higher 90-day mortality however not statistically significant

High-Flow Nasal Oxygen vs Noninvasive Ventilation in Patients With Acute Respiratory Failure The RENOVATE Randomized Clinical Trial

RENOVATE Investigators and the BRICNet Authors

JAMA. Published online December 10, 2024. doi:10.1001/jama.2024.26244

- 5 groups with respiratory failure
- Compared HFNC vs NIPPV
- Results: HFNC non inferior to NIPPV at preventing intubation and mortality at 7 days

Back to our Case

- Patient was started on HFNC at 30 L/min, 60% FiO₂
- Work of breathing improved
- Was able to go to the floor instead of ICU
- No decompensation resulting in intubation

Case # 2: Pink Puffer

- 73 yo, PMH COPD/asthma, ILD, presenting with progressively worsening SOB, productive cough and wheezing.
- BP: 160/95
- HR: 100
- RR: 28
- O₂ Sat: 88% on ra
- Temp: 37 °C



Problem list

- COPD (lung disease, complicates oxy/vent, airway management)
- Work of breathing
- Hypoxia
- Somnolence which we have to assume is due to hypercarbia

What next?

- a) Intubation is our only option, NIPPV is CI due to mental status and respiratory drive (diminished due to tiring out)
- b) HFNC will offer some pressure support and increase oxygenation while being comfortable for the patient
- c) BiPAP is preferred due to offering stronger ventilatory support than other interventions and being non-invasive
- d) Continuation of medication management and slow increase of oxygenation delivery methods to meet O₂ requirements
- e) Phone a friend

Contraindications to NIVVP

- Patient is not tolerating
 - Can try sedation with close observation
- Inability to get good seal due to facial abnormalities, trauma, etc.
- No spontaneous respirations or bradypnea
- Mental status changes**
- High risk for aspiration
 - Active vomiting or pathophysiology that can result in vomiting



<https://www.indiamart.com/proddetail/bipap-cpap-mask-7190883862.html>

When to use NIVVP

- Hypoxia
 - Increased work of breathing
 - AMS with high suspicion for CO₂ retention
 - Pre-oxygenation for intubation
-
- Strongest evidence for use in:
 - Acute pulmonary edema and Bronchospasm (asthma, COPD)
 - Reduces rate of intubation



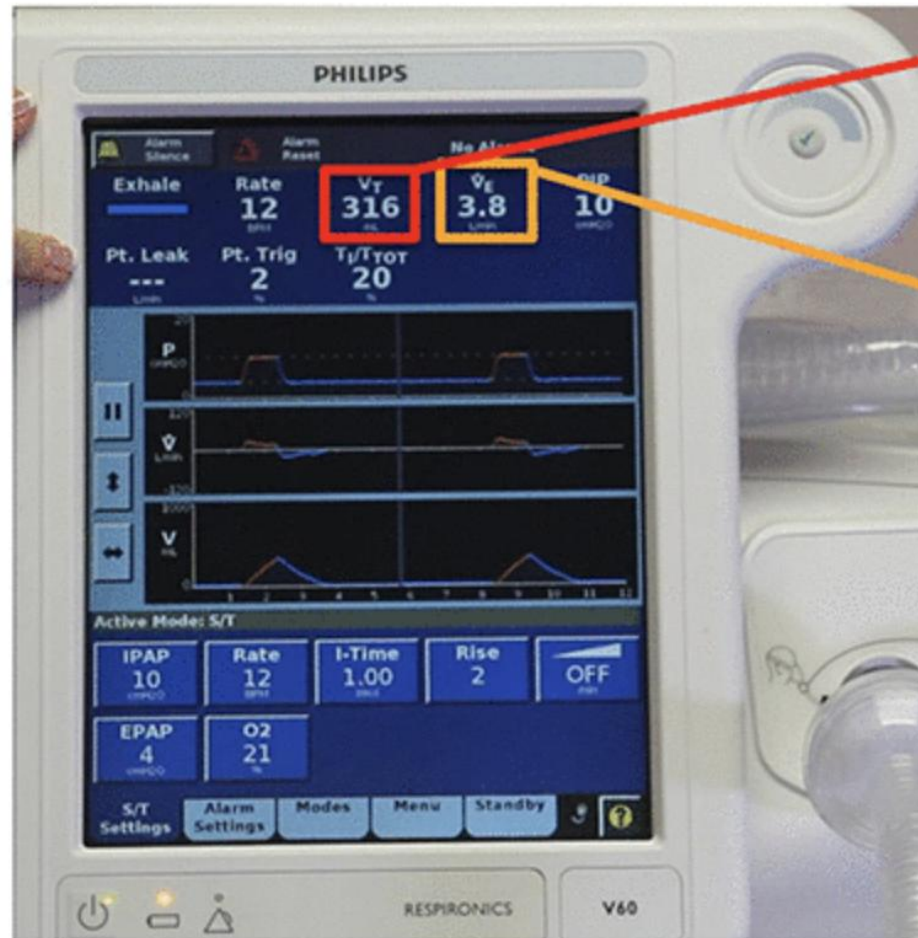
How to use NIVVP

- CPAP- usually pressure set at 5 cmH₂O
- BiPAP- Pressure support + PEEP
 - PEEP 5-8 cmH₂O, pressure support 8-14 cmH₂O
- Set FiO₂ based on O₂ requirements
- PEEP- setting for oxygenation needs. Start at 5 and titrate up
 - ARDS, PNA, atelectasis
- PSV/inspiratory pressure- setting for ventilation needs. Start at 5 and titrate up
 - COPD, asthma

NIVVP Monitoring

- Oxygenation
- Work of breathing
- Mentation
- BiPAP Monitor
- ABG/VBG

- Frequent assessments



Tidal volume

- Normal ~ 6 cc/kg (~ 400 ml)
- Very low tidal volumes ($<4-5$ cc/kg) suggest hypoventilation.

Minute ventilation

- Normal $\sim 6-7$ liters/min.
- Very low minute ventilation (<5 liter/minute) suggests hypoventilation.

<https://emcrit.org/pulmcrit/bipap-hfnc/>

Back to our Case

- VBG showed a CO₂ of 110
- Patient was put on BiPAP with close monitoring (nurse did not leave the room)
- Serial VBG's and frequent patient assessments showed improvement over time
- Pt admitted to the ICU on BiPAP

Case # 3: COPD with Respiratory Failure

- 65 yo, PMH COPD, pulmonary fibrosis, presenting in respiratory distress. Unable to give further history. H/o many intubations.
- BP: 160/100
- HR: 100
- RR: 34
- O₂ Sat: 89% on NC
- Temp: 37 °C



Airway Issues

- Distress
- Oxygenation and Ventilation issues
- Altered Mental Status
- Time

WHAT NEXT???



Delayed Sequence Intubation

- Procedural sedation to help facilitate pre-oxygenation
- Breaks up RSI sequence:
 - 1st induce- keep patient breathing
 - 2nd paralyze- only push paralytics when ready
- Helps to:
 - Denitrogenate the lungs
 - Pre-oxygenation
 - Gastric emptying- GI bleeder, vomiter, etc
 - Control of the room



Delayed Sequence Intubation

- Ketamine (1mg/kg) then 0.5mg/kg as needed
- 3 minutes to allow for pre-oxygenation and denitrogenation
 - NC
 - NRB
 - BiPAP
- Paralyze and intubate



DSI gone wrong

- Peri-procedural emesis
- Affects on intracranial pressure and cardiovascular stability
- What happens if the patient goes apneic?
 - Has not been reported unless push ketamine fast and only lasts 15-30 seconds
 - If happens and get into a bind, push paralytic and RSI- same position you were in previously

Back to our Case

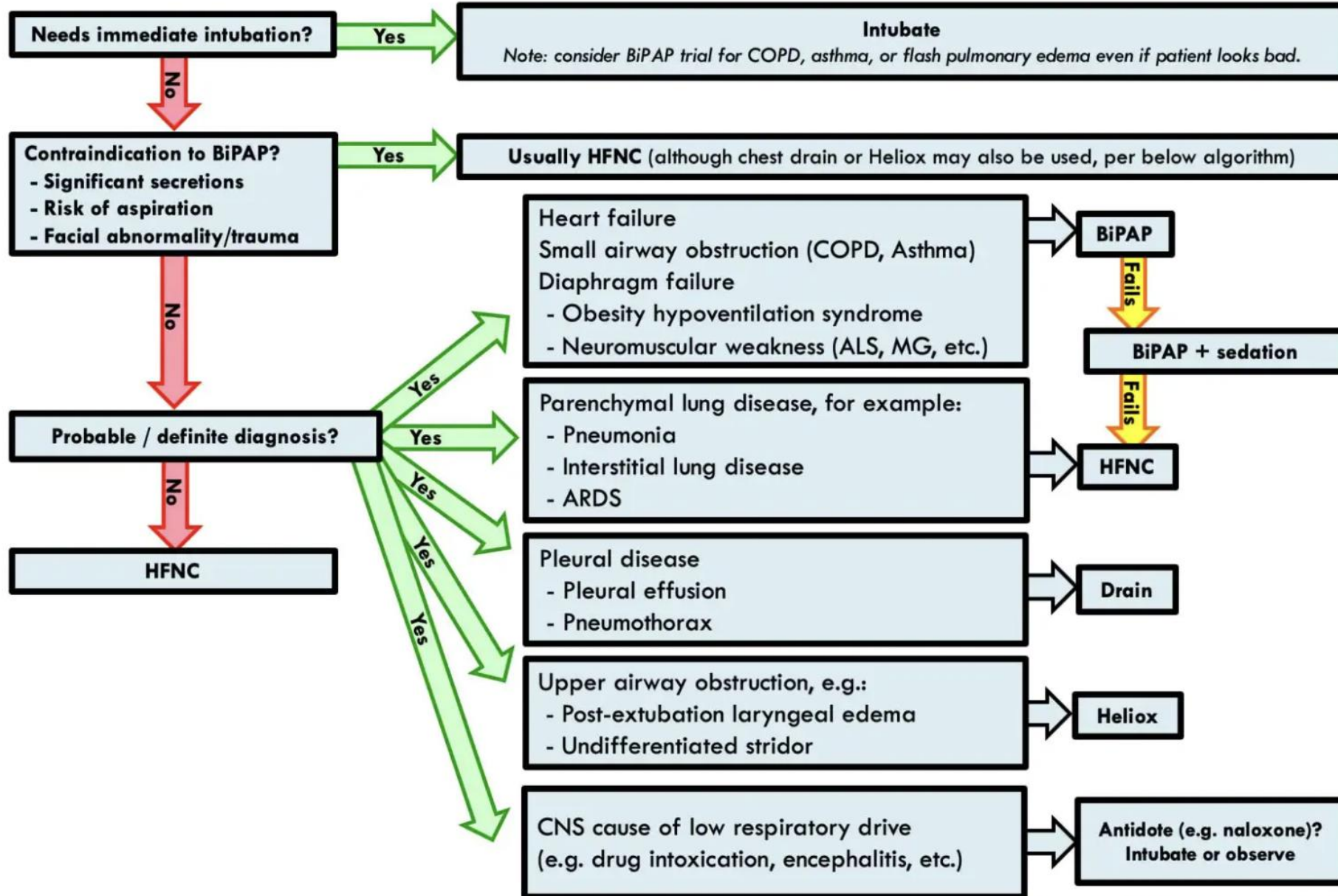
- 100mg ketamine given slowly
- 3-minute timer started
 - BiPAP applied to help better oxygenate/ventilate
 - Another IV placed
 - Equipment setup (including back-up bougie, LMA, cric kit)
- Video Laryngoscopy with apneic oxygenation



Take Away's

- Non-invasive respiratory support is a temporary bridge
- Non-invasive respiratory support improves Oxygenation/ventilation, decreases work of breathing and can help prevent invasive airway management
- HFNC is best in patients with parenchymal disease not requiring a lot of pressure support (PNA, ARDS, ILD)
- NIVVP is best for patients that require more pressure support (CHF, bad COPD/asthma, diaphragmatic issues)
- DSI can effectively pre-oxygenate the agitated patient requiring intubation

Cognitive schema for selecting a mode of respiratory support



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**Questions?
Thank you!**

Oxygen

15.9994

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- <https://emcrit.org/pulmcrit/bipap-hfnc/>
- <https://www.thebottomline.org.uk/summaries/icm/renovate-high-flow-vs-niv/>

Overall, varied results for impact on intubation rate and mortality
HFNC benefit- reduced WOB and improved comfort