

# **Prone positioning of nonintubated hypoxemic respiratory failure patients**



Stephan EHRMANN

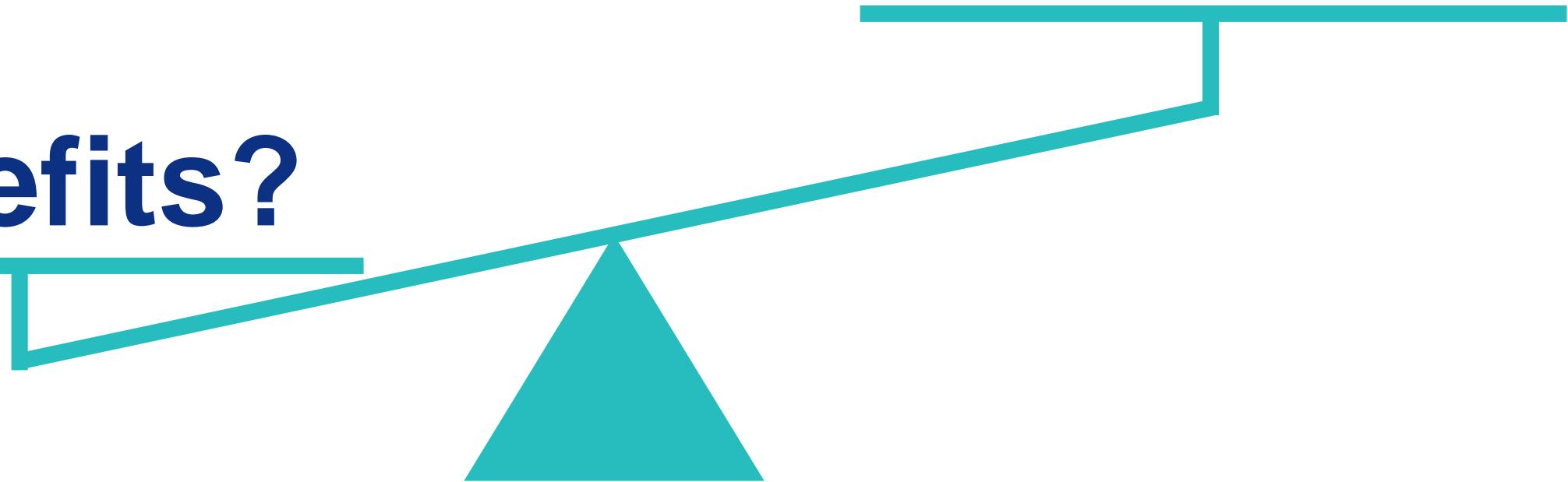
# Disclosures

- Aerogen Ltd, Galway, Irland
- Fisher & Paykel Healthcare, Auckland, New Zeland
- Open AI, San Francisco, United States

# Rational?

Benefits?

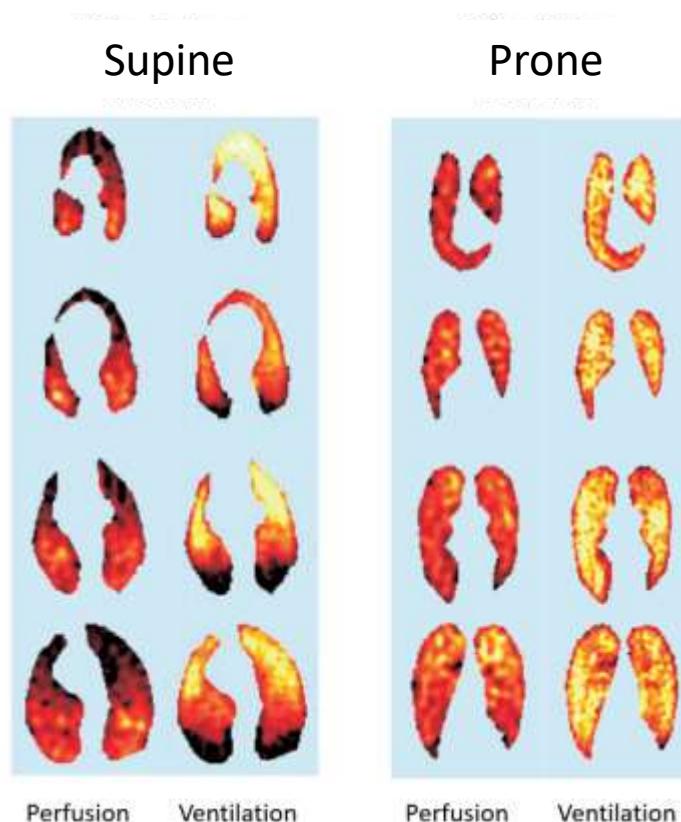
Risks?



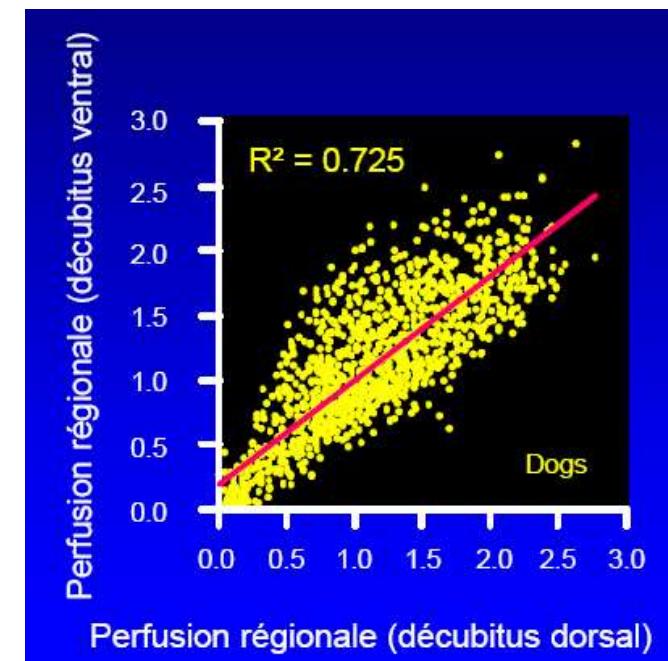
# Rational?

## Oxygenation / Decarboxylation

- Improved ventilation / perfusion matching



Richter T, Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2005



Glenny RW, J Appl Physiol 1991

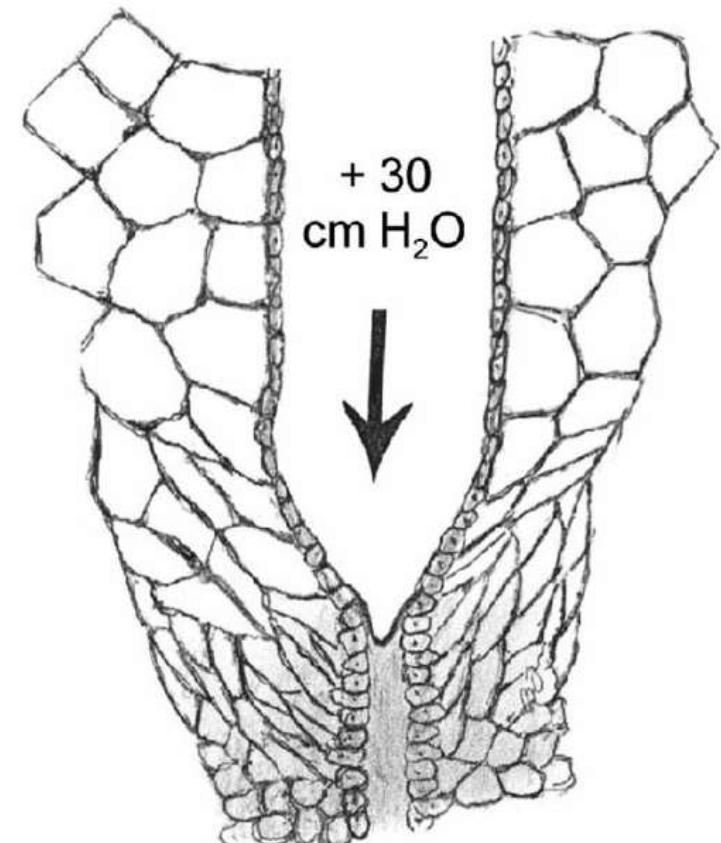
# Rational?

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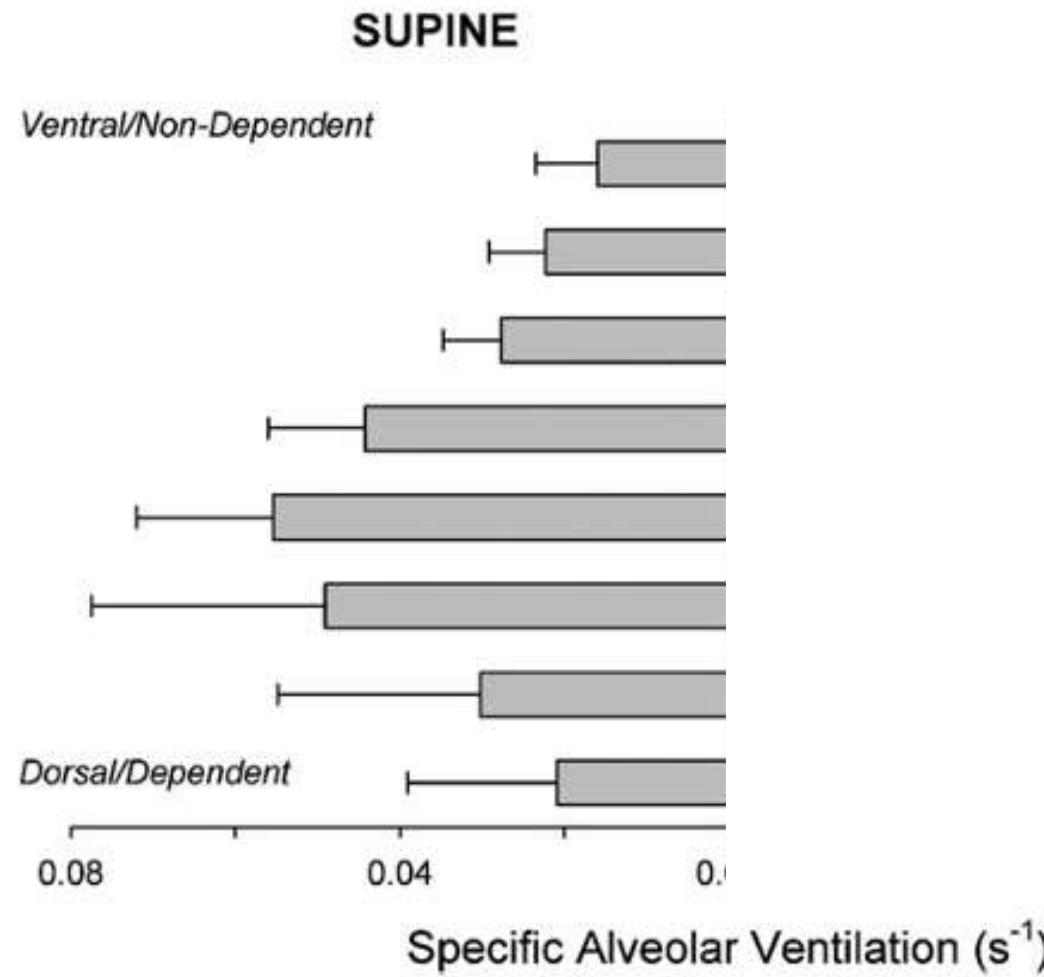
- Improved ventilation / perfusion matching

## Reduced lung injury

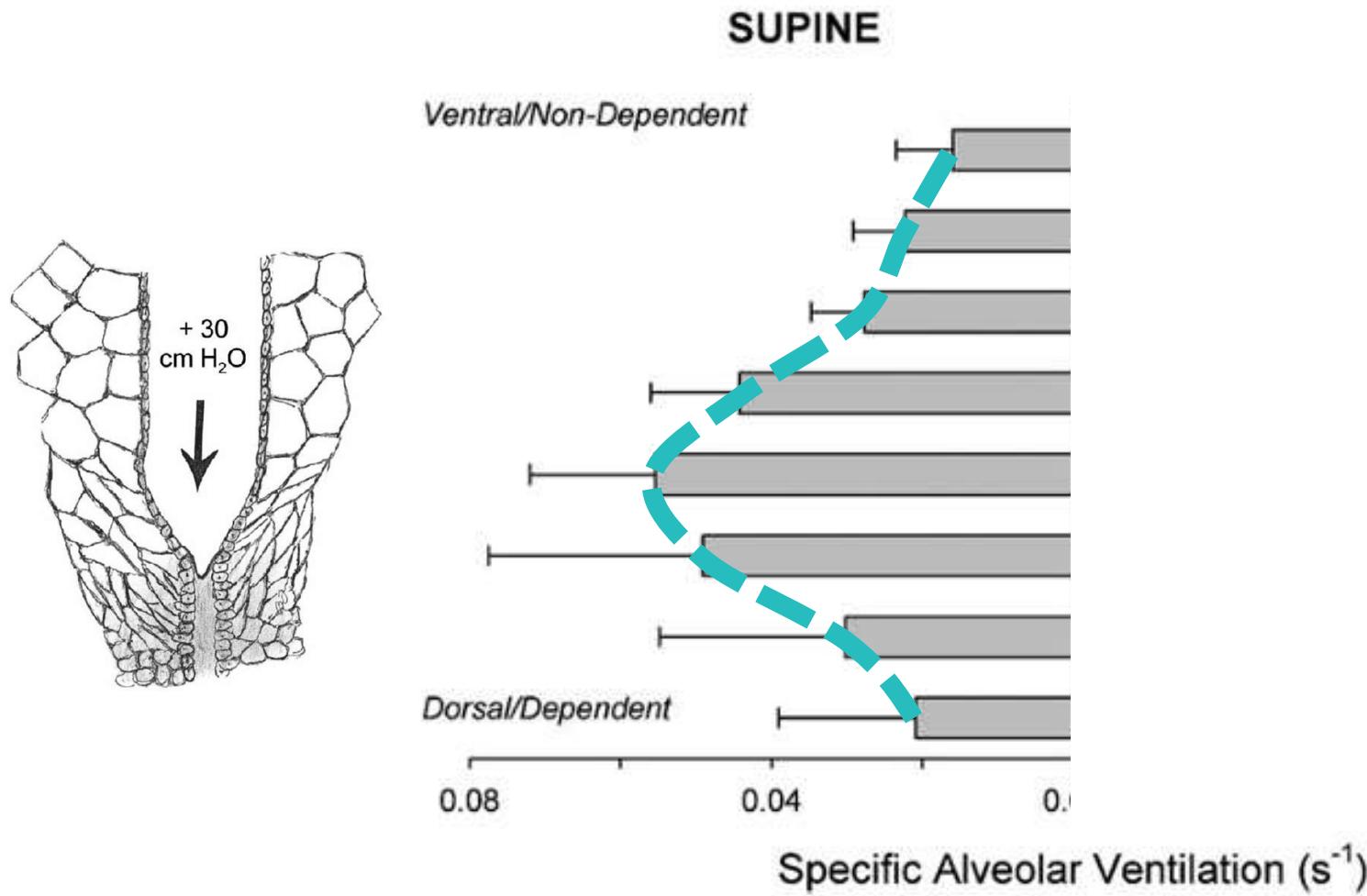
- Pressure gradient homogenization



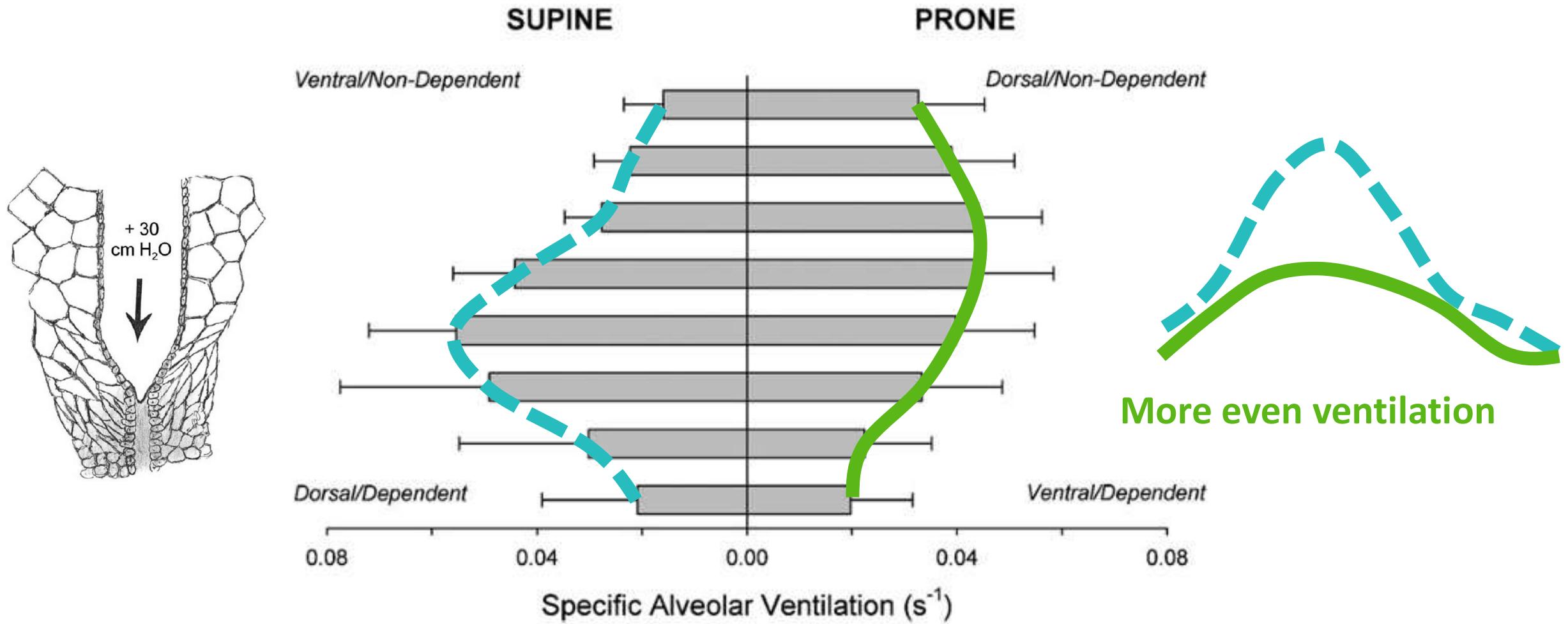
# Ventilation homogeneity



# Ventilation homogeneity



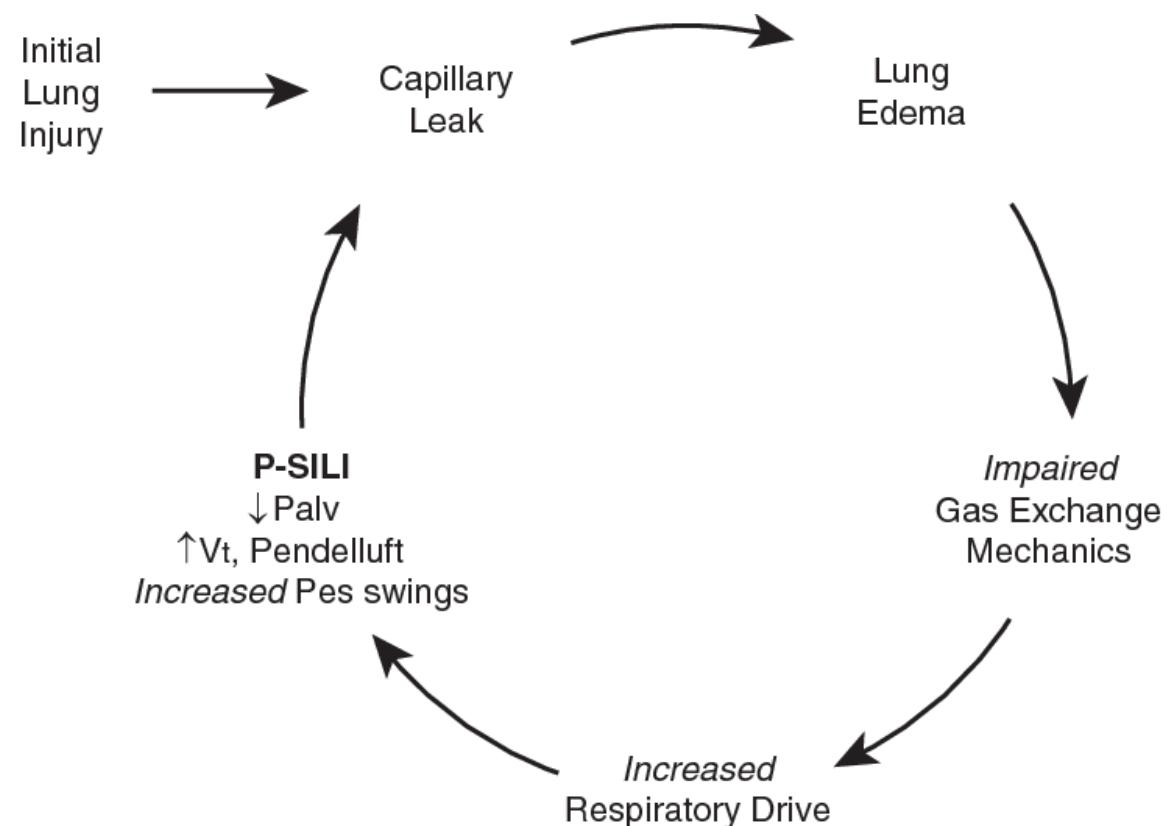
# Ventilation homogeneity



# Rational?

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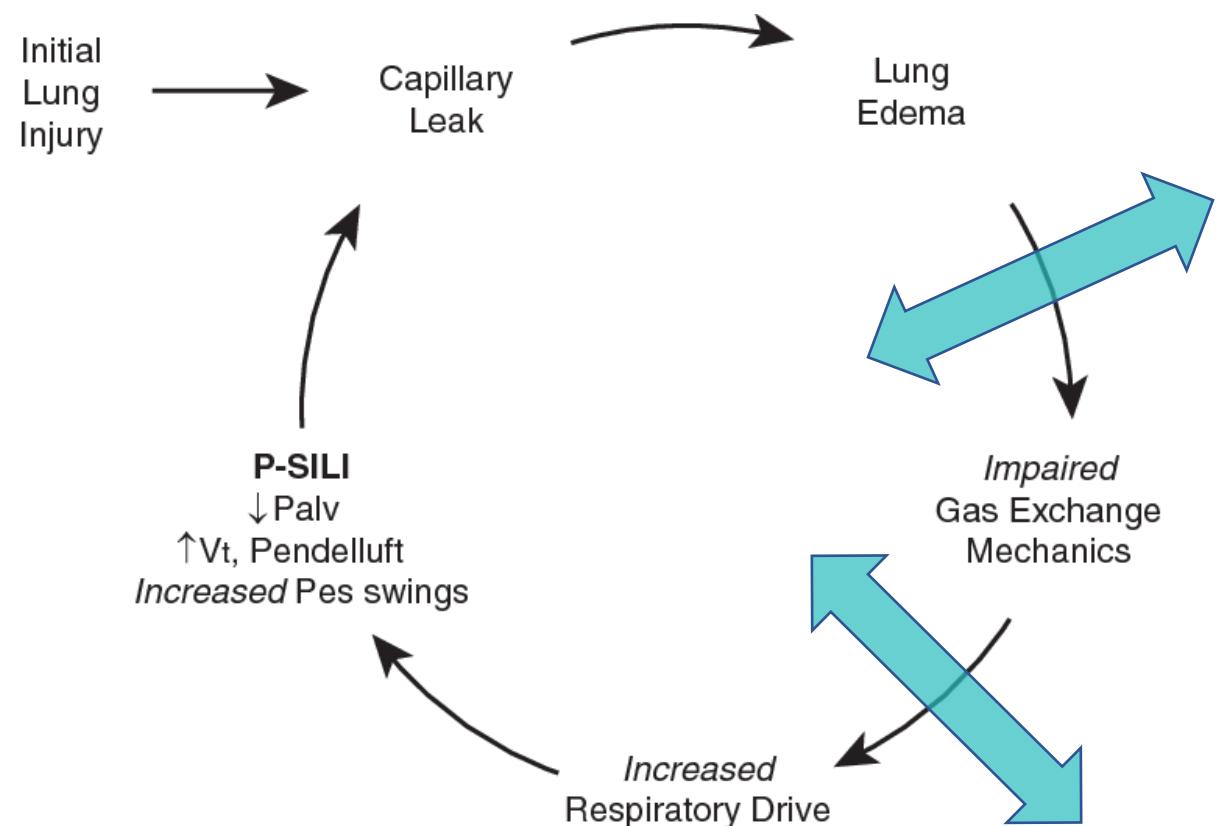
## Reduced lung injury

- Pressure gradient homogenization
- Reduced respiratory drive

# Rational?

## Oxygenation / Decarboxylation

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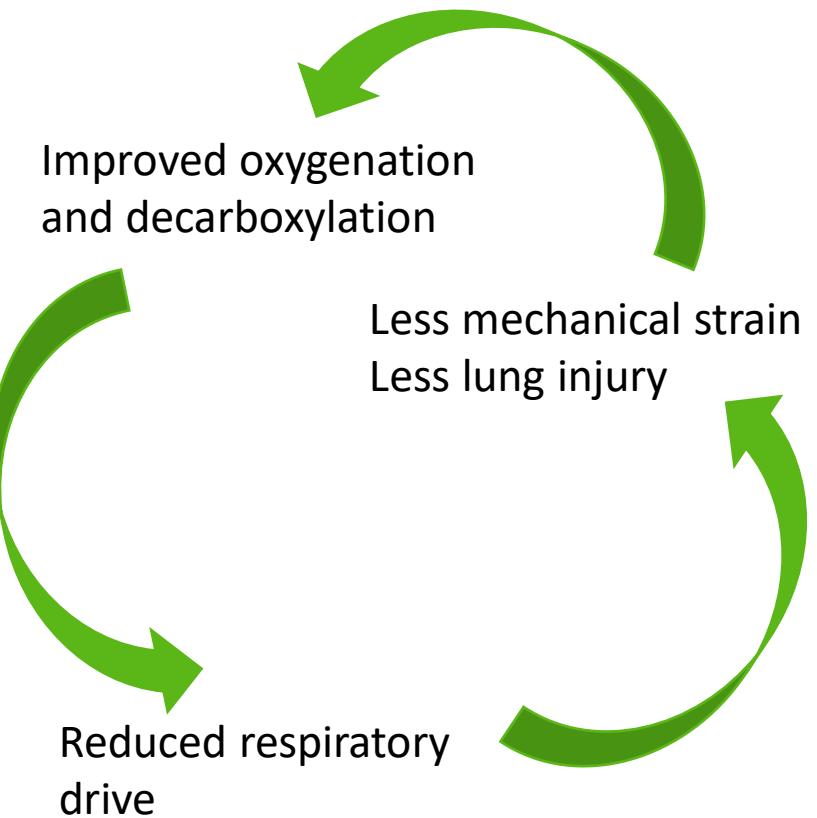
## Reduced lung injury

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# Rational?

## Oxygenation / Decarboxylation

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## Reduced lung injury

- Pressure gradient homogenization
- Reduced respiratory drive

# Rational?

## Oxygenation / Decarboxylation

- Improved ventilation / perfusion matching



March  
2020

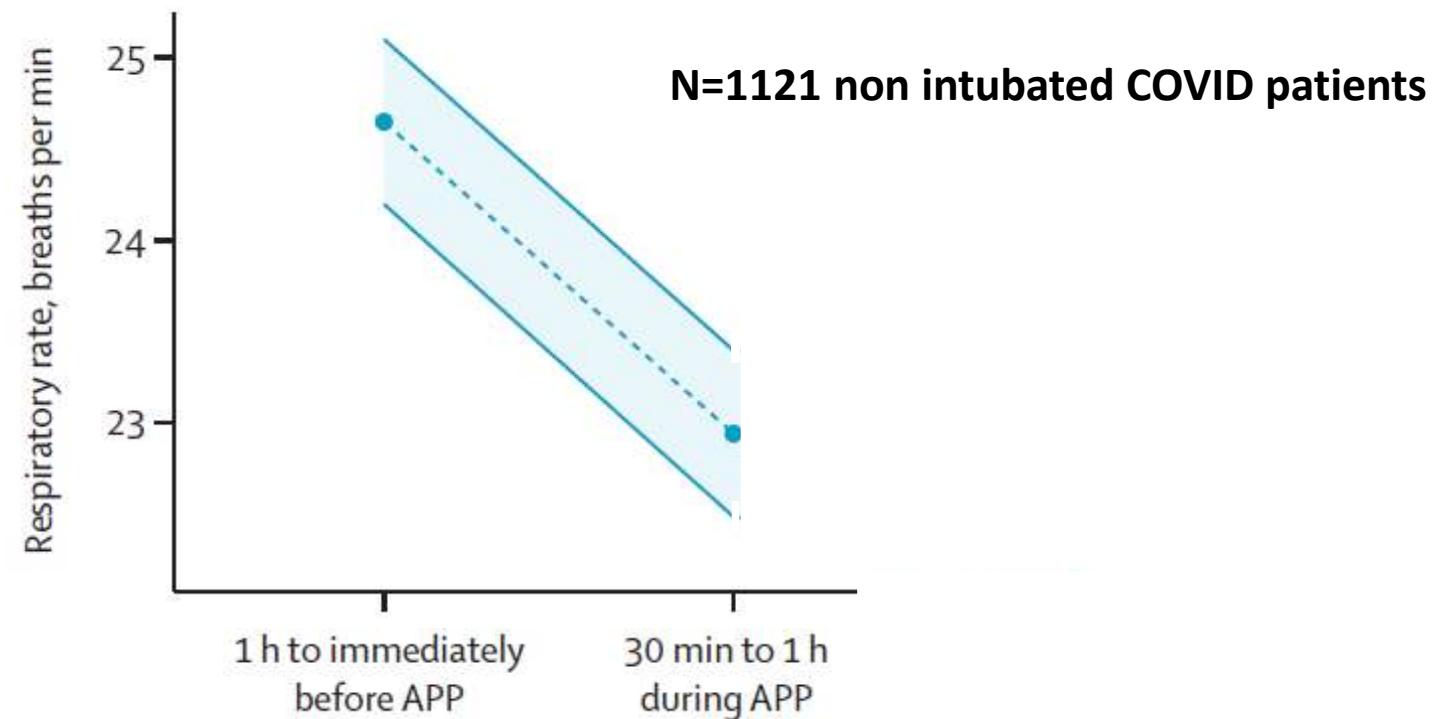
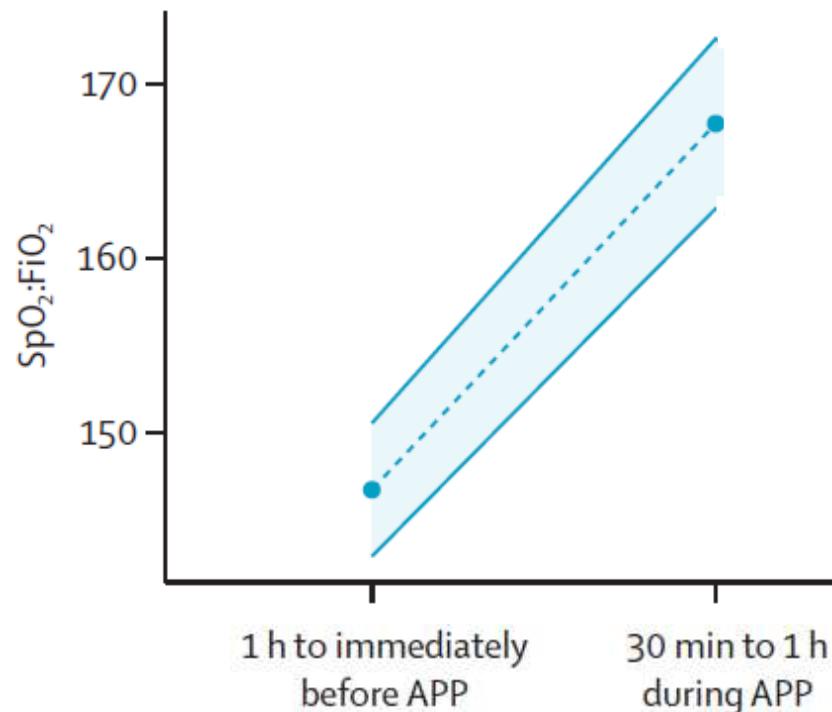
The collage consists of 15 individual Twitter posts arranged in a grid-like pattern. Each post includes a user profile picture, the user's name and handle, the tweet text, and a small image related to the topic. The posts cover various aspects of COVID-19 management, including:

- Eric Lee MD (@EricLeeMD) discusses proning patients to help O2 sats.
- ResusMed (@ResusMed) responds to @LWestrafer about proning patients in Wuhan and Italy.
- Brian Broadbent (@brianbroadbent) shares a story of a 3-year-old intubated for 50 days who was successfully proned.
- Salim R. Rezaie, MD (@Rezaie) discusses COVID-19 hypoxemia and prone positioning.
- Drexel College DPT (@DrexelDPT) presents a prospective cohort study on prone positioning combined with HFNC or NIV.
- Andrew Fredericks (@monitcicare) responds to @Rezaie about using inhaled pulmonary vasodilators while on prone position.
- Cohen Dor (@dorcodoc) discusses the awake prone position for COVID-19.
- Intensive Spring Krakow (@prawdziwosc) shows a patient in prone position with improved oxygenation.
- Nikhil Meena (@DonNikme) responds to @LWestrafer about prone positioning being like watching a movie on a laptop.
- Bryan Broderick, MD (@BBroderickMD) discusses the use of prone positioning in COVID-19 patients.
- Aaron Lane (@AQLane) shares a protocol for awake proning at their hospital.
- Lauren Westrafer (@LWestrafer) asks if others do awake proning for COVID-19.
- Other users mentioned include Salim R. Rezaie (@Rezaie), Bryan Broderick (@BBroderickMD), and Lauren Westrafer (@LWestrafer).

# Rational?

## Oxygenation / Decarboxylation

- Improved ventilation / perfusion matching

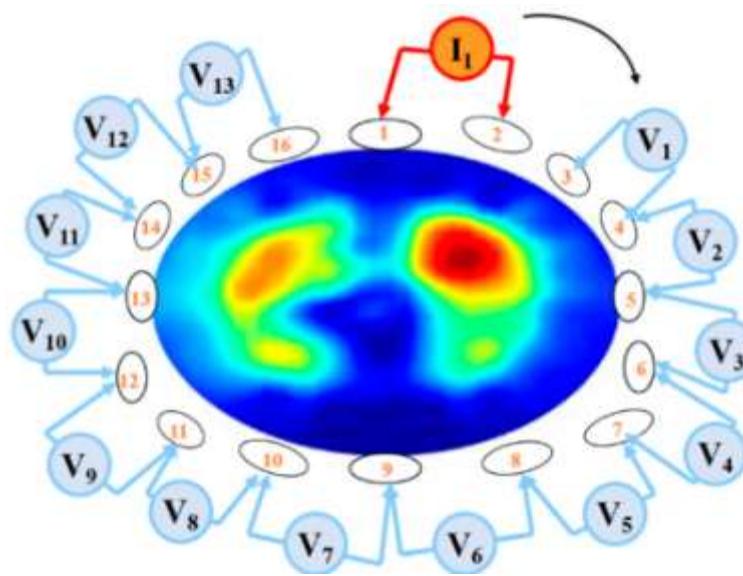




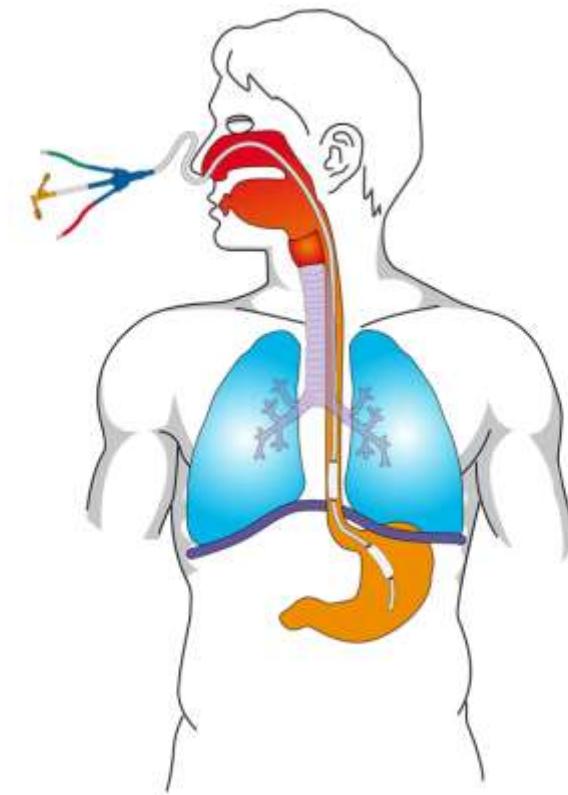
# Physiological effects of awake prone position in acute hypoxemic respiratory failure

Domenico Luca Grieco<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Luca Delle Cese<sup>1,2</sup>, Luca S. Menga<sup>1,2</sup>, Tommaso Rosa<sup>1,2</sup>, Teresa Michi<sup>1,2</sup>, Gianmarco Lombardi<sup>1,2</sup>, Melania Cesarano<sup>1,2</sup>, Valentina Giammatteo<sup>1,2</sup>, Giuseppe Bello<sup>1,2</sup>, Simone Carelli<sup>1,2</sup>, Salvatore L. Cutuli<sup>1,2</sup>, Claudio Sandroni<sup>1,2</sup>, Gennaro De Pascale<sup>1,2</sup>, Antonio Pesenti<sup>3</sup>, Salvatore M. Maggiore<sup>4,5</sup> and Massimo Antonelli<sup>1,2</sup>

Grieco et al. *Critical Care* (2023) 27:315  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13054-023-04600-9>

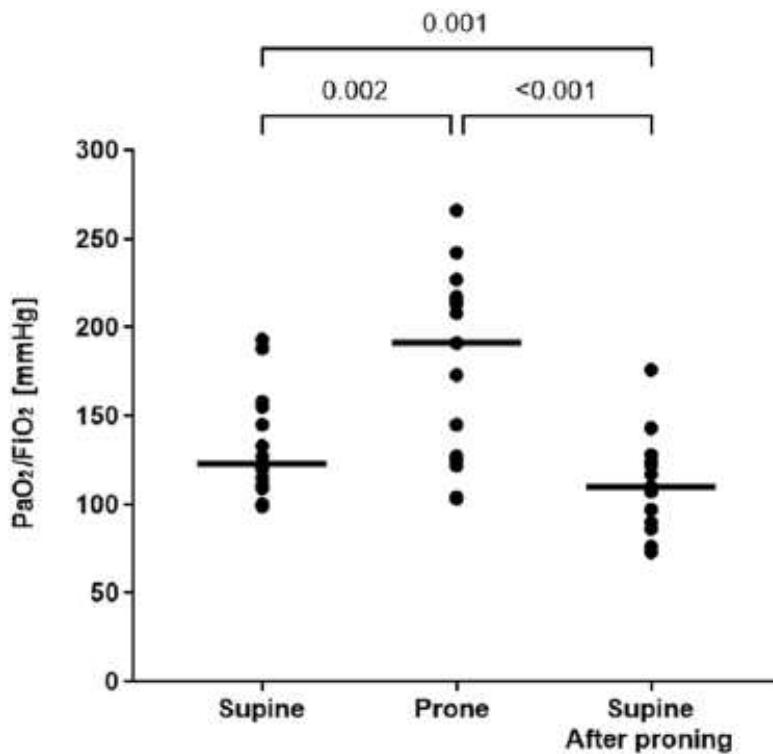


Electric impedance tomography

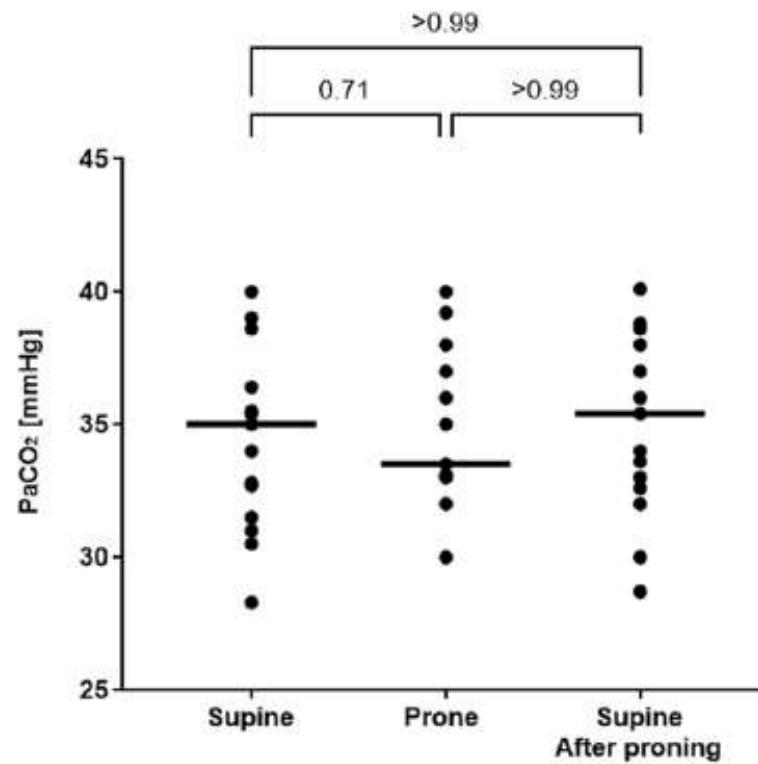


Esophageal pressure monitoring

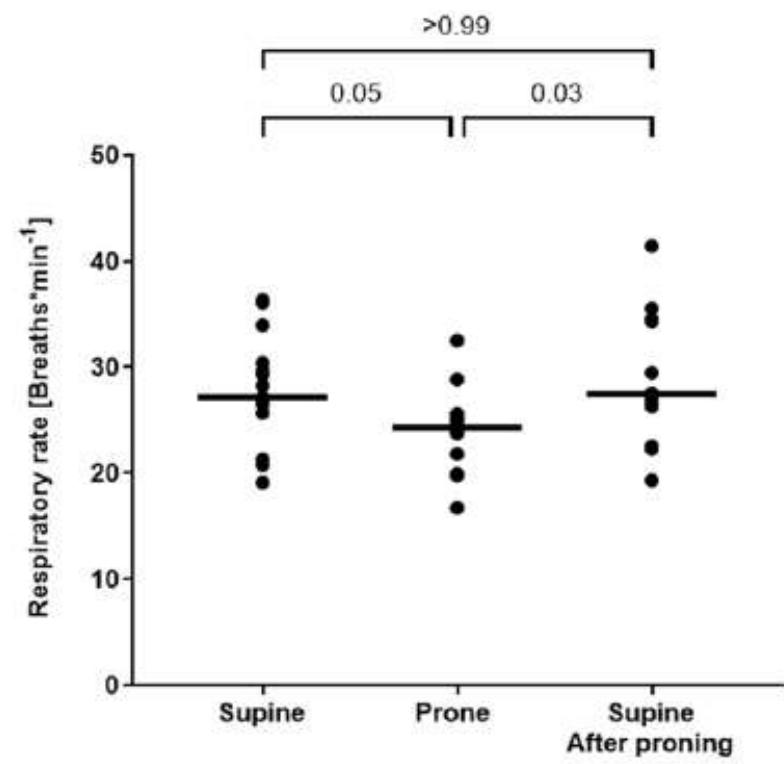
# Oxygenation



# $\text{PCO}_2$



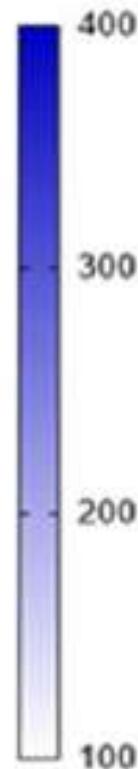
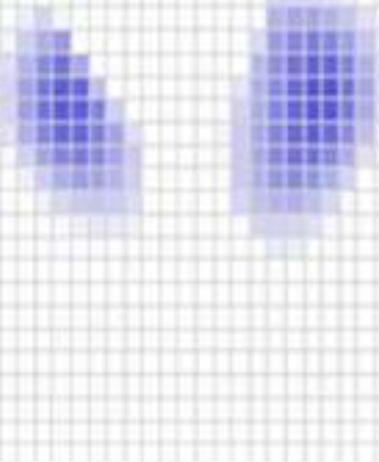
# Respiratory Rate



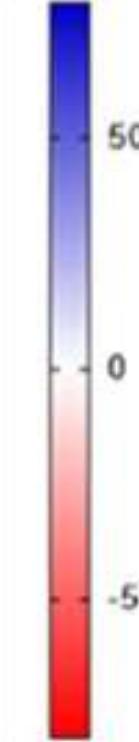
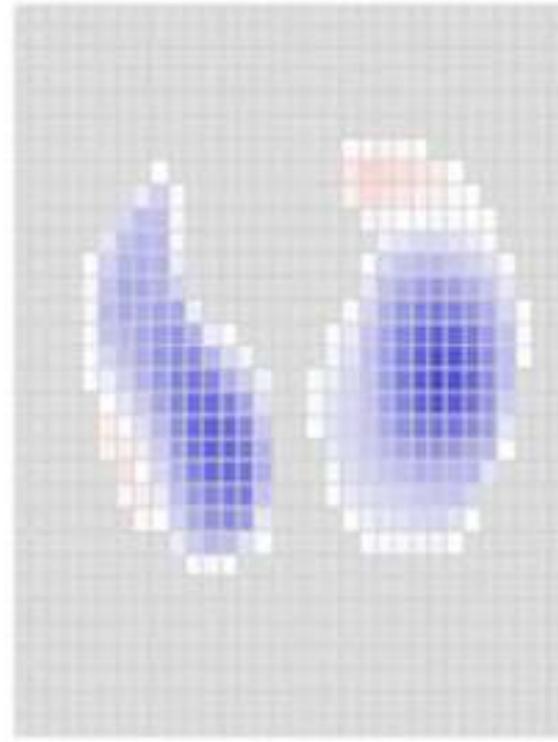
# End Expiratory Lung Impedance

**Supine**

EELI

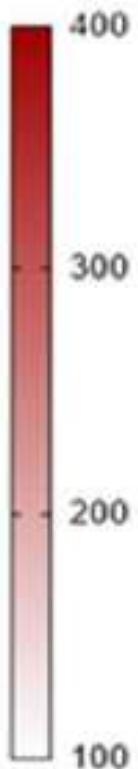
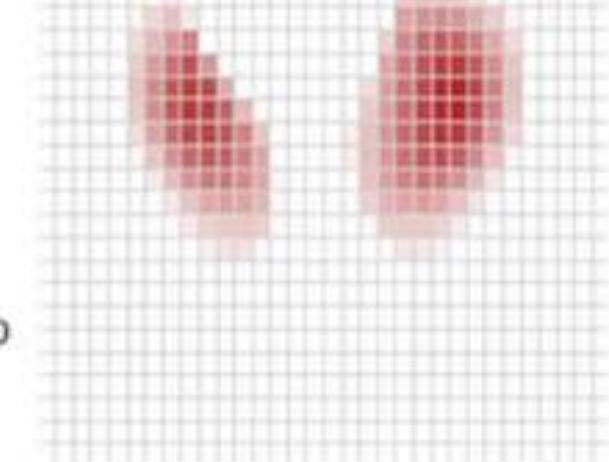


$EELI_{\text{prone}} - EELI_{\text{supine}}$



**Prone**

EELI



# End Expiratory Lung Impedance

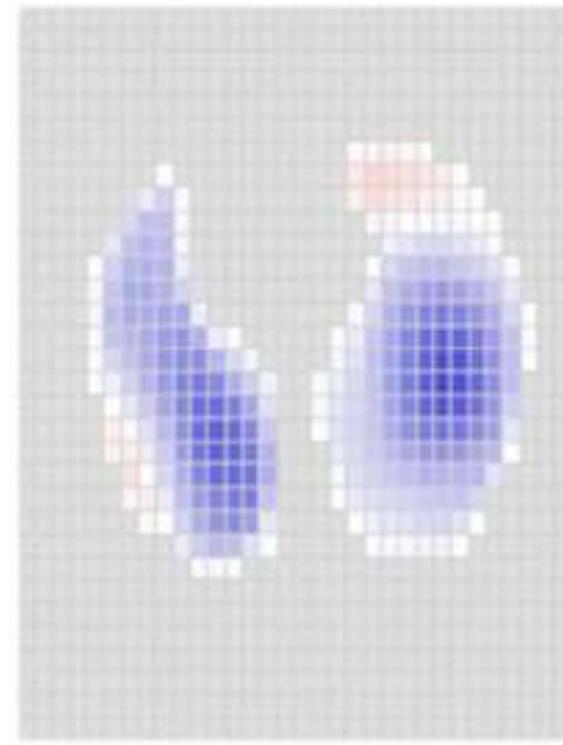
Supine

EELI



Difference

$EELI_{\text{prone}} - EELI_{\text{supine}}$



Prone

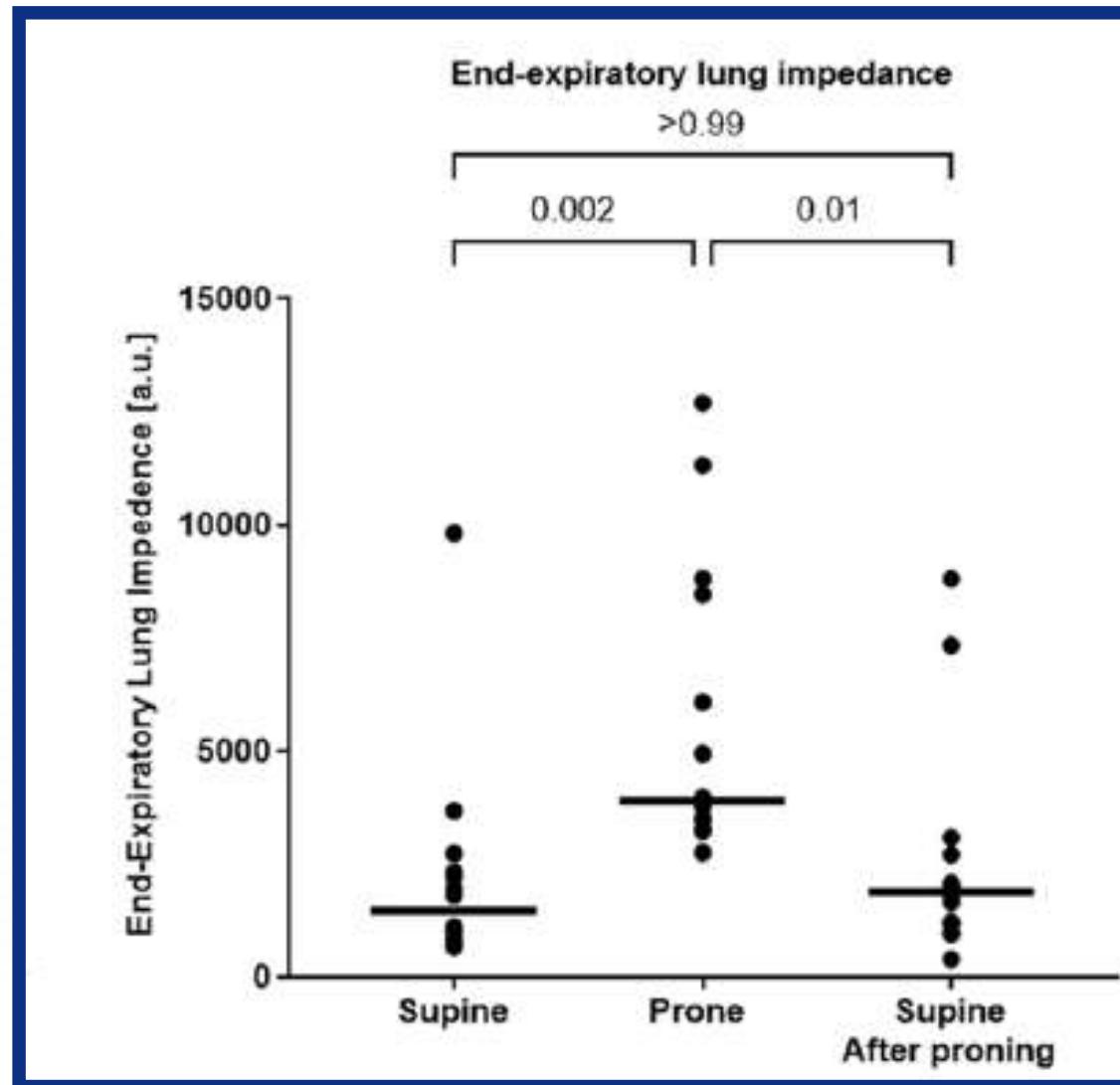
EELI



# End Expiratory Lung Impedance

Supine

EELI



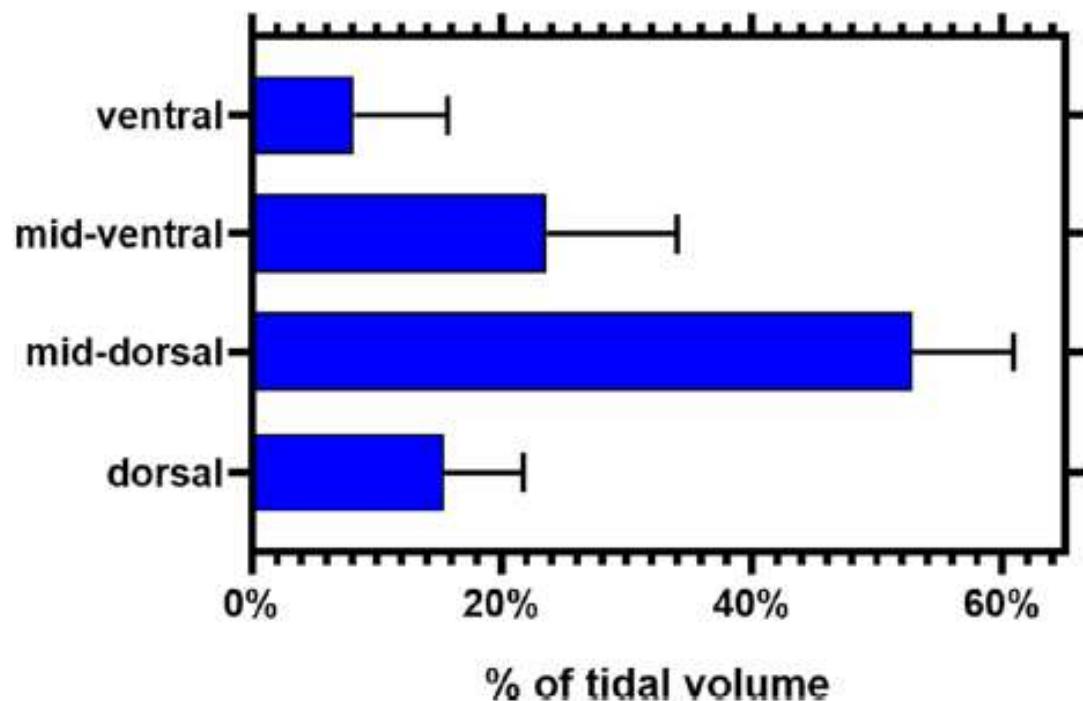
Prone

EELI

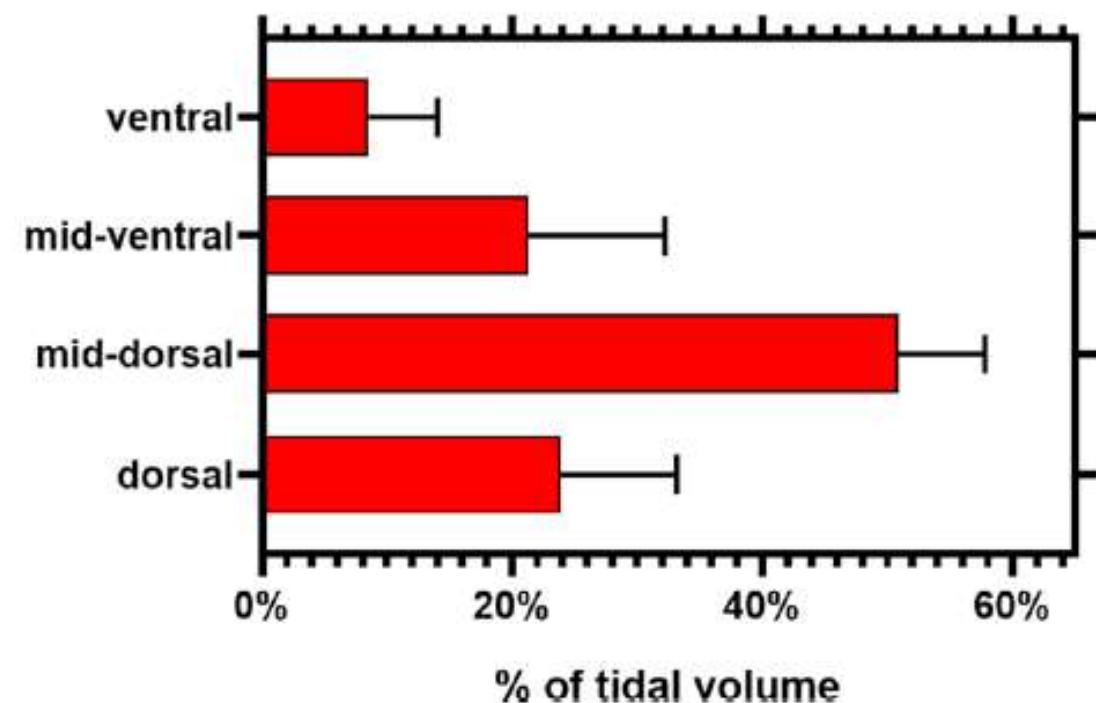


## Regional tidal volume distribution

Supine position

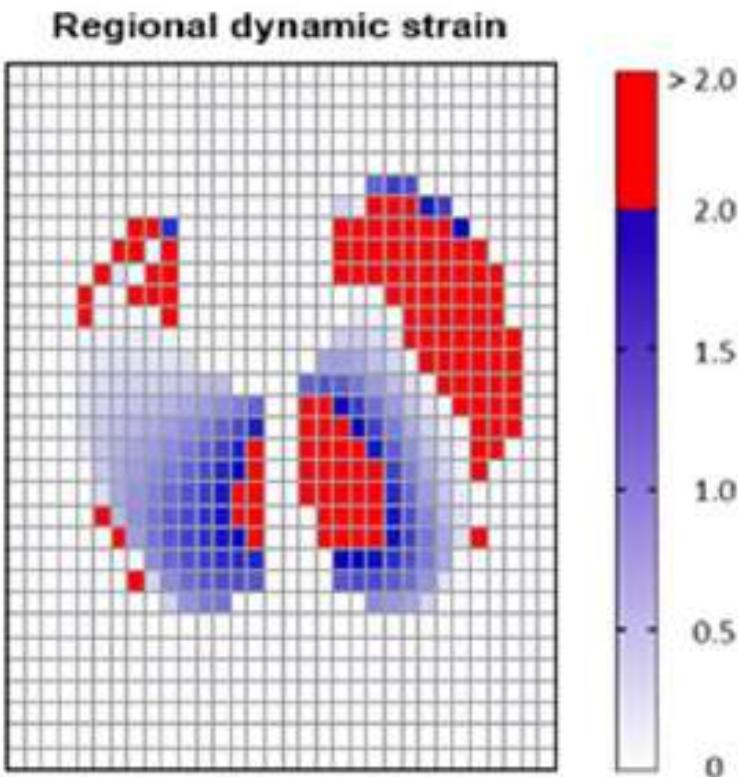


Prone position

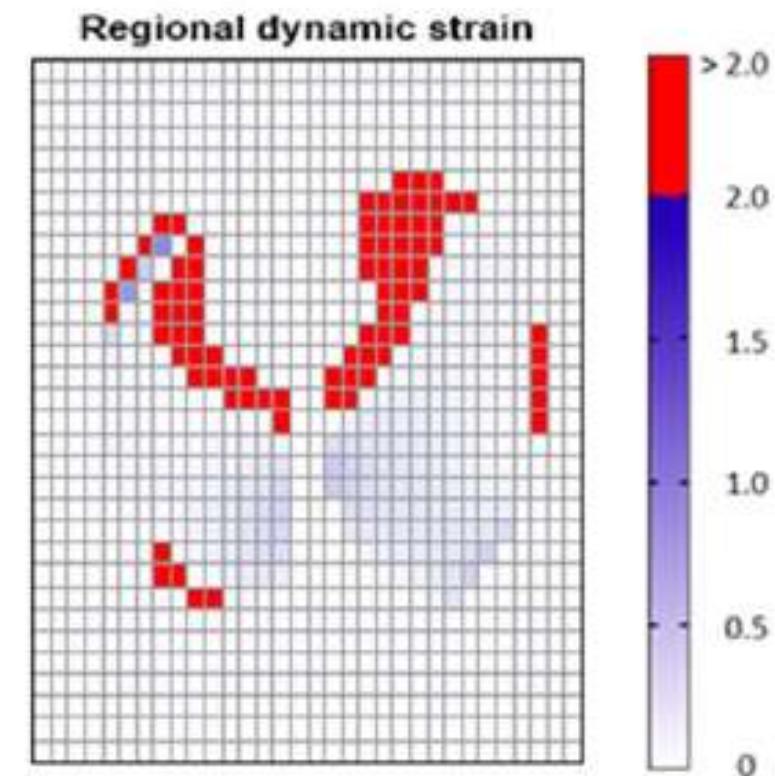


# Dynamic strain

Supine



Prone



# Dynamic strain

Supine

Regional dynamic strain

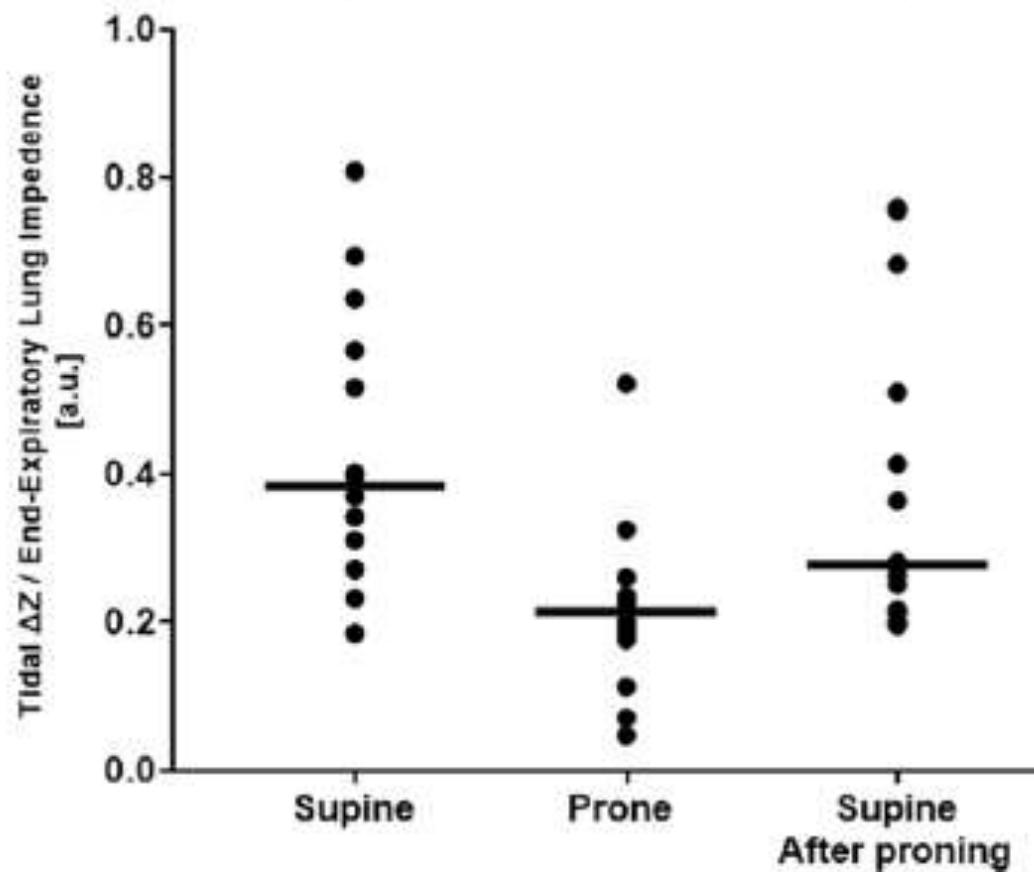


## Dynamic strain

>0.99

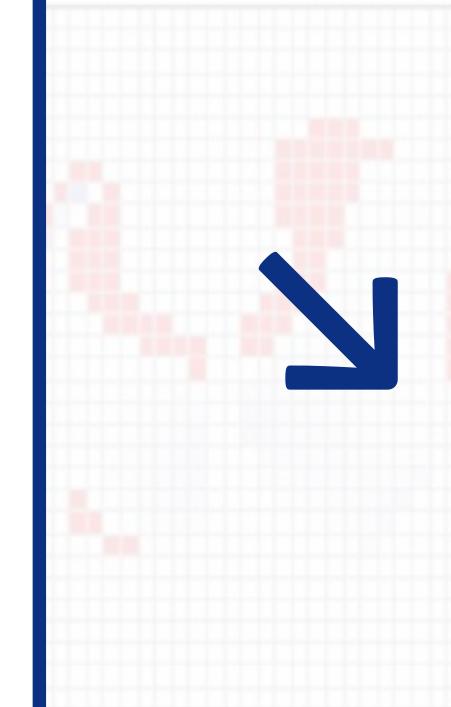
0.004

0.04

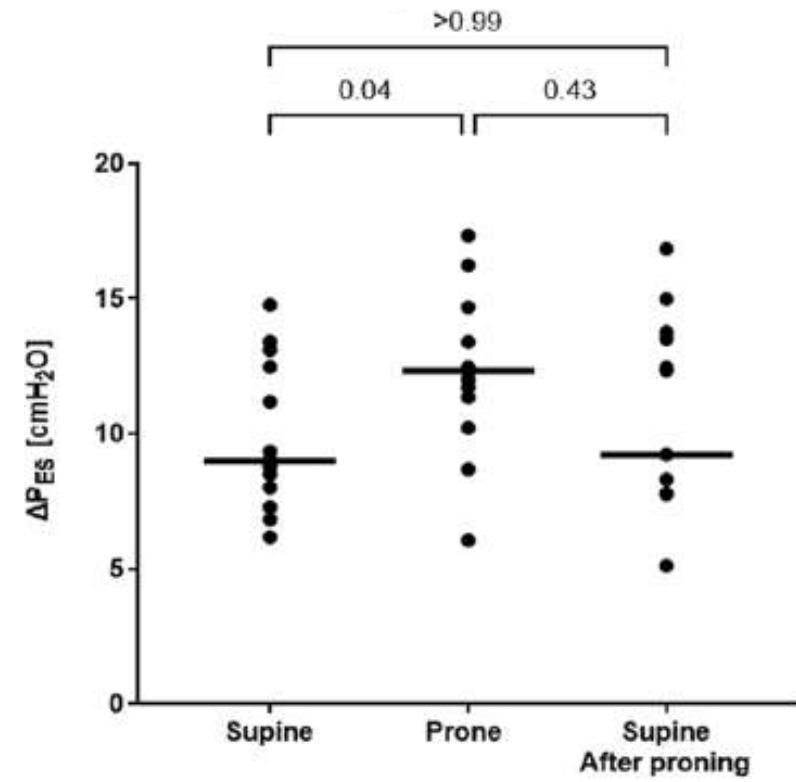


Prone

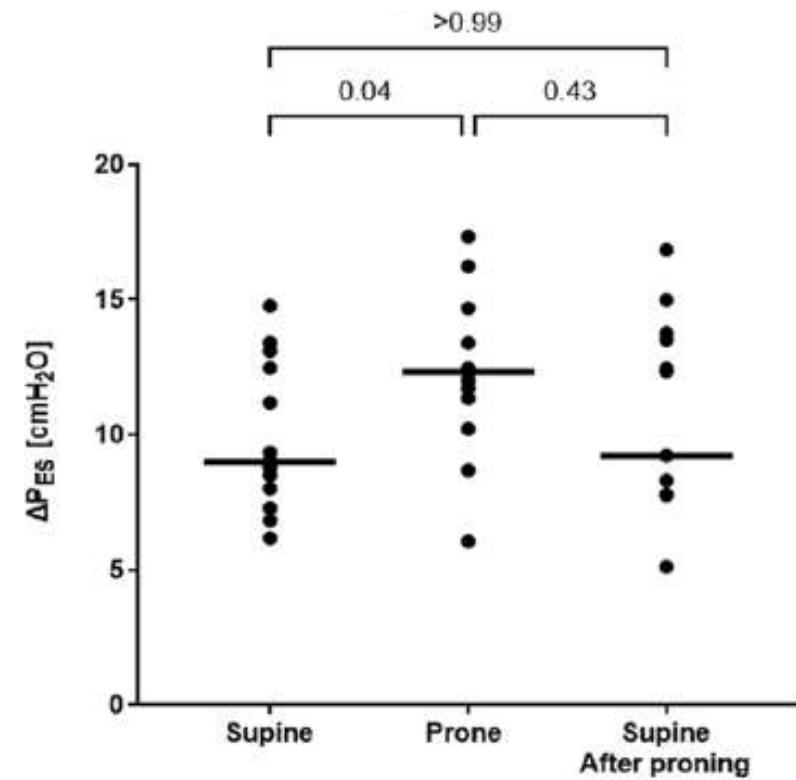
Regional dynamic strain



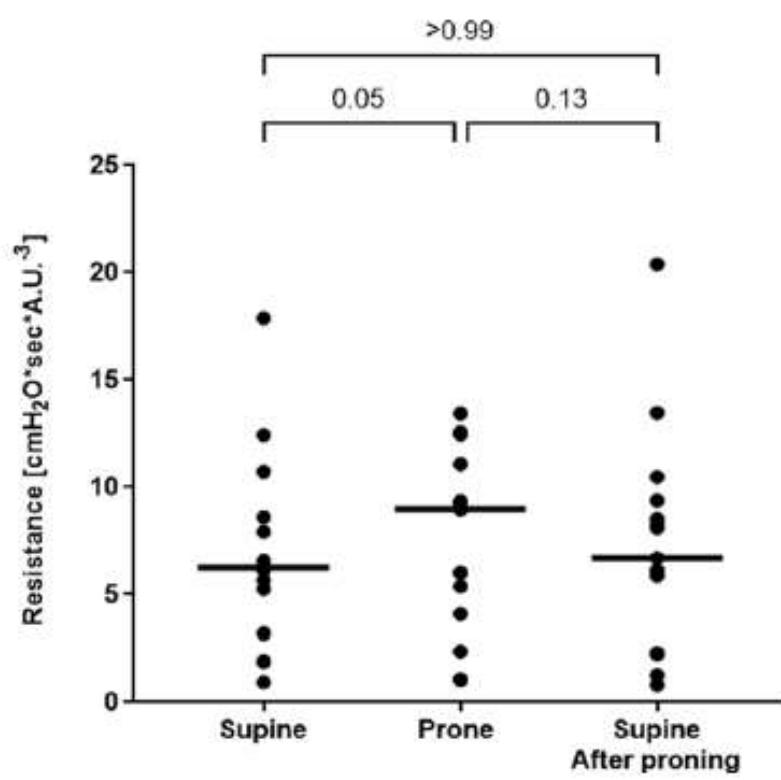
# Inspiratory effort



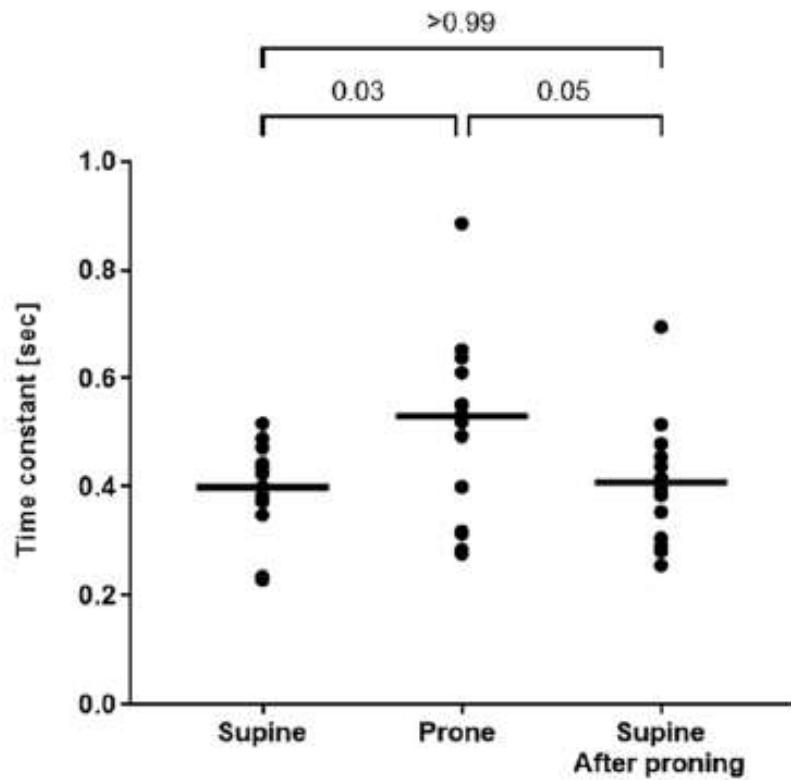
# Inspiratory effort



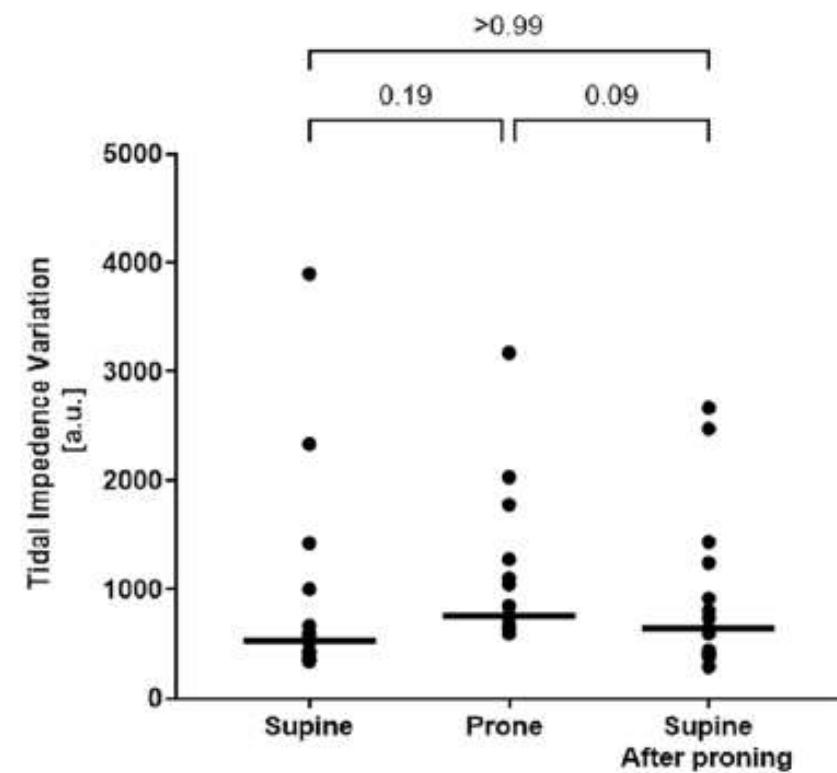
# Airway resistances



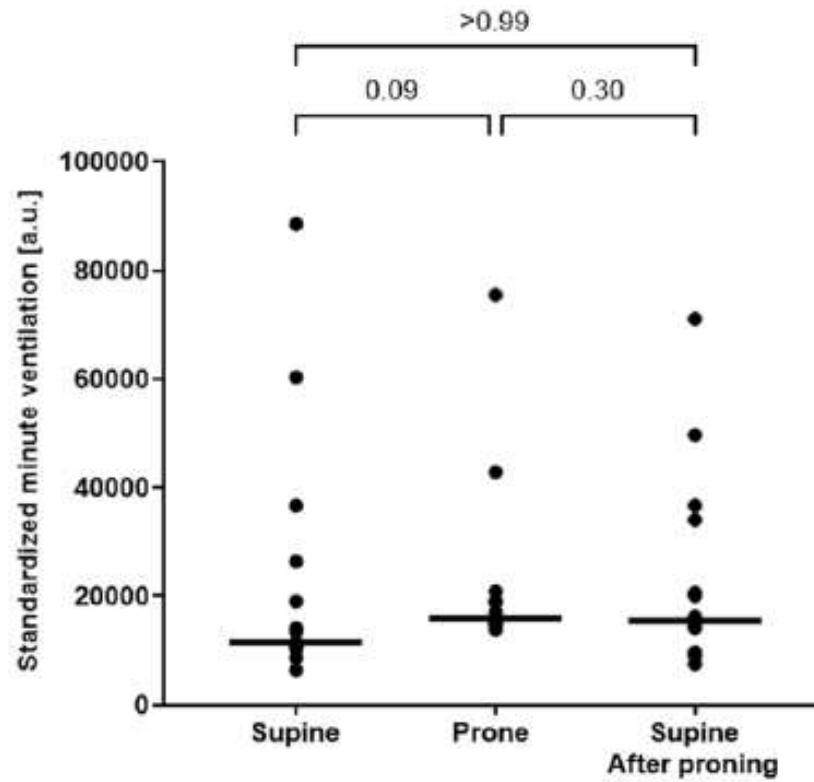
# Time constant



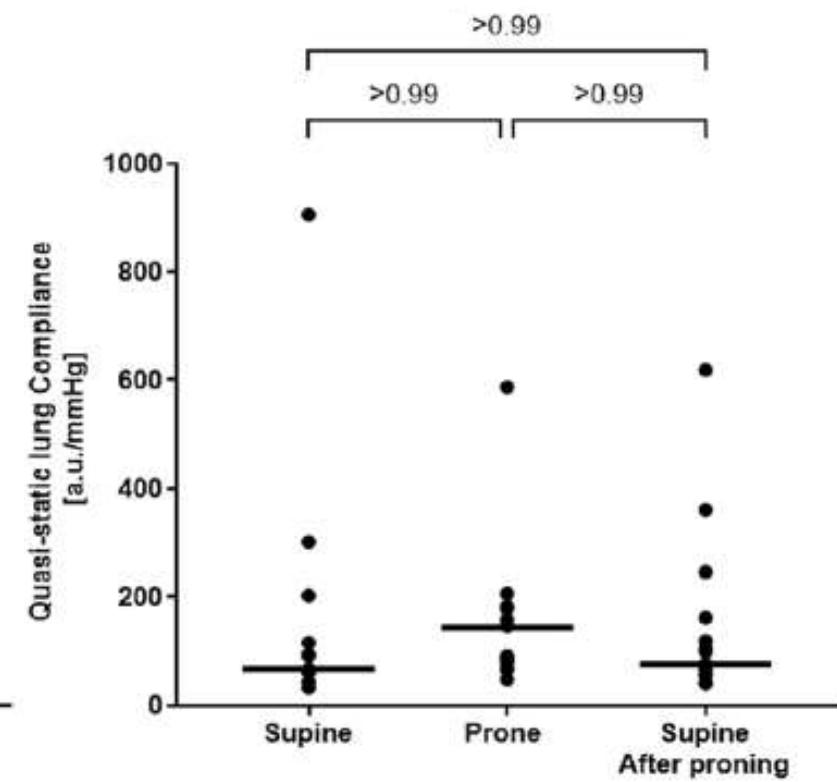
# Tidal volume



# Minute ventilation



# Lung compliance



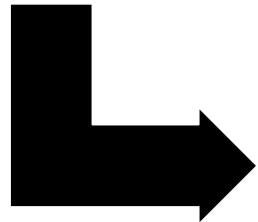
# Rational?

Yes



## Oxygenation / Decarboxylation

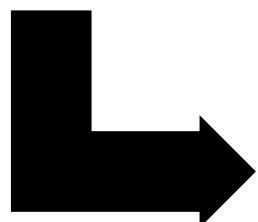
- Improved ventilation / perfusion matching



Hypoxemic patients  
High risk of intubation

## Reduced lung injury

- Pressure gradient homogenization
- Reduced respiratory drive



Alveolar damage  
Baby Lung

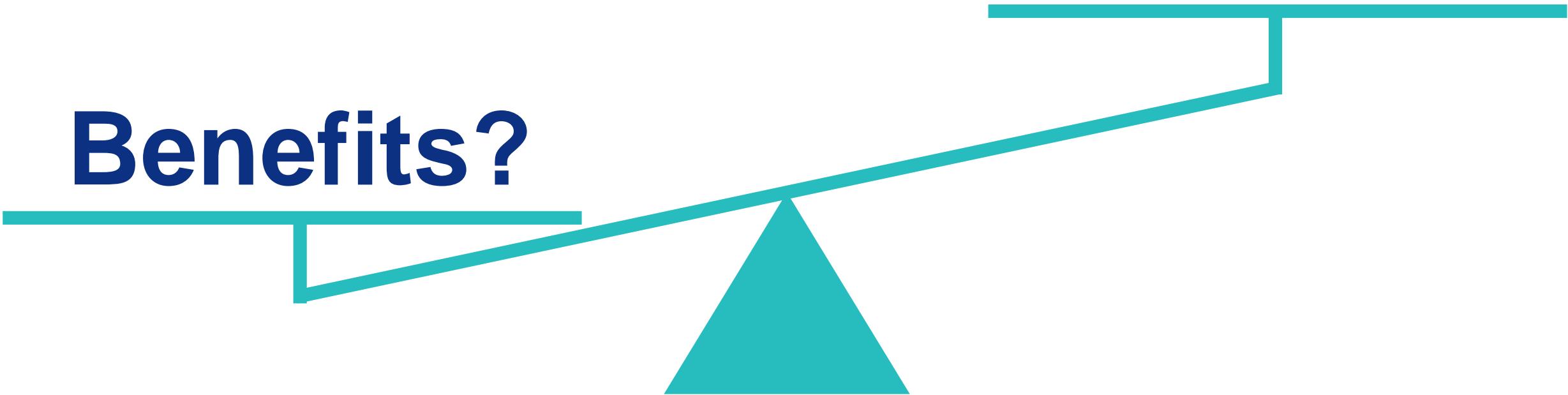
# Rational?

Yes



# Benefits?

# Risks?



Eric Lee MD @EricLeeMD · 3j

Browsing on phone w that O2 sat.

#COVID19 tips from NYC. Anecdotal for now.

1. Proning patients helps O2 sats. Have them lie on belly.

2. Don't intubate for low O2 sats alone. Look at mental and resp status. Hi-Flo NC helps.

emcrit.org/emcrit/stop-kn...

#FOAMed #medtwitter

Afficher cette discussion



Populaires   Récemment   Personnes   Photos

Bryan Broderick, MD @BBroderickMD · 5j

En réponse à @BBroderickMD

18/ Our experience in COVID patients has been similar. While still in the early stages of data collection, **prone** positioning in patients not mechanically ventilated seems to improve oxygenation, tachypnea, and dyspnea.



Patients with ARDS with high flow oxygen cannulas and prone position

3 75 243

Salim R. Rezaie, MD

@srrezaie

Awake proning of pts with HFNC and NIV is not difficult and well tolerated by pts...has also been shown to be effective on PaO<sub>2</sub>/FiO<sub>2</sub> in the following order HFNC < HFNC+PP ≤ NIV < NIV+PP

ResusMed  
@ResusMed

En réponse à @LWestafer

I have heard/read they started really early in Wuhan and Italy. Proning patients on 6 LPM NC and on CPAP

Traduire le Tweet

03:46 · 30/03/2020 · Twitter Web App

Brian Broadbent @brianbroadbent · 3j

Replying to @BBroderickMD @mattmright and 9 others

My 3 year old was recently intubated for 50 days with severe ARDS. We begged to prone early on and were told there's research that proning doesn't help. After vent. pneumonia #3, we proned. She made it. Proning works. #oldschool.



1 1 21

Cohen Dor @dorcodoc · 1j

Awake prone position+HFNC

I saw the sat% going up in a few seconds. This might save life and avoid intubation!

#emcrit  
#Covid\_19



Traduire le Tweet

3 75 243

Bryan Broderick, MD

@BBroderickMD

Hi! In the last week alone, our team has intubated more patients than I have in my entire residency (with good results!)



0 0 0

Intensive Spring Krakow  
@KrakowSpring

Prone position in awake patient on HFNC - with huge improvement in oxygenation!

Traduire le Tweet



Nikhil Meena @Domicme · 5j

En réponse à @LWestafer

It's not really dangerous, it's like watching a movie, playing on laptop or reading a book on your belly .. Just have something to do while they are on their belly. Wall Watching is boring . Let them control the flips .. if they want 2 something is telling them 2, listen 2 it.

1 1 2

Bryan Broderick, MD @BBroderickMD · 5j

19/ With a looming shortage of vents, **prone**

positioning with HFNC is a possible strategy to avoid intubation & its complications in patients with mod-to-severe ARDS, but more data is needed to assess safety & efficacy.

5 135 154

Andrew Fredericks  
@emontcalcare

En réponse à @Borezaie

It looks okay to me. I wouldn't use the Rox score or any score and I'd use the inhaled Pulm vasodilators while on hfnc

Traduire le Tweet  
16:35 · 31/03/2020 · Twitter for iPhone

Tweet

therese gonzalez  
@therese34076719

Give me hfnc, prone me then observe me for 1-2hrs while this gives me time to facetime my husband and kids. Then intubate me if I don't improve.

Traduire le Tweet

20:43 · 31/03/2020 · Twitter for iPhone

Aaron Lane @AQLane · 12h

En réponse à @LWestafer

I found this protocol in another tweet as I was reviewing the literature to write a protocol for awake proning at our hospital.



Lauren Westafer  
@LWestafer

Do any of y'all do awake proning for #covid19?

Any of y'all start in the ED? What're your protocols?

Traduire le Tweet  
03:43 · 30/03/2020 · Twitter for iPhone

**Benefits?**

**Intubation ?**

**Lengths of stay ?**

**Mortality ?**

**Long term sequelae ?**

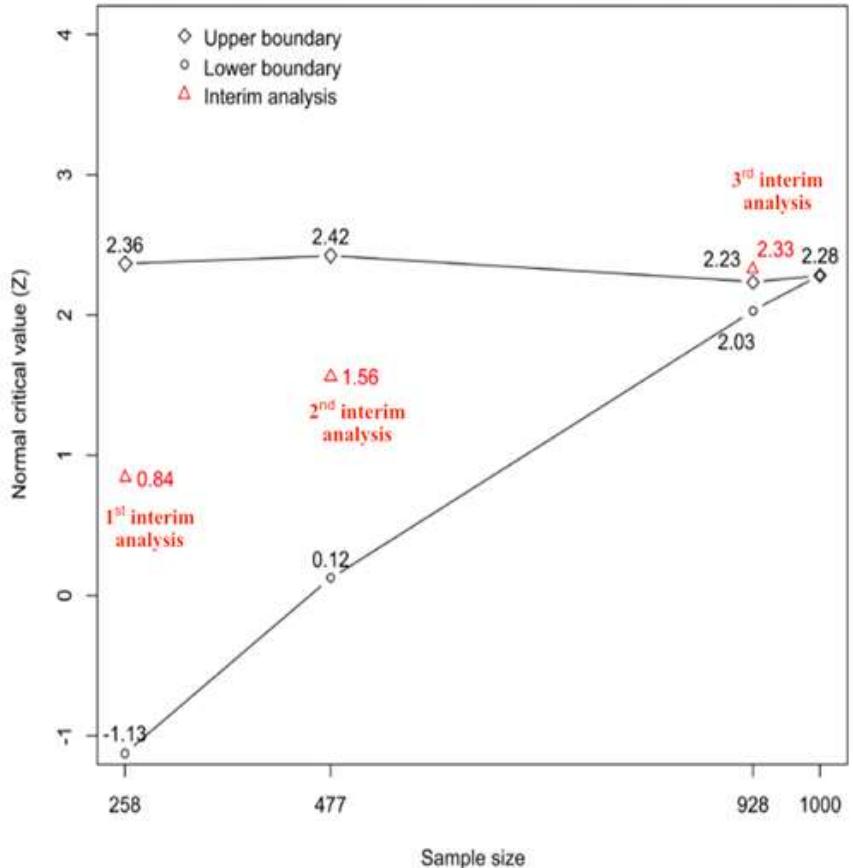


# Awake prone positioning for COVID-19 acute hypoxaemic respiratory failure: a randomised, controlled, multinational, open-label meta-trial

Stephan Ehrmann\*, Jie Li\*, Miguel Ibarra-Estrada\*, Yonatan Perez\*, Ivan Pavlov\*, Bairbre McNicholas\*, Oriol Roca\*, Sara Mirza, David Vines, Roxana Garcia-Salcido, Guadalupe Aguirre-Avalos, Matthew W Trump, Mai-Anh Nay, Jean Dellamonica, Saad Nseir, Idrees Mogri, David Cosgrave, Dev Jayaraman, Joan R Masclans, John G Laffey, Elsa Tavernier, for the Awake Prone Positioning Meta-Trial Group†

# Awake prone positioning for COVID-19 acute hypoxaemic respiratory failure: a randomised, controlled, multinational, open-label meta-trial

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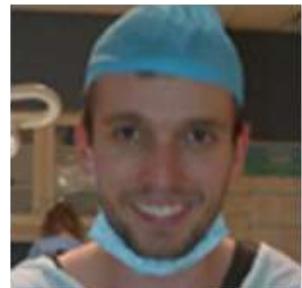
Lancet Respir Med 2021

Published Online  
August 20, 2021  
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600\(21\)00356-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600(21)00356-8)

France



USA



Ireland



Mexico

Canada

Spain

# Patients

## ➤ INCLUSION CRITERIA

Acute hypoxemic respiratory failure due **to COVID-19 pneumonia**

= **Nasal High Flow** with  $\text{PaO}_2/\text{F}_1\text{O}_2 \leq 300$  or  $\text{SpO}_2/\text{F}_1\text{O}_2 \leq 315$

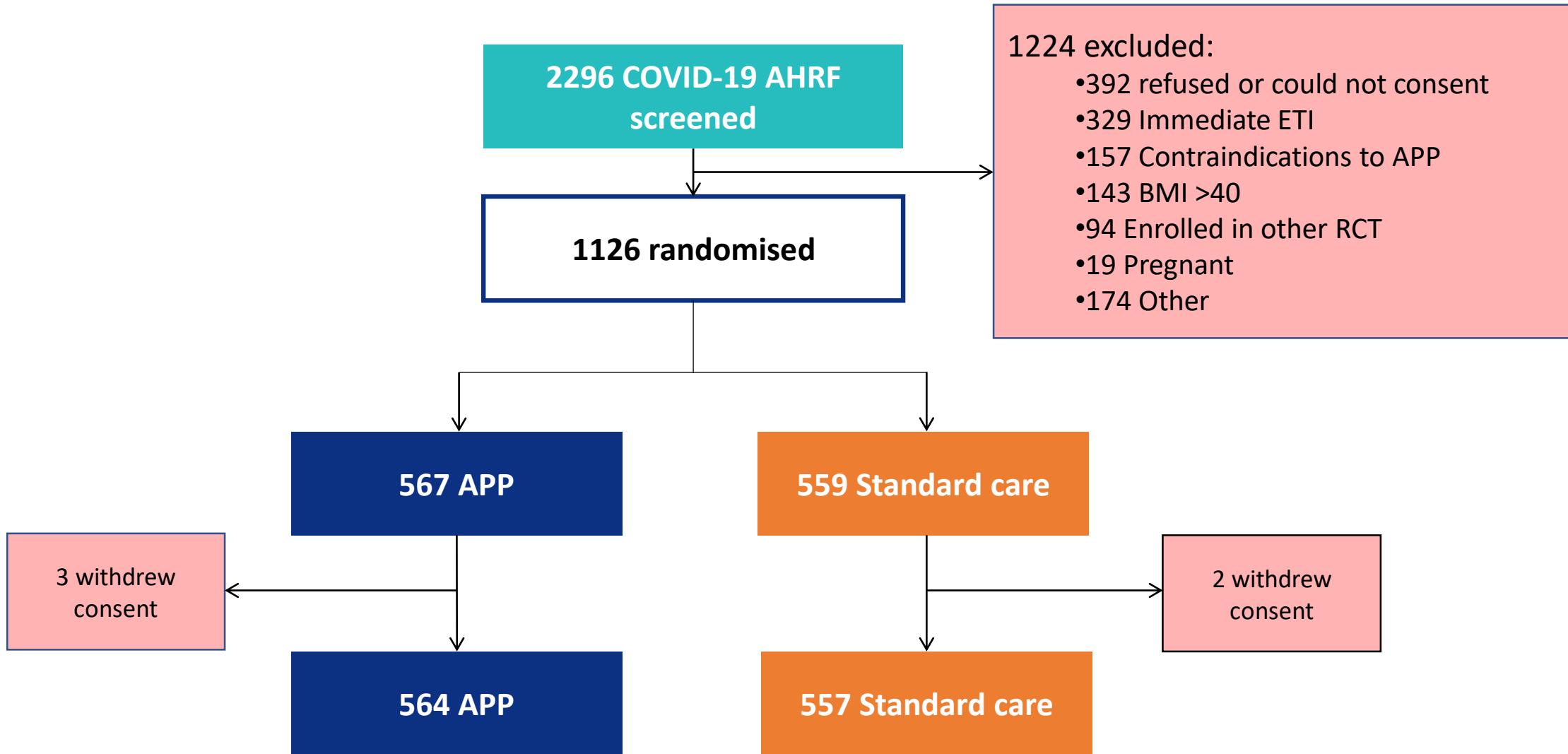
## ➤ NON-INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Unable or refuse to provide consent
- Hemodynamically unstable
- BMI  $>40\text{kg}/\text{m}^2$
- Pregnant
- Contraindication for APP

# Procedures

- Prone Positioning :
  - Patients in the prone group were instructed and assisted to **prone as long as frequently as possible** each day.
  - Prone use **as a “rescue” intervention was not allowed** in the standard care group.
- Nasal high flow : initiated **maximum tolerated flow** and  $F_I O_2$  adjusted for an  $SpO_2$  90-95%
- Predefined criteria for intubation :
  - Worsening respiratory failure ( $RR >40\text{bpm}$ ,  $pH <7.25$ ,  $SpO_2 <90\%$  with  $F_I O_2 0.8$ , respiratory muscle fatigue, copious tracheal secretions)
  - Hemodynamic instability
  - Deteriorating mental status

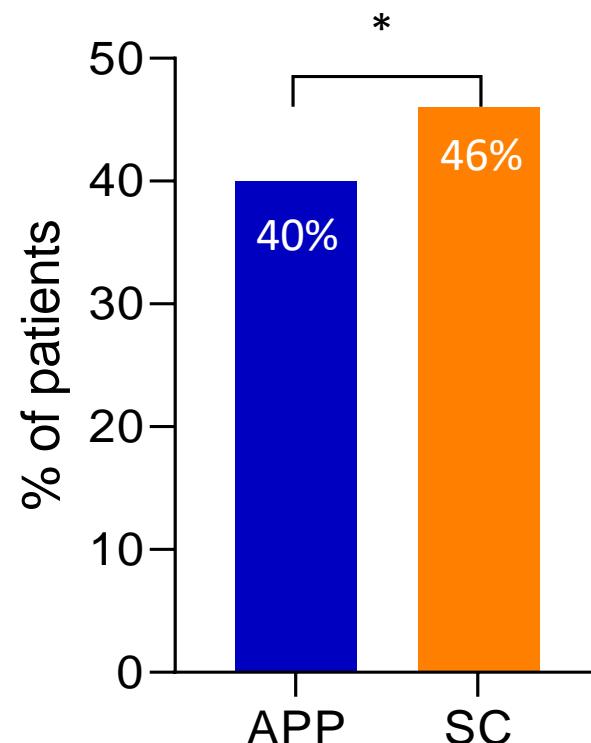
# Patient flowchart



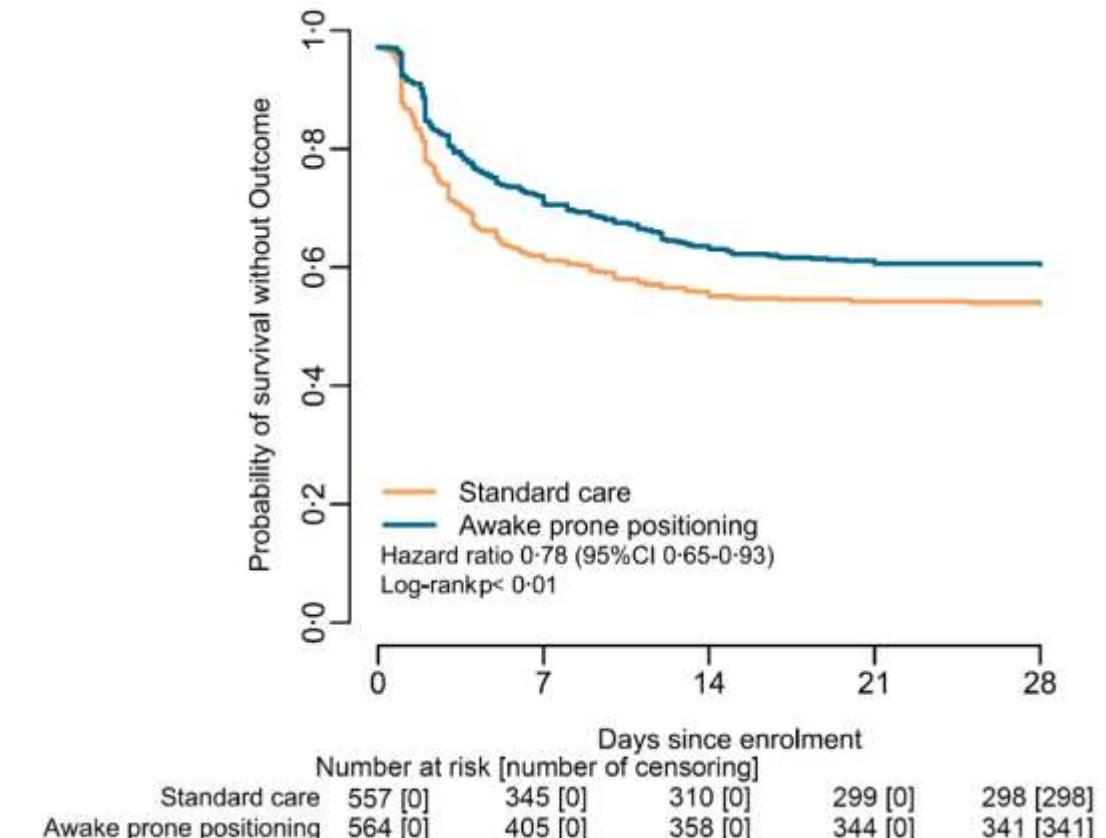
# Patients' characteristics

Variable	APP (n=564)	Standard care (n=557)
Age, years	61.5 (13.3)	60.7 (14.0)
Female sex	184 (33%)	191 (34%)
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	29.7 (4.6)	29.7 (4.6)
Median time from hospital admission to enrolment, days	1.0 (0.4-1.9)	1.0 (0.4-1.5)
Clinical parameters		
SpO <sub>2</sub> /F <sub>i</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	147.9 (43.9)	148.6 (43.1)
RR, bpm	24.7 (5.1)	24.9 (5.6)
Steroids for COVID-19	494 (88%)	492 (88%)
Location at enrolment		
ICU	336 (60%)	339 (61%)
Intermediate care	197 (35%)	189 (34%)
ED	5 (1%)	5 (1%)
General ward	26 (5%)	24 (4%)

# Primary outcome : intubation or death at D28

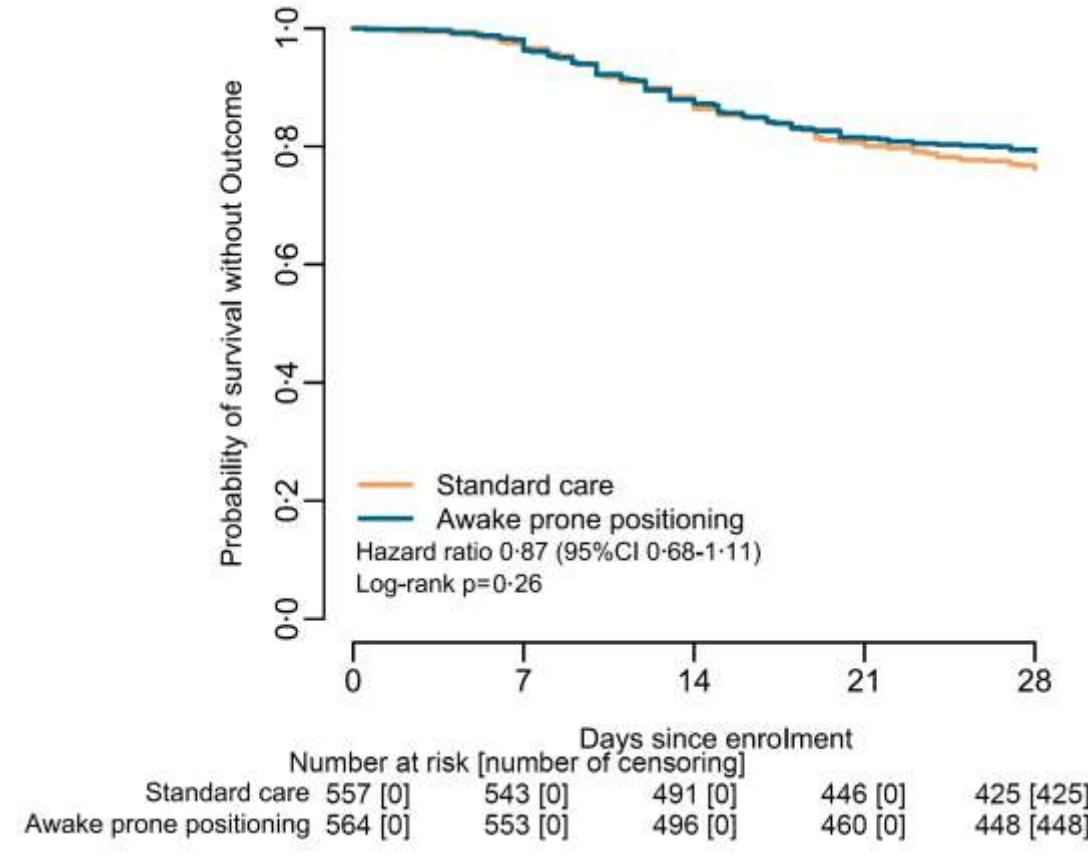
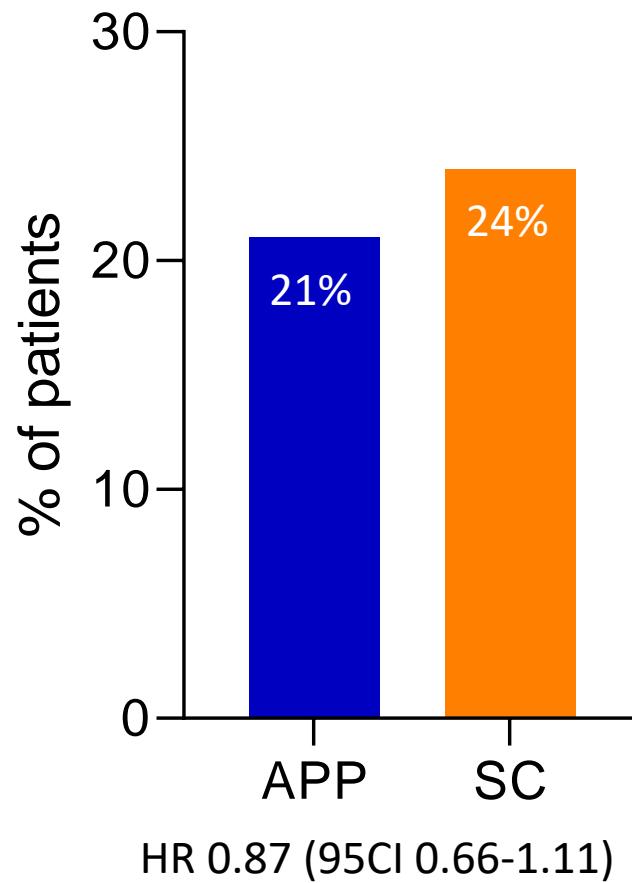


\*RR 0.86 (95CI 0.75-0.98)

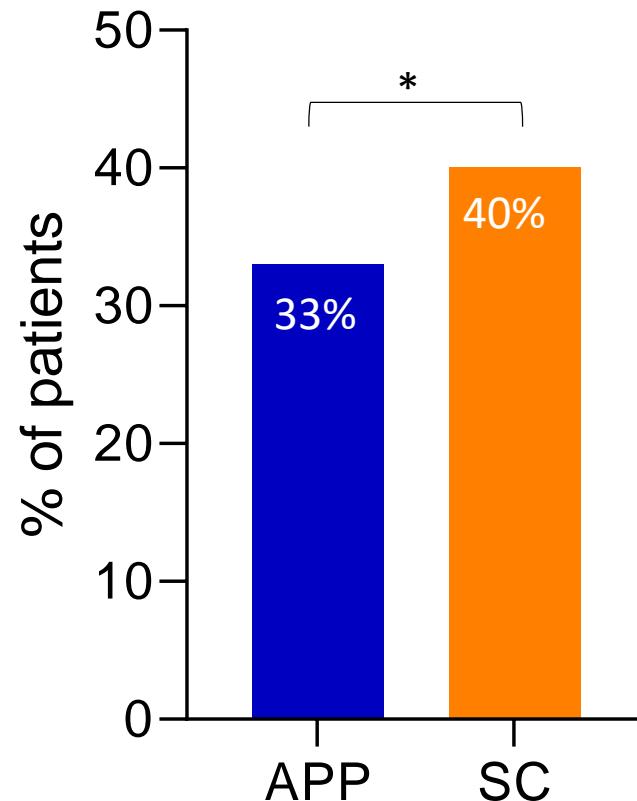


NNT to avoid 1 treatment failure = 15 (CI<sub>95</sub> 8 – 156)

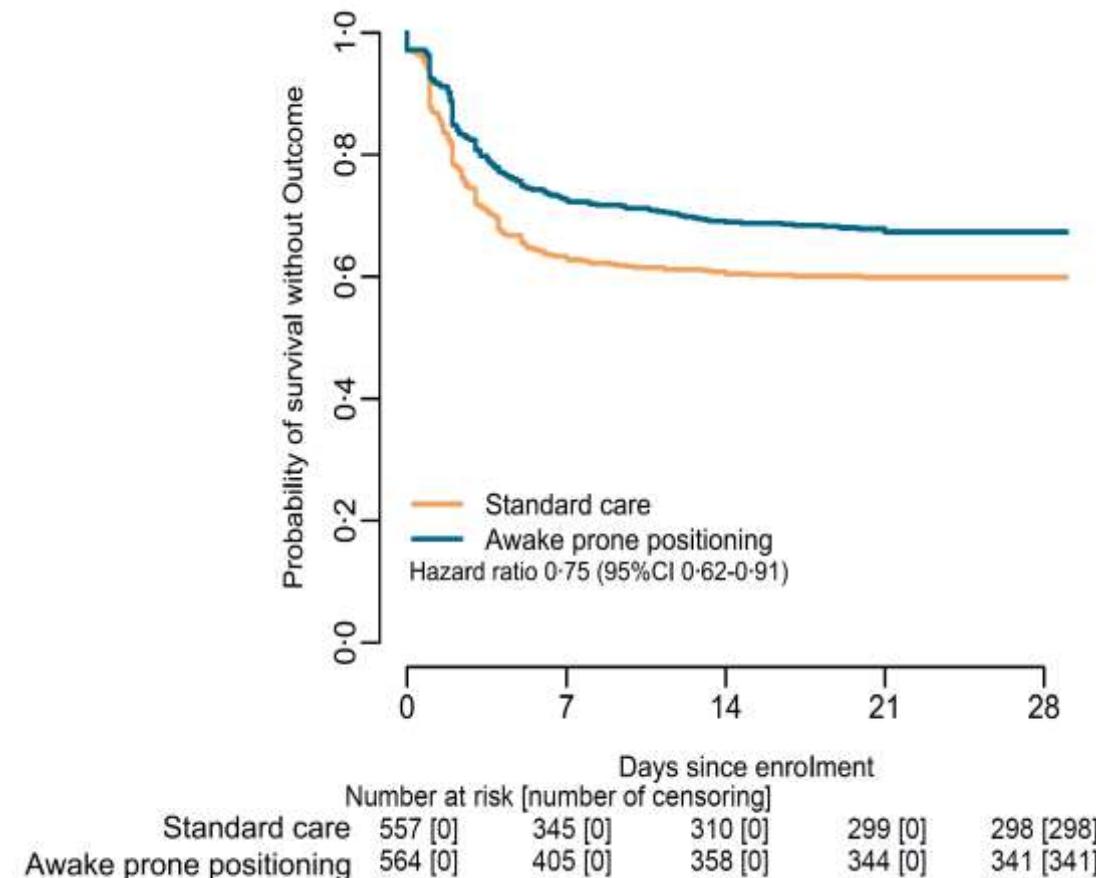
# Secondary outcome : death at D28



# Secondary outcome : intubation at D28



\*HR 0.75 (95CI 0.62-0.91)



NNT to avoid 1 ETI = 14 ( $\text{CI}_{95}$  8 – 69)

# Secondary outcome : intubation at D28

N=408 intubated patients

## Predefined criteria for intubation:

- Worsening respiratory failure (RR >40bpm, pH <7.25, SpO<sub>2</sub> <90% with F<sub>i</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 0.8, respiratory muscle fatigue, copious tracheal secretions)
- Hemodynamic instability
- Deteriorating mental status

	Prone positioning	Standard care
Time to intubation (days)	2.3 (1.3-5.0)	2.0 (1.0-3.8)
MV duration (days)	12.4	12.4
Mortality at D28	43%	44%

 No impact of delayed intubation

Ehrmann S, Lancet Respir Med 2021

# Secondary outcome : intubation at D28

N=408 intubated patients

## Predefined criteria for intubation:

- Worsening respiratory failure (RR >40bpm, pH <7.25, SpO<sub>2</sub> <90% with F<sub>1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 0.8, respiratory muscle fatigue, copious tracheal secretions)
- Hemodynamic instability
- Deteriorating mental status

	Prone positioning	Standard care
Time to intubation (days)	2.3 (1.3-5.0)	2.0 (1.0-3.8)
MV duration (days)	12.4	12.4
Mortality at D28	43%	44%

 No impact of delayed intubation

Ehrmann S, Lancet Respir Med 2021

Proseva

**Mortalité = subjective outcome**

« In 30 of the 75 patients (40%) who died in the supine group and 14 of the 38 (36.8%) who died in the prone group, an end-of life decision was made at some time after inclusion. »



39% DNR among non survivors

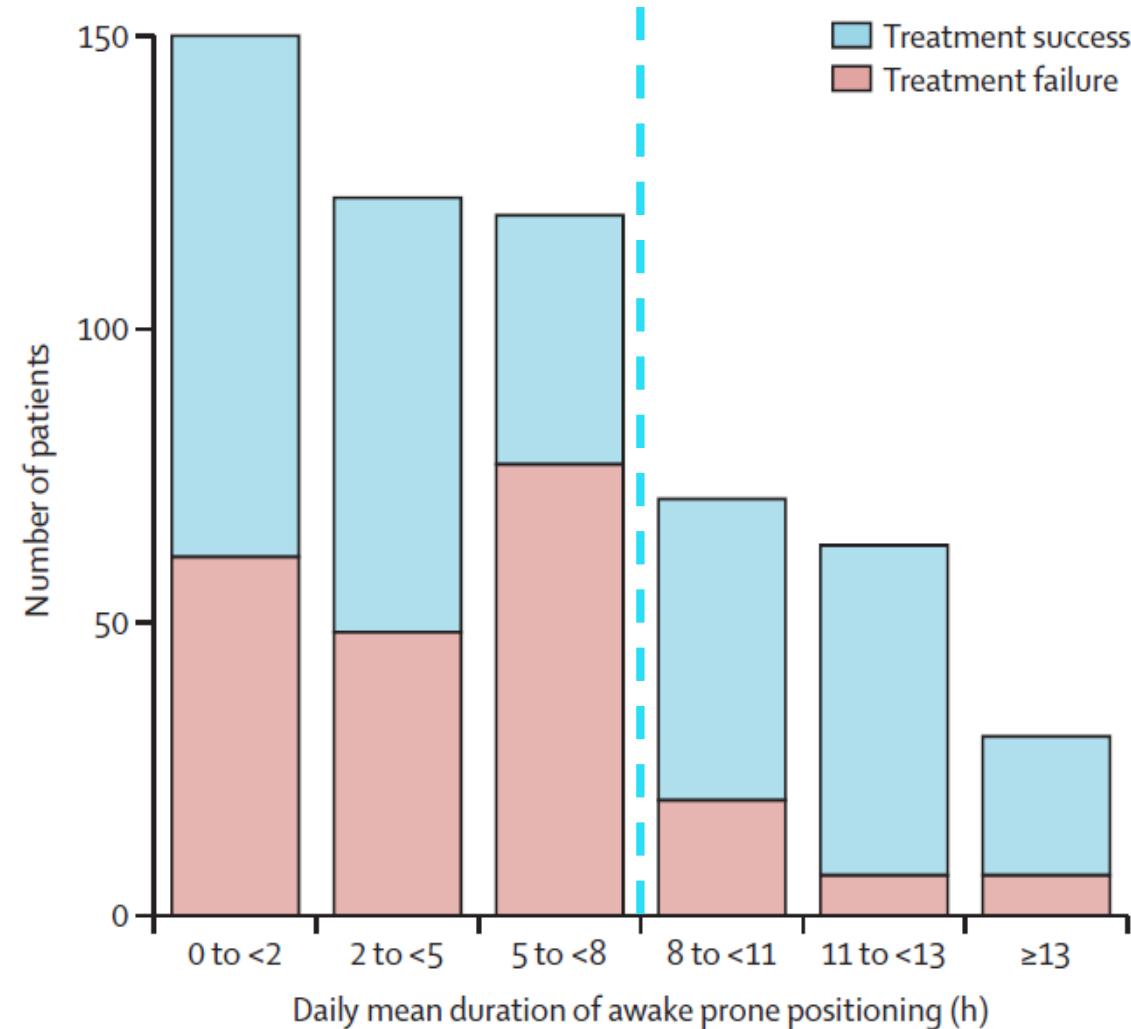
Guérin C, N Engl J Med 2013

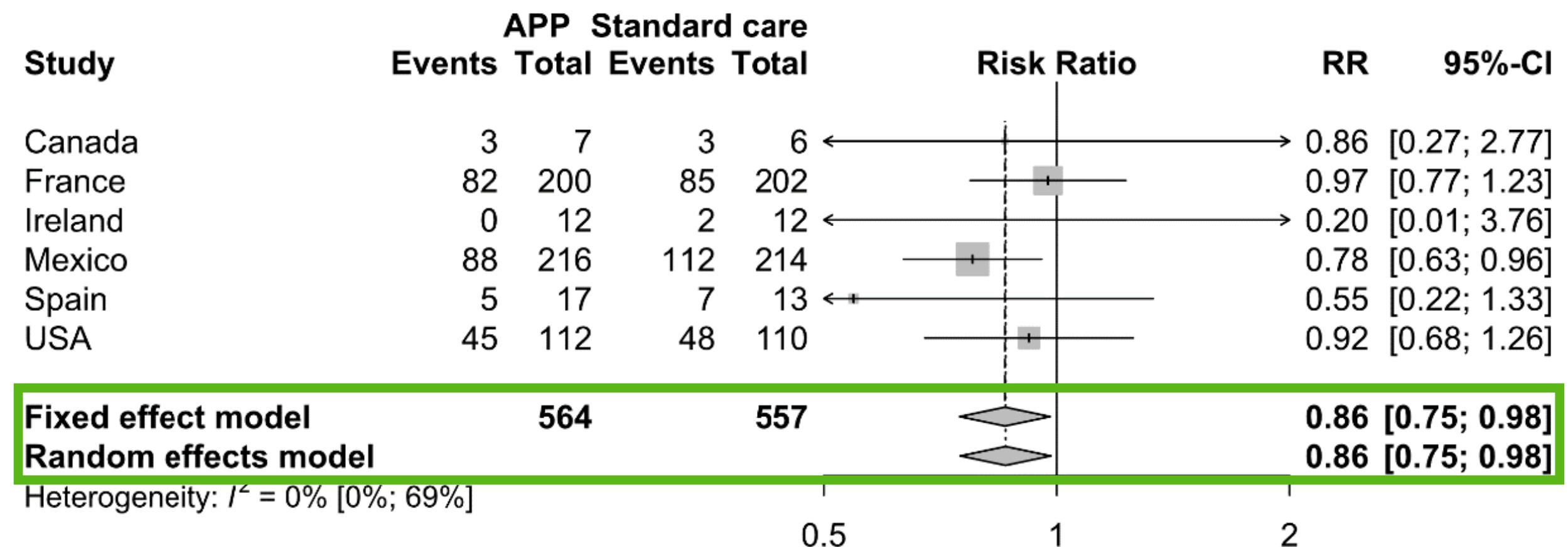
# Awake prone : dose – response

- Median daily duration of APP : 5.0h (1.6 – 8.8)

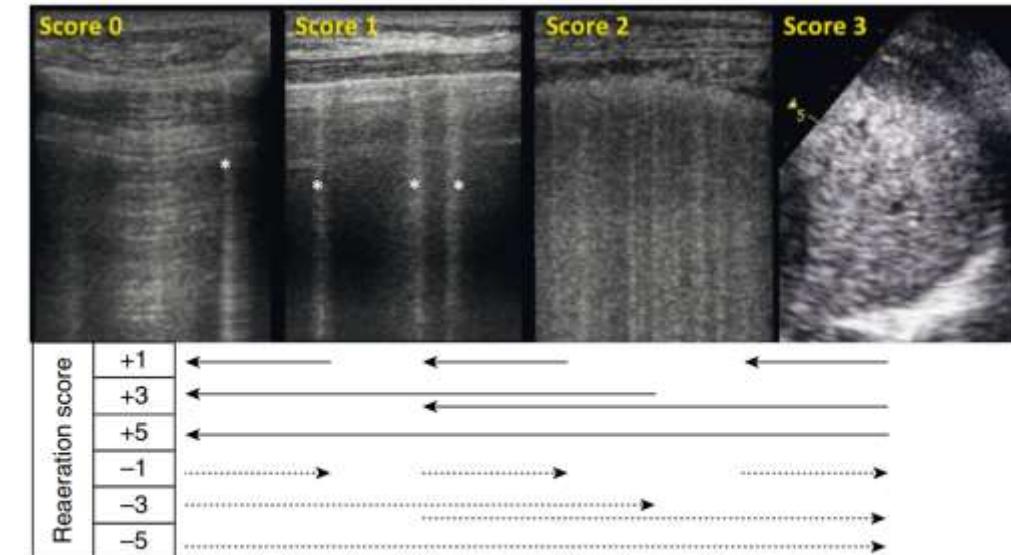
- Treatment success :

- < 8h : 52%
- > 8h : 83%



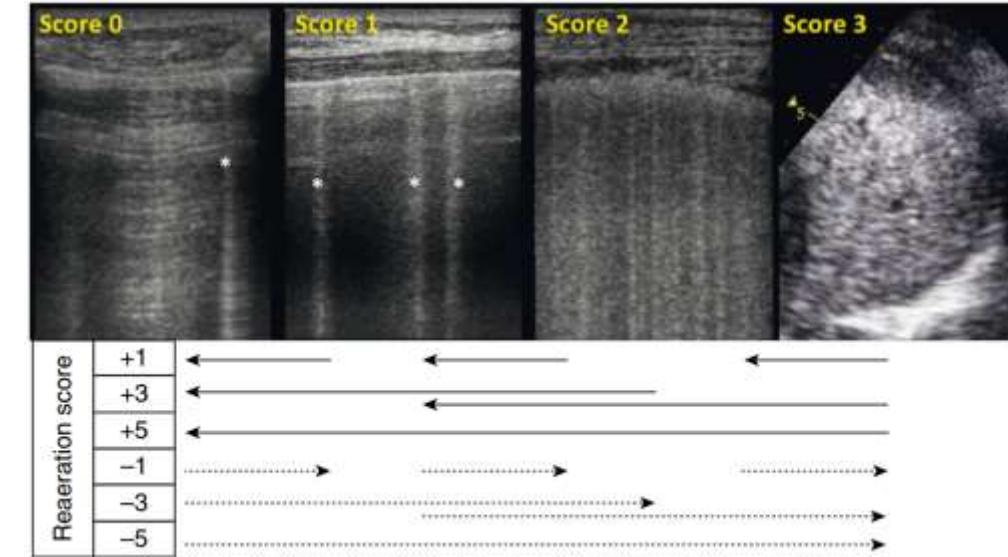


# Lung morphology

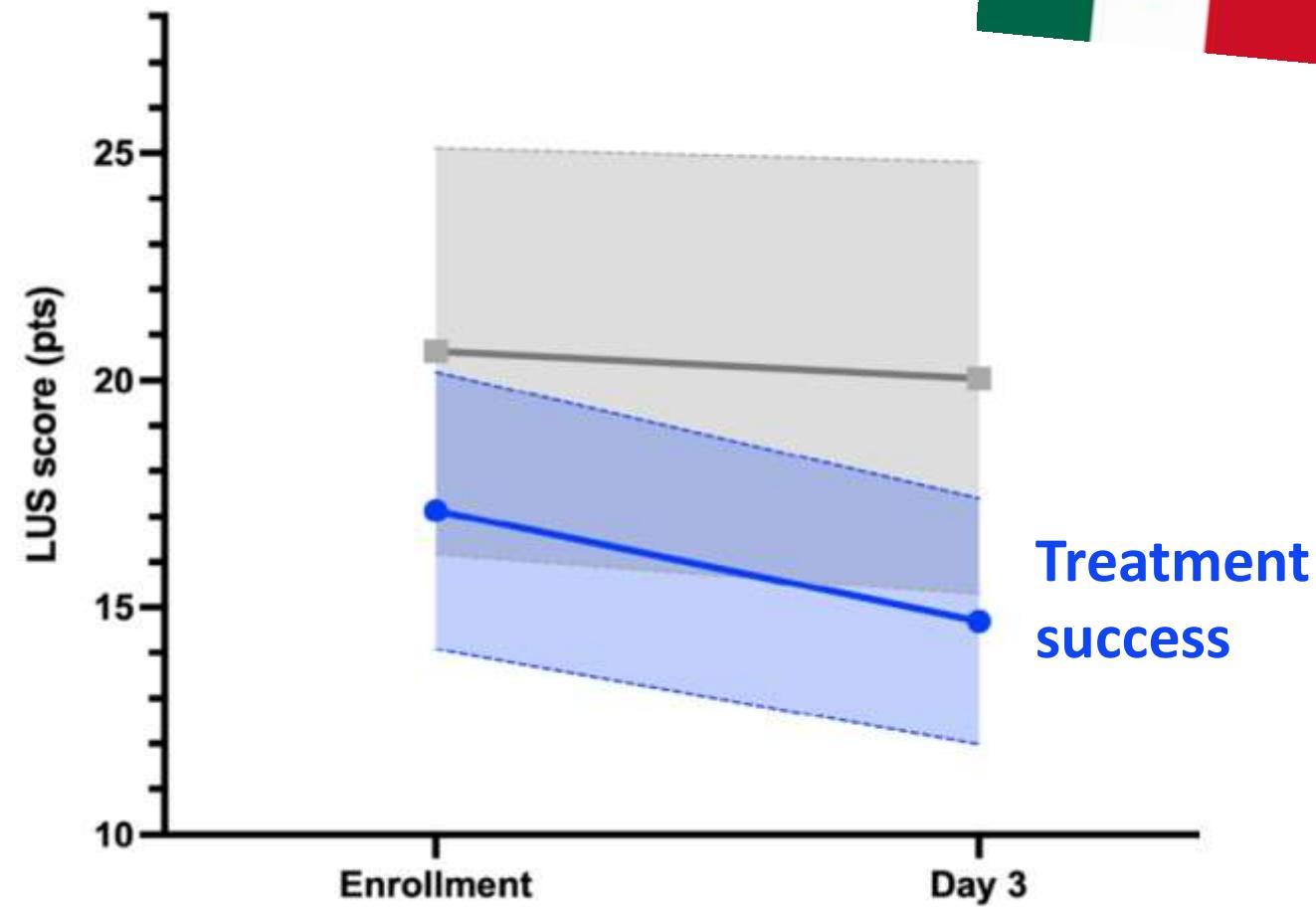


Echographic lung consolidation: 0-36

# Lung morphology



Echographic lung  
consolidation  
**0-36**



↓ LUS ≥ 2

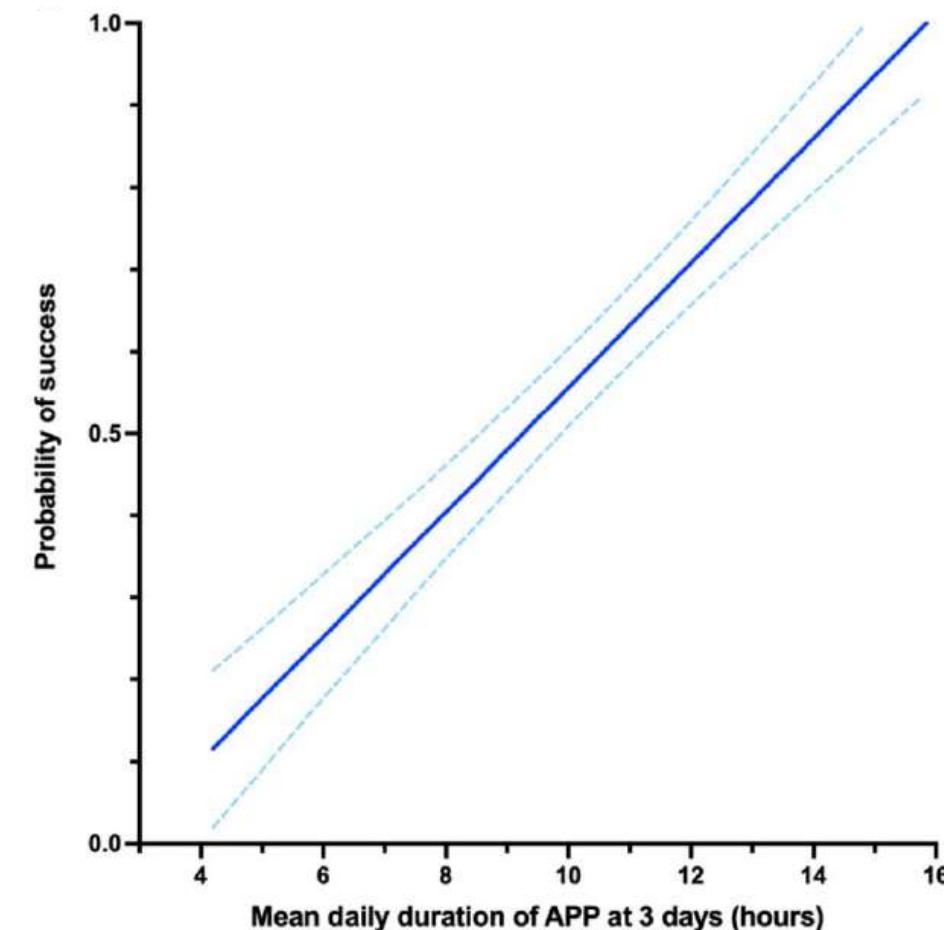
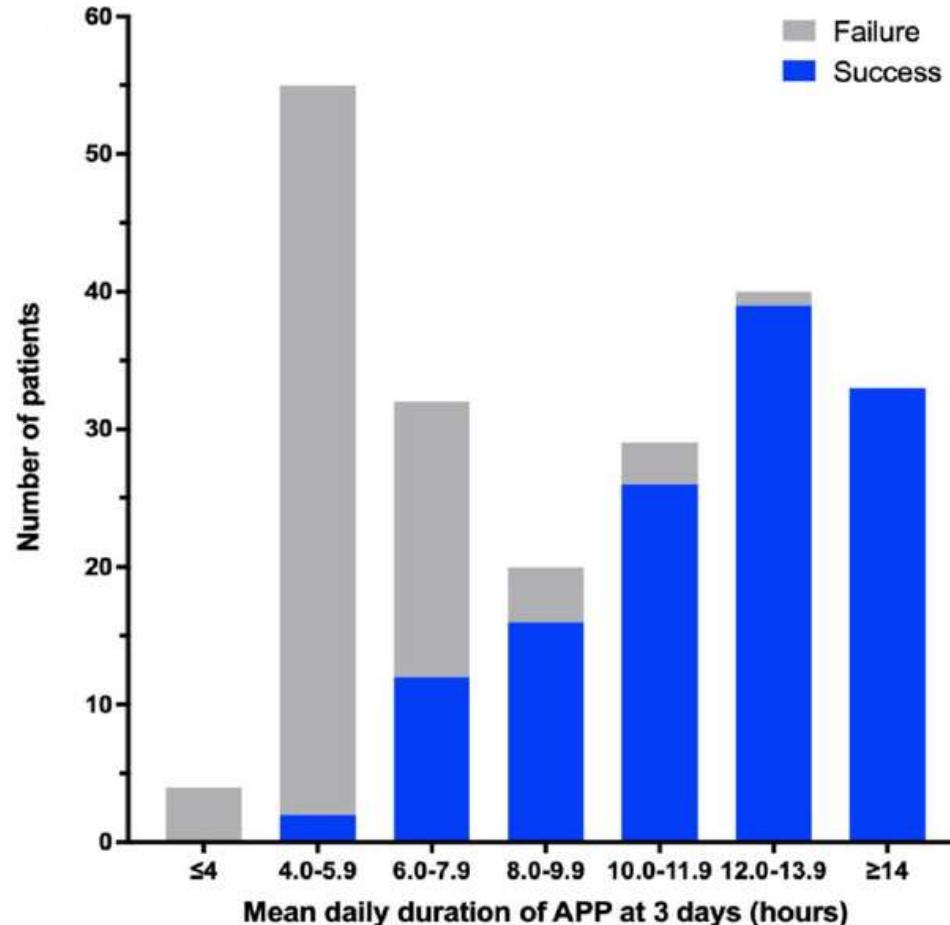
# Facteurs de succès : dose de DV



Treatment success :

- < 8h : 15%

- > 8h : 83%



**Table 1** In-hospital death and orotracheal intubation in the individual studies by intervention group (aPP vs. not aPP)

Author, year	Death in patients treated by aPP n/N (%)	Death in patients not treated by aPP n/N (%)	Orotracheal intubation in aPP patients n/N (%)	Orotracheal intubation in non-aPP patients n/N (%)	RCT	DNR patients (%)
Alhazzani W., 2022 [17]	46/205 (22.4)	46/195 (23.5)	70/205 (34.1)	79/195 (40.5)	Yes	Excluded
Altinay M., 2021 [18]	9/25 (36.0)	16/23 (69.8)	8/25 (32.0)	19/23 (82.6)	No	n.a
Ates I., 2021 [19]	0/97 (0.0)	4/47 (4.12)	7/97 (7.2)	12/47 (25.5)	No	n.a
Bahloul M., 2021 [20]	14/21 (66.7)	12/17 (70.6)	9/21 (42.8)	4/17 (23.5)	No	n.a
Barker J., 2021 [21]	1/10 (10.0)	4/10 (40.0)	6/10 (60.0)	5/10 (50.0)	No	n.a
Burton-Papp HC. 2020 [22]	0/20 (0.0)	0/20 (0.0)	7/20 (35.0)	0/20 (0.0)	No	n.a
Coppo A., 2020 [23]	0/47 (0.0)	0/9 (0.0)	13/47 (27.6)	0/9 (0.0)	No	n.a
Ehrmann S., 2021 [24]	117/564 (20.7)	132/557 (23.7)	185/564 (32.6)	223/557(40.0)	Yes	Included (8)
Ferrando C., 2020 [25]	8/49 (16.3)	17/122 (13.9)	22/55 (40.0)	60/144 (41.7)	No	n.a
Fralick M., 2022 [26]	1/126 (0.80)	1/122 (0.81)	5/126 (3.9)	6/122 (4.9)	Yes	Included
Gad S., 2021 [27]	3/15 (20.0)	3/15 (20.0)	3/15 (20.0)	3/15 (20.0)	No	n.a
Graziani M., 2023 [28]	23/114 (20.1)	102/422(24.1)	39/114 (34.2)	32/422 (7.5)	No	Included (21)
Hallifax RJ, 2020 [29]	12/30 (40.0)	14/18 (77.7)	—	—	No	n.a
Hashemian SM., 2021 [30]	9/45 (20.0)	10/30 (33.3)	10/45 (22.2)	12/30 (40.0)	No	n.a
Hussain HT., 2021 [31]	1/25 (4.0)	2/25 (8.0)	—	—	No	n.a
Imran M., 2021 [32]	2/50 (4.0)	3/50 (6.0)	—	—	No	n.a
Jagan N., 2020 [33]	0/40 (0.0)	16/65 (40.0)	11/40 (27.5)	26/65 (40.0)	No	n.a
Jayakumar D., 2021 [34]	3/30 (10.0)	2/30 (6.7)	4/30 (13.3)	4/30 (13.3)	Yes	n.a
Johnson SA., 2021 [35]	2/15 (13.3)	0/15 (0.00)	2/15 (13.3)	1/15 (6.7)	Yes	n.a
Jouffroy R., 2021 [36]	4/40 (10.0)	94/339 (27.7)	4/40 (10.0)	200/339(58.9)	No	n.a
Liu X., 2020 [37]	0/13 (0.0)	0/16 (0.0)	n/N (%)	—	No	n.a
Musso G., 2022 [38]	10/81 (12.3)	59/162 (36.4)	8/81 (9.8)	44/162 (27.1)	No	Excluded
Padrao EMH., 2020 [39]	6/57 (10.5)	22/109 (20.2)	33/57 (57.9)	53/109 (48.6)	No	Excluded
Perez-Nieto OR. 2021 [40]	100/505 (1.9)	120/322 (36.3)	109/505 (21.5)	130/322 (40.4)	No	n.a
Proud'homme E. 2021 [41]	4/48 (8.3)	6/120 (5.0)	7/48 (14.5)	8/120 (6.6)	No	n.a
Qian ET., 2022 [42]	59/239 (24.7)	47/222 (21.1)	—	—	No	n.a
Rosen J., 2021 [43]	6/36 (16.7)	3/39 (7.7)	12/36(33.3)	13/39 (33.3)	Yes	Excluded
Simioli F., 2021 [44]	0/18 (0.0)	3/11 (27.3)	1/18 (5.5)	2/11 (18.1)	No	n.a
Syrma PB., 2021 [45]	2/30 (6.67)	4/15 (26.7)	—	—	No	n.a
Stilma W., 2021 [46]	91/438 (20.8)	62/296 (21.0)	—	—	No	n.a
Thompson A. 2020 [47]	3/25 (12.0)	0/40 (0.0)	13/25 (52.0)	4/40 (10.0)	No	Included
Tonelli R., 2021 [48]	5/38 (13.1)	17/76 (22.4)	7/38 (18.4)	30/76 (39.4)	No	Excluded
Vianello A., 2021 [49]	2/50 (0.0)	7/43 (16.8)	4/50(8.0)	12/43 (27.9)	No	Excluded
Zang X., 2020 [50]	10/23 (43.5)	28/37 (75.6)	8/23 (34.7)	4/37 (10.8)	No	n.a

aPP awake prone positioning, DNR do-not resuscitate, RCT randomized controlled trial

# Clinical studies on awake prone positioning

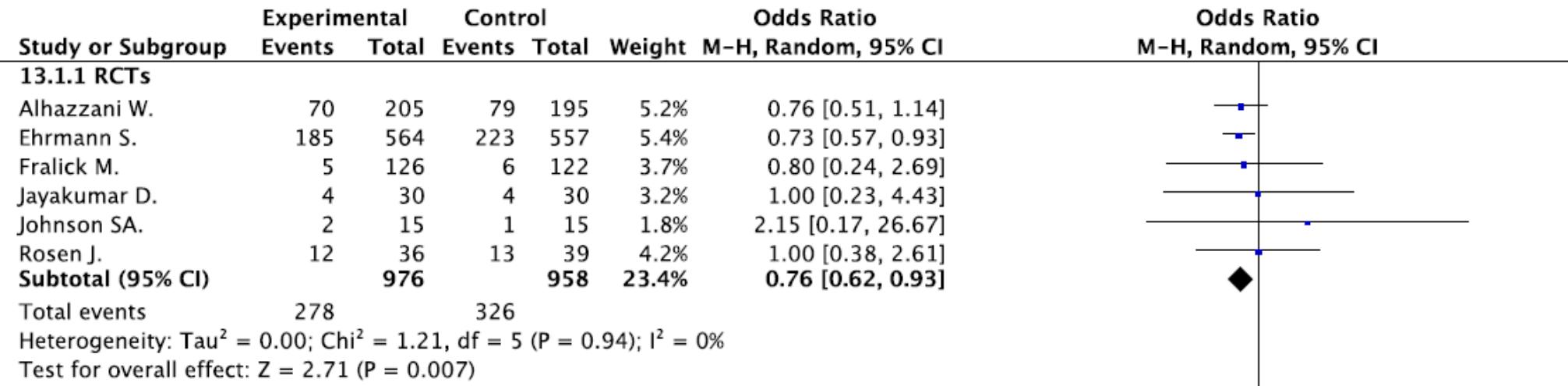
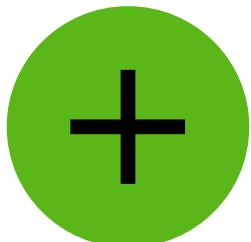
# Awake prone positioning for patients with COVID-19-related respiratory failure: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Mara Graziani<sup>1</sup>  · Andrea Galeazzo Rigutini<sup>1</sup> · Diletta Bartolini<sup>1</sup> · Laura Traballi<sup>1</sup> · Lorenzo Luzi<sup>1</sup> · Rossana Regina<sup>1</sup> · Francesco Bossi<sup>1</sup> · Carla Caponi<sup>1</sup> · Cecilia Becattini<sup>1</sup>

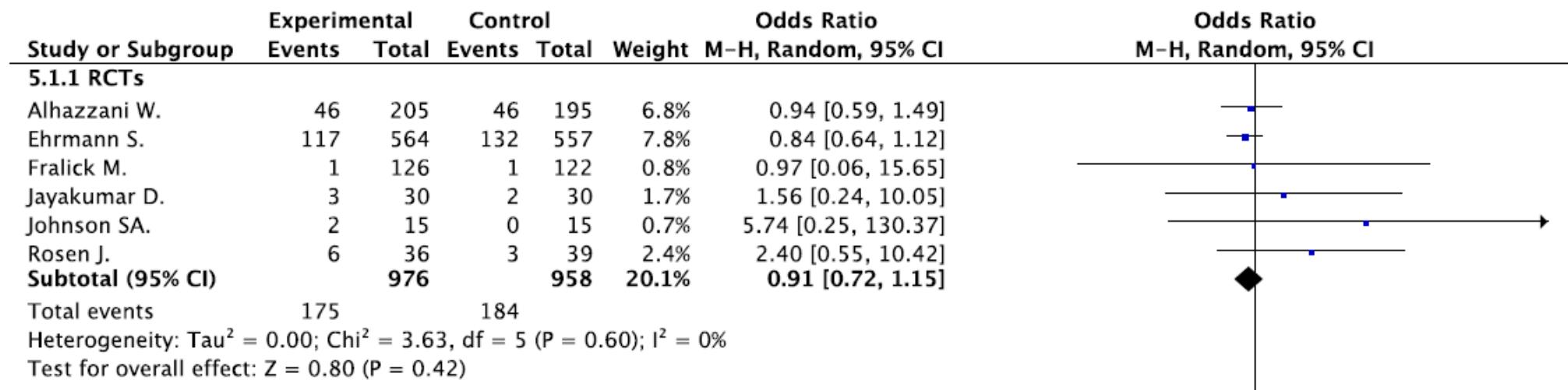
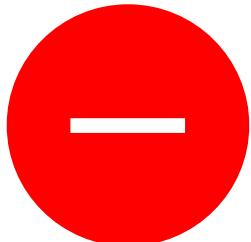
Received: 7 April 2023 / Accepted: 11 September 2023 / Published online: 5 October 2023

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## Intubation



## Mortality



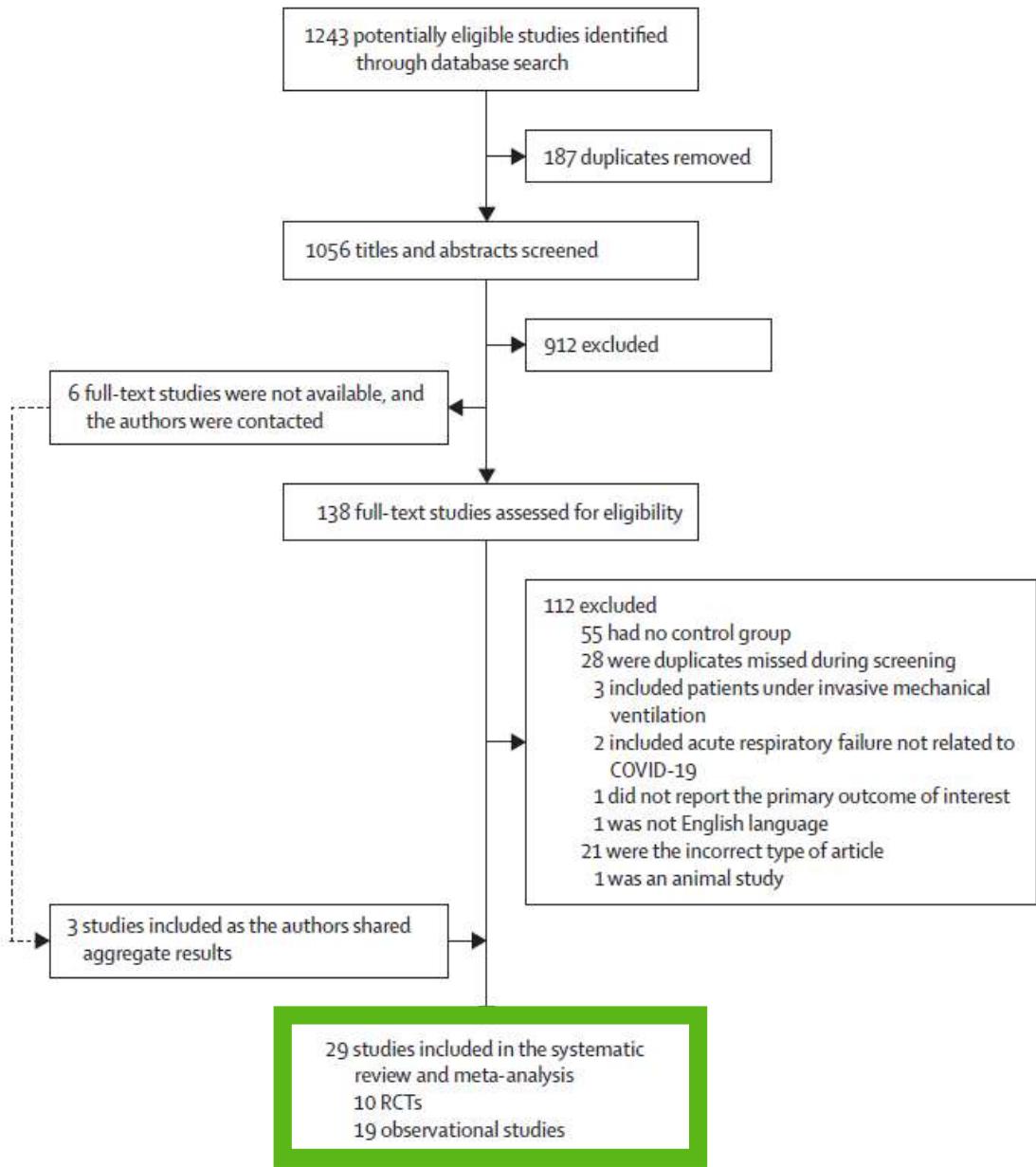
# Awake prone positioning for non-intubated patients with COVID-19-related acute hypoxaemic respiratory failure: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Jie Li\*, Jian Luo\*, Ivan Pavlov\*, Yonatan Perez\*, Wei Tan\*, Oriol Roca, Elsa Tavernier, Aileen Kharat, Bairbre McNicholas, Miguel Ibarra-Estrada, David L Vines, Nicholas A Bosch, Garrett Rampon, Steven Q Simpson, Allan J Walkey, Michael Fralick, Amol Verma, Fahad Razak, Tim Harris, John G Laffey†, Claude Guerin†, Stephan Ehrmann†, for the Awake Prone Positioning Meta-Analysis Group‡

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March 16, 2022

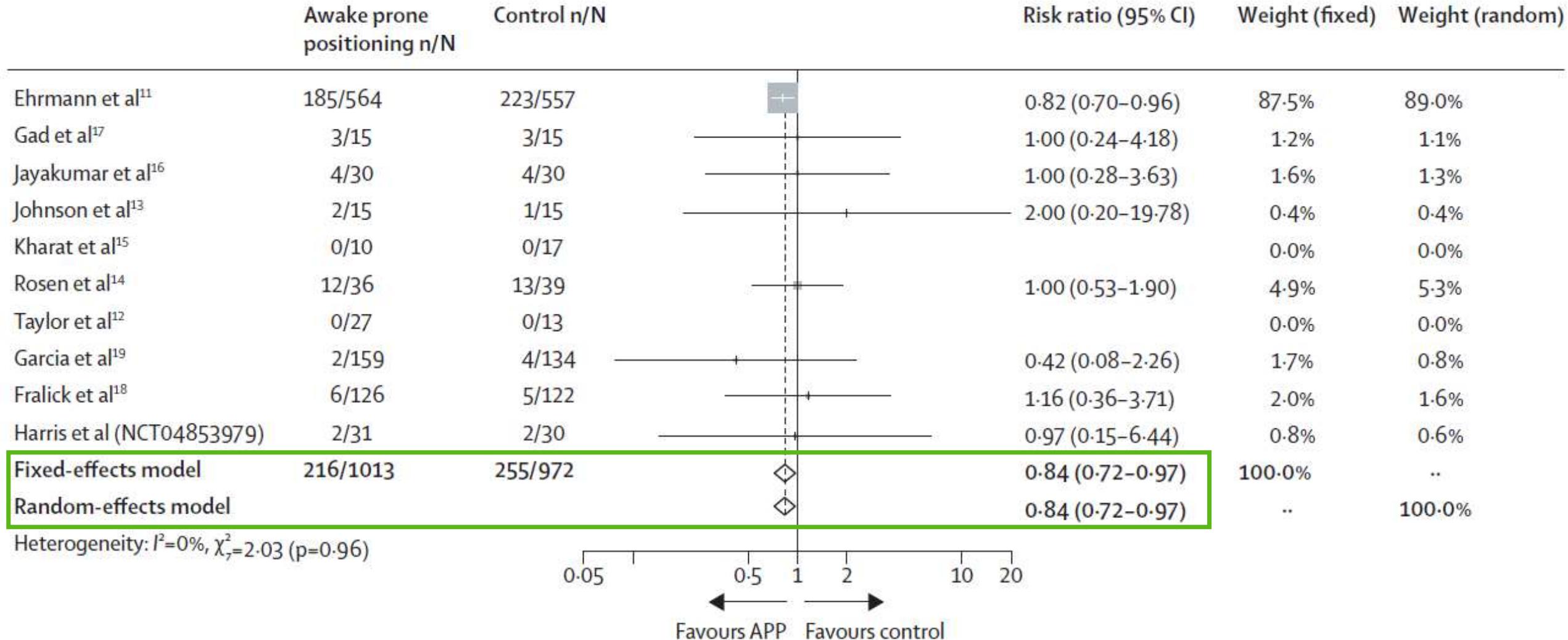


- 1 meta-trial
- 6 published RCT
- 3 un published RCT
- 19 observational studies with control group

**N=1985  
patients**

**N=2669  
patients**

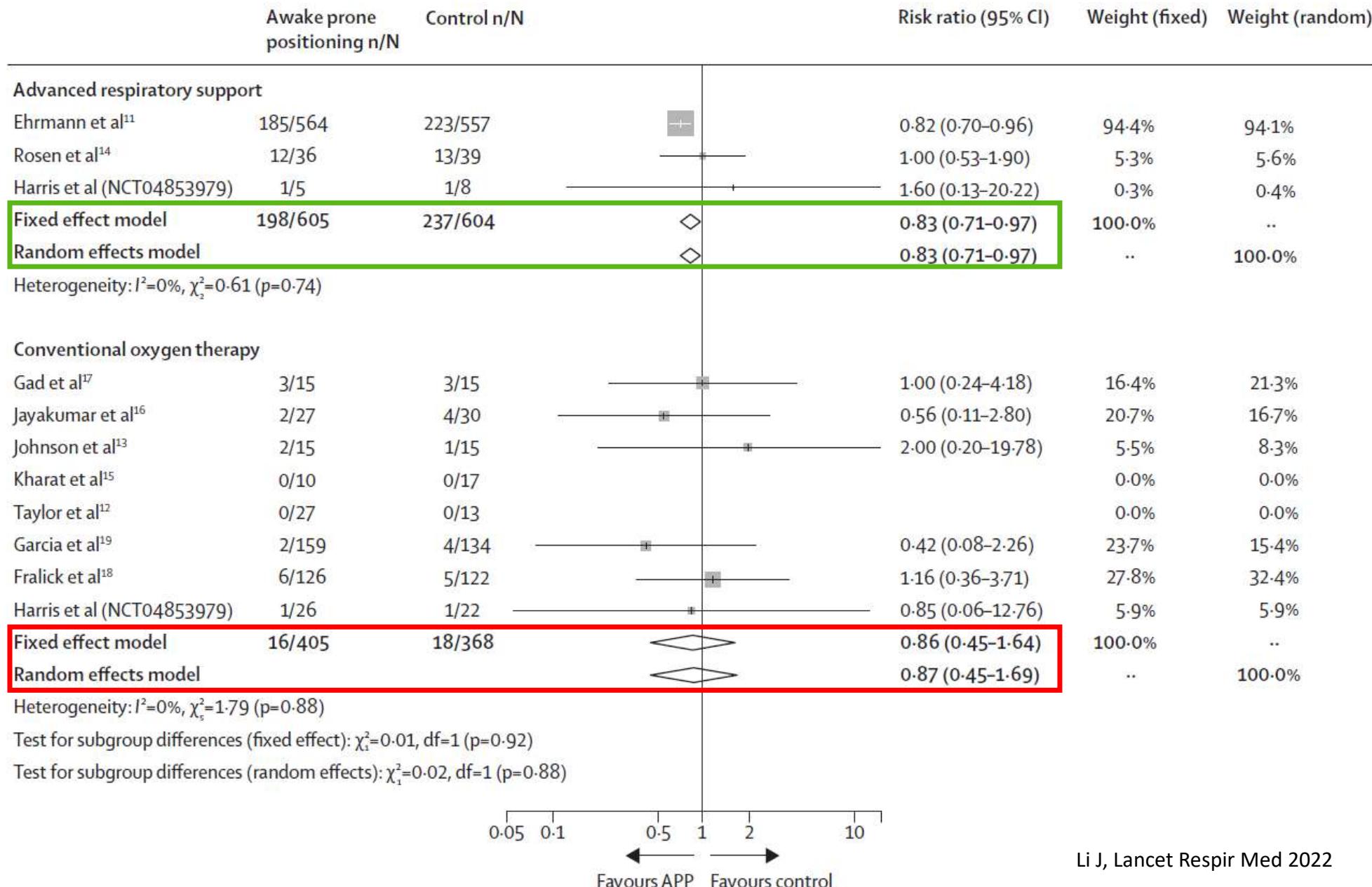
# Intubation



# Intubation

High Flow  
NIV  
CPAP

Standard  
oxygen

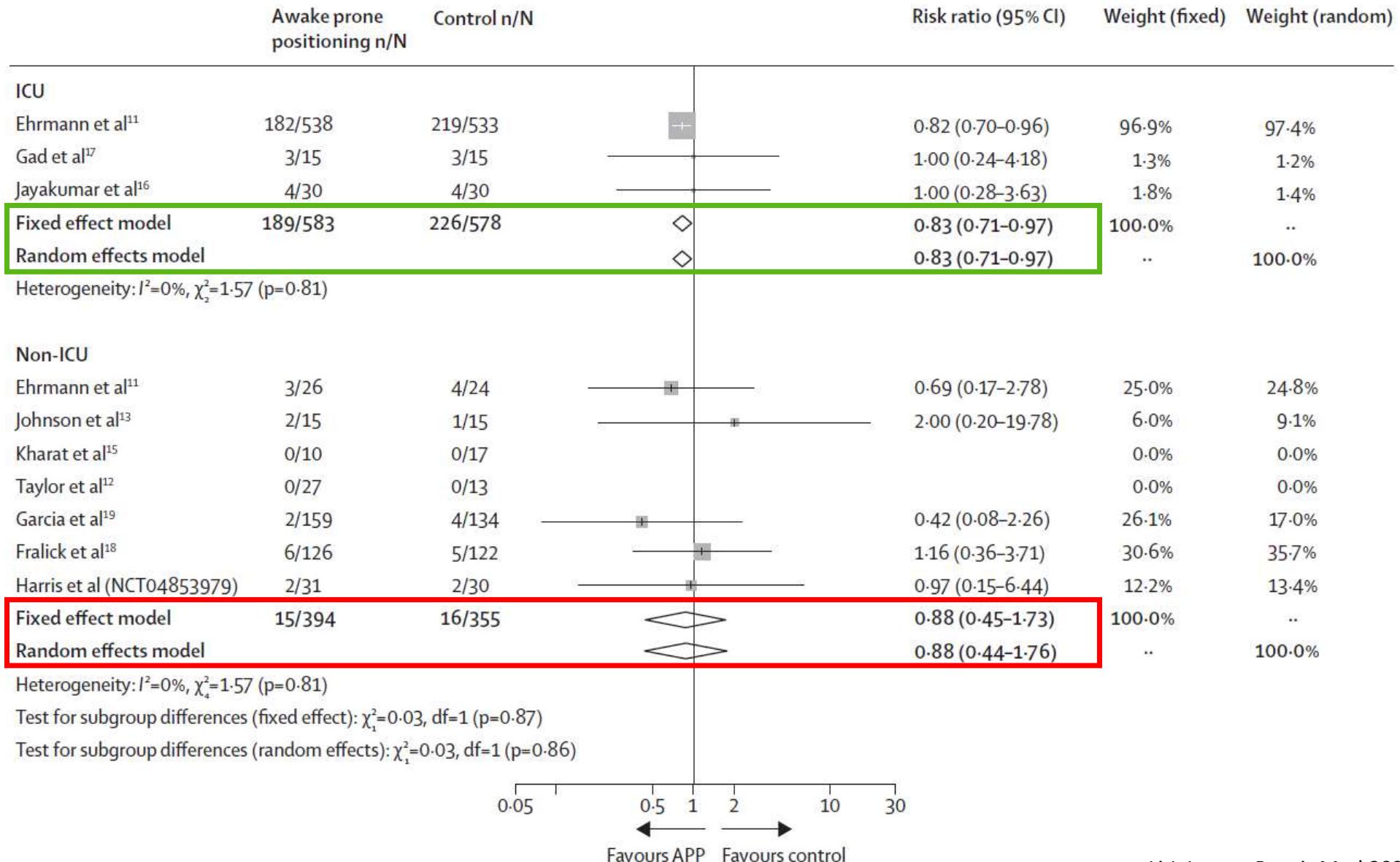


# Intubation

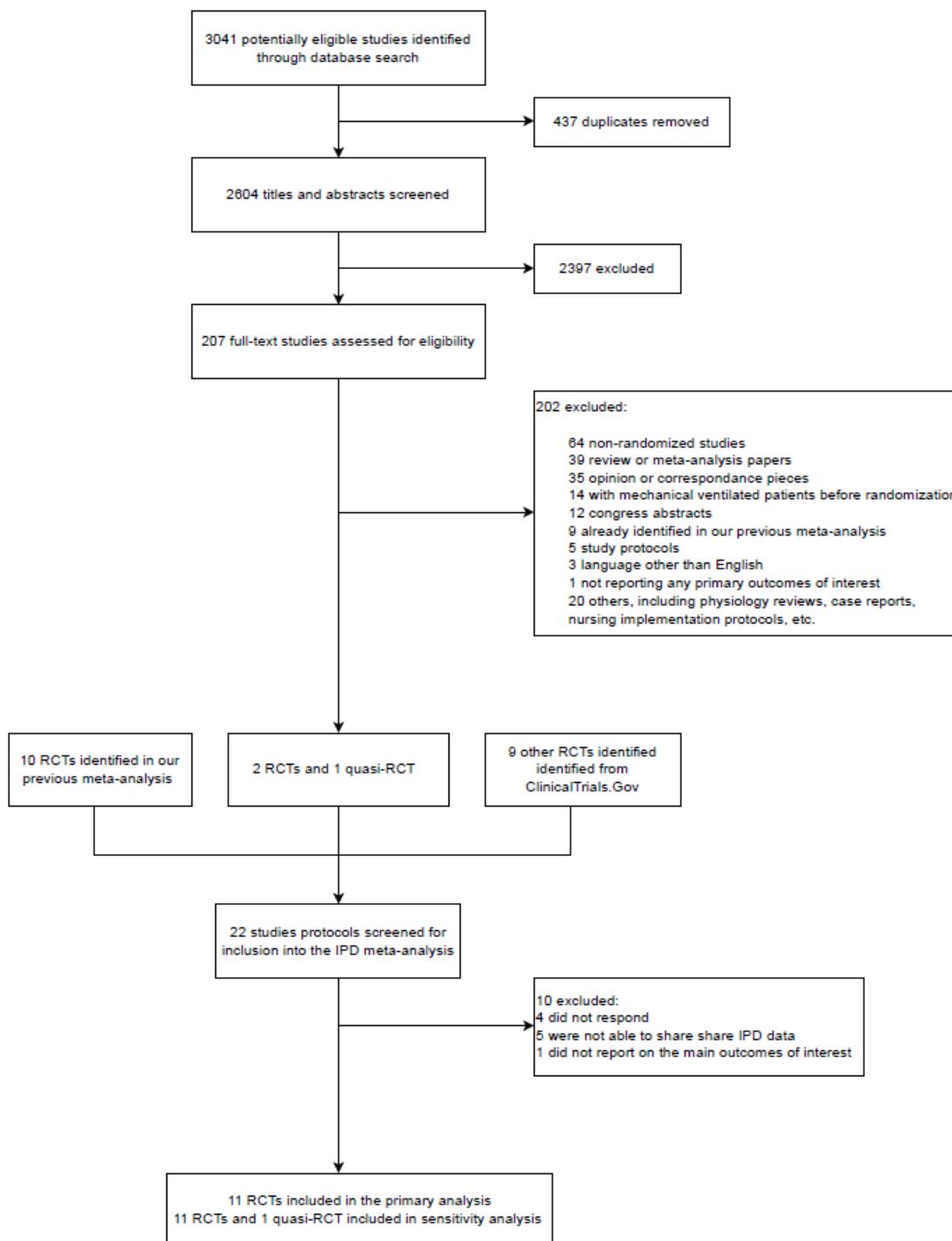
**ICU**

**Intermediate care**

**Ward**

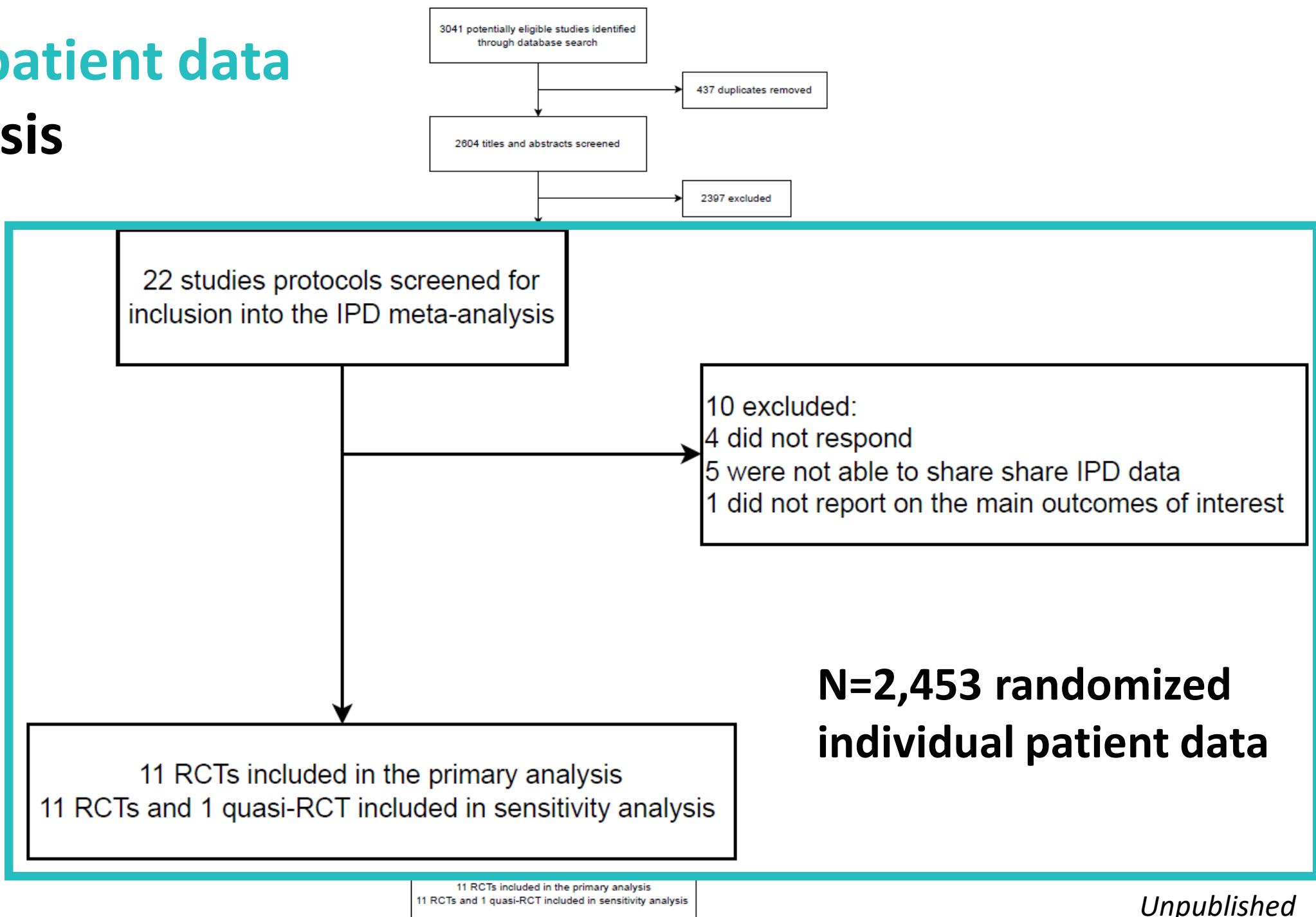


# Individual patient data meta-analysis



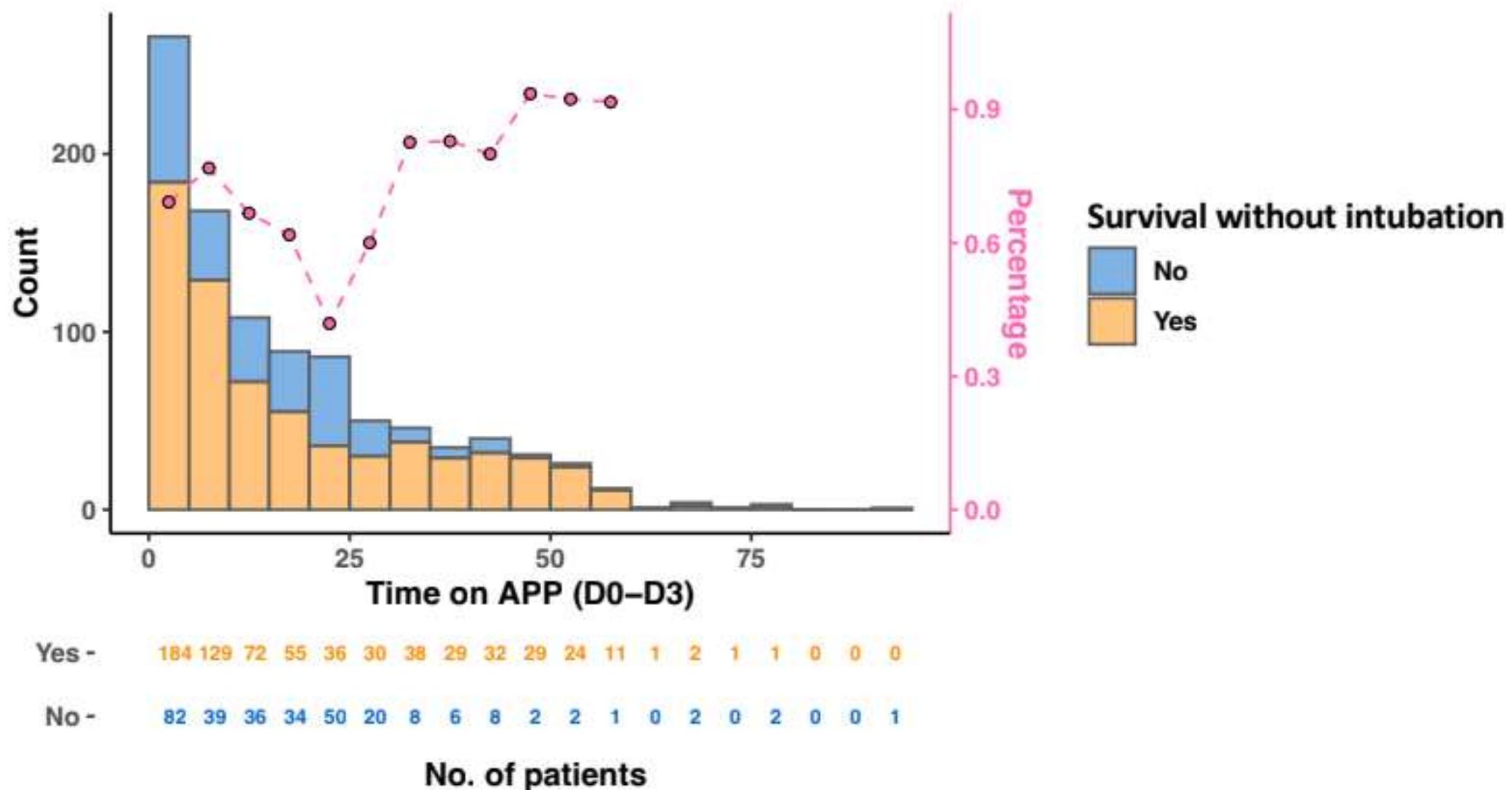
*Unpublished*

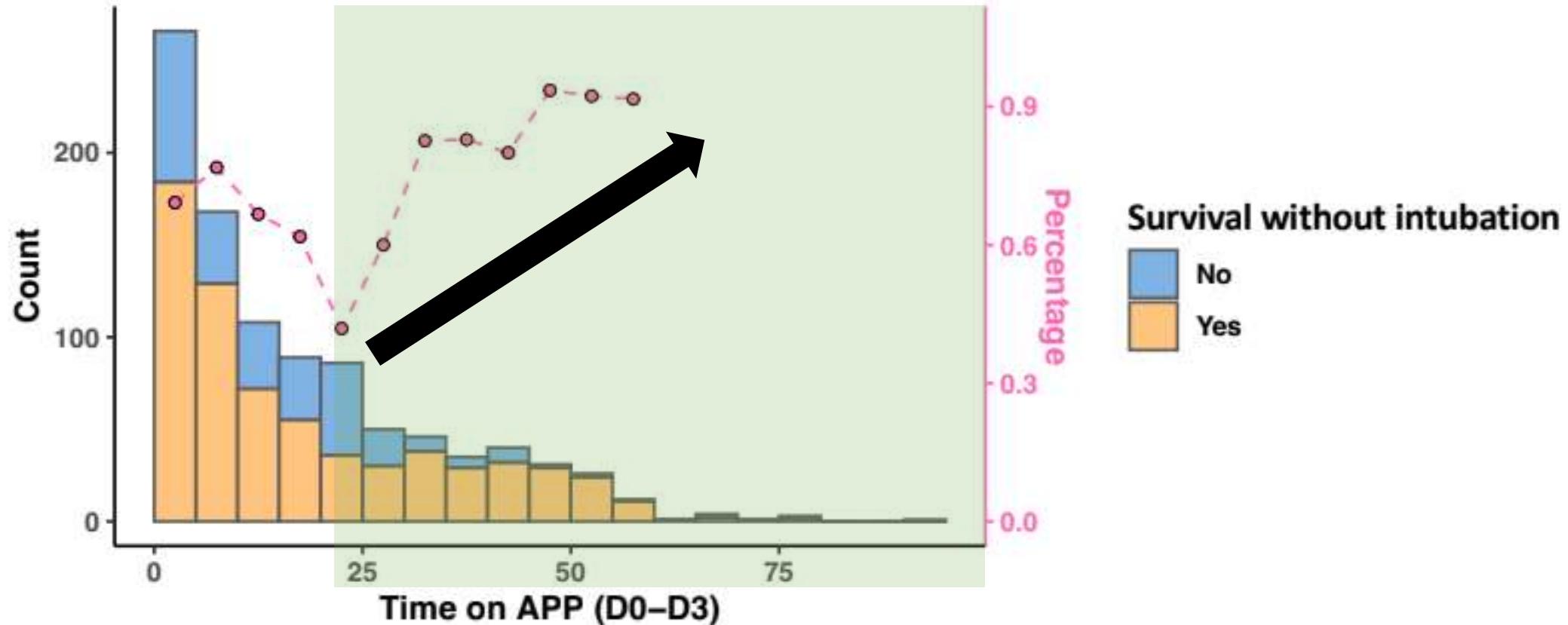
# Individual patient data meta-analysis



	<b>APP</b>	<b>Control</b>	<b>OR</b>
Intubation or death	27%	32%	4.17 (1.8-9.6)
Intubation	23%	28%	0.27 (0.12-0.59)
Mortality			
Death without intubation			
Death after intubation			

	<b>APP</b>	<b>Control</b>	<b>OR</b>
Intubation or death	73%	68%	4.17 (1.8-9.6)
Intubation	23%	28%	0.27 (0.12-0.59)
Mortality	13%	16%	0.27 (0.10-0.72)
Death without intubation (“DNR”)	3.6%	3.9%	0.21 (0.04-1.05)
Death after intubation	9.8%	11.6%	0.33 (0.13-0.83)





Yes - 184 129 72 55 36 30 38 29 32 29 24 11 1 2 1 1 0 0 0

No - 82 39 36 34 50 20 8 6 8 2 2 1 0 2 0 0 1

No. of patients

# Rational?

Yes

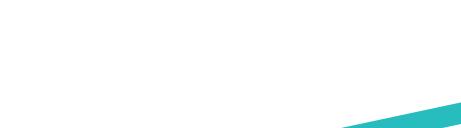


# Benefits?

Yes



# Risks?



# Risks?

**Table S6. Adverse events of the included RCTs.**

Author, year	Interventions	Population	Skin breakdown (n, %)	Vomiting (n, %)	Central or arterial line dislodgement (n, %)	Cardiac arrest at any time (n, %)	Back pain (n, %)	Bloating sensation (n, %)	Discomfort (n, %)
Appex, Unpublished	COT (Room air/Nasal cannula/Mask/HFNC)	134							28 (20·9)
	COT (Room air/Nasal cannula/Mask/HFNC)+APP	159							14 (8·8)
Ehrmann, 2021	HFNC	557	10 (1·8)	18 (3·2)	17 (3·1)	1 (0·2)			
	HFNC+APP	564	8 (1·4)	15 (2·7)	26 (4·6)	3 (0·5)			
Gad, 2021	NRM	15							
	NRM+APP	15							
Jayakumar, 2021	Standard care (Face mask/NRM)	30	0 (0)	0 (0)					0 (0)
	Standard care (Nasal Prongs/Face mask/NRM/HFNC/NIV) +APP	30	0 (0)	0 (0)					2 (6·7)
Johnson, 2021	Usual care (Room air/ nasal cannula)	15							
	Usual care (Room air/nasal cannula)+APP	15							
Kharat, 2021	Usual care (Nasal cannula)	17	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	Usual care (Nasal cannula) +APP	10	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	6 (60·0)	0 (0)	6 (60·0)
Rosén, 2021	HFNC/NIV	39	9 (23·1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2·6)			
	HFNC/NIV+APP	36	2 (5·6)	1 (2·8)	0 (0)	2 (5·6)			
Taylor, 2021	Usual care (Room air/ nasal cannula/HFNC/NIV)	13	0 (0)		0 (0)	0 (0)			
	Usual care (Nasal cannula/HFNC/NIV)+APP	27	0 (0)		0 (0)	0 (0)			
Harris, Unpublished	Usual care (Nasal cannula/NRM/HFNC/NIV)	30	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (3·3)		
	Usual care (Nasal cannula/NRM/HFNC/NIV)+APP	31	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)		
Fralick, Unpublished	Standard care (Nasal cannula/ venturi mask/HFNC)	122							
	Standard care (Nasal cannula/ venturi mask/HFNC)+APP	126							

Missing data was presented as blank. APP, awake prone positioning; COT, conventional oxygen therapy; HFNC, high-flow nasal cannula; NIV, non-invasive ventilation; NRM, non-rebreather mask; RCT, randomised controlled trial.

# Risks?

**Table S7. Adverse events of the included non-RCTs.**

Author, year	Interventions	Population	Skin breakdown (n, %)	Vomiting (n, %)	Central or arterial line dislodgement (n, %)	Cardiac arrest at any time (n, %)	Back pain (n, %)	Bloating sensation (n, %)	Discomfort (n, %)
Alsharif, 2021	Usual care (CPAP)	48							
	Usual care (CPAP)+APP	31							
Altinay, 2021	Usual care (NRM)	23							
	Usual care (NRM)+APP	25							
Barker, 2021	Usual care (NIV)	10							
	Usual care (NIV)+APP	10							
Fazzini, 2021	Usual care (HFNC/Facemask/CPAP)+APP<1h	12							
	Usual care (HFNC/Facemask/CPAP)+APP>1h	34							
Ferrando, 2020	Usual care (HFNC)	144							
	Usual care (HFNC)+APP	55							
Jagan, 2020	APP<1h or <5 occasions per day and for ≤ 1 continuous hour overnight	65							
	APP≥1h or ≥5 occasions per day and for ≥ 1 continuous hour overnight	40							
Padrão, 2020	Usual care (Nasal cannula/Venturi mask/NRM)	109				0 (0%)			
	Usual care (Nasal cannula/Venturi mask/NRM) +APP	57				0 (0%)	3 (5.3)		
Jouffroy, 2021	Usual care (COT/HFNC/NIV/CPAP)	339							
	Usual care (COT/HFNC/CPAP)+APP	40							
Loureiro-Amigo, 2021	Usual care	103							
	Usual care+APP	60							
Meredith, 2020	Non-self proning	87							
	Self-proning	26							
Ni, 2021	Usual care	35	0 (0%)						
	Usual care+APP	20	0 (0%)						
Pierucci, 2021	Usual care (HFNC/CPAP/NIV)	16							
	Usual care (HFNC/CPAP/NIV)+APP	16							
Perez-Nieto, 2021	Usual care (Nasal cannula/NRM/HFNC)	322							
	Usual care (Nasal cannula/NRM/HFNC) +APP	505							
Sryma, 2021	Usual care (COT/HFNC/NIV)	15				0 (0%)	0 (0%)		
	Usual care (COT/HFNC/NIV)+APP	30				2 (6.6)	2 (6.7)		
Vianello, 2021	Usual care (HFNC)	43							
	Usual care (HFNC)+APP	50							
Prudhomme, 2021	Usual care (COT/HFNC)	48							
	Usual care (COT/HFNC)+APP	48							
Simioli, 2021	Usual care (HFNC/CPAP)	11							
	Usual care (HFNC/CPAP)+APP	18							
Tonelli, 2021	Usual care (HFNC/NIV)	76							
	Usual care (HFNC/NIV)+APP	38							
Zang, 2020	Usual care (Face mask)	37							
	Usual care (Face mask)+APP	23							

Missing data was presented as blank. APP, awake prone positioning; COT, conventional oxygen therapy; CPAP, continuous positive airway pressure; HFNC, high-flow nasal cannula; NIV, non-invasive ventilation; NRM, non-rebreather mask; RCT, randomised controlled trial.

# Risks?

	Awake prone positioning group (n=564)	Standard care group (n=557)
Safety outcomes		
Skin breakdown	8 (1%)	10 (2%)
Vomiting	15 (3%)	18 (3%)
Central or arterial line dislodgement	26 (5%)	17 (3%)
Cardiac arrest at any time†	3 (1%)	1 (0%)

**No cardiac arrest related to prone**

# Rational?

Yes



# Benefits?

Yes



# Risks?

Yes



*Thank you very much for your attention*



stephanehrmann@gmail.com



Thank you to the AWP meta-trial core group