

# ECMO

## ATS Fellows Track Symposium

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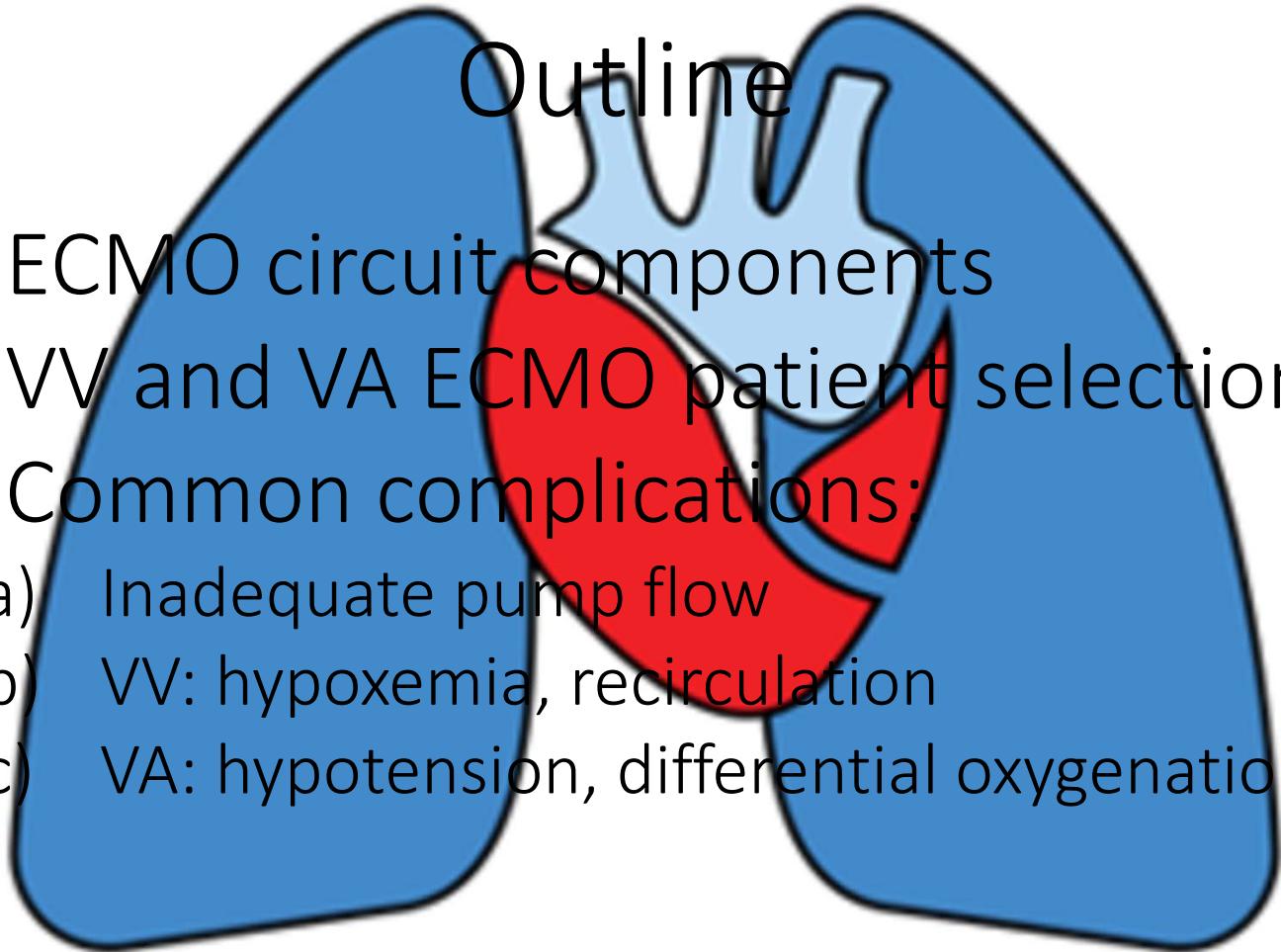


badulakj@uw.edu



@JenelleBadulak

# No Disclosures

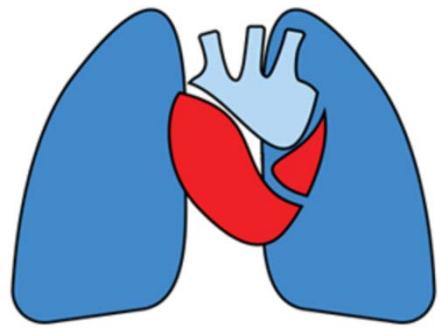


# Outline

1. ECMO circuit components
2. VV and VA ECMO patient selection
3. Common complications:
  - a) Inadequate pump flow
  - b) VV: hypoxemia, recirculation
  - c) VA: hypotension, differential oxygenation

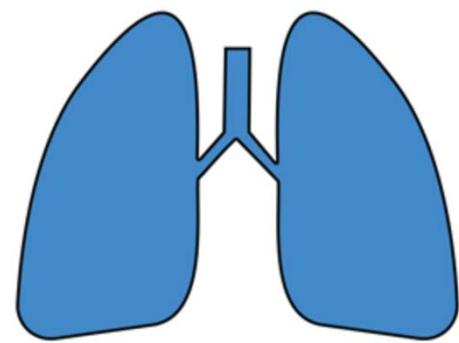
# Circuit Components

## Veno-arterial (VA)

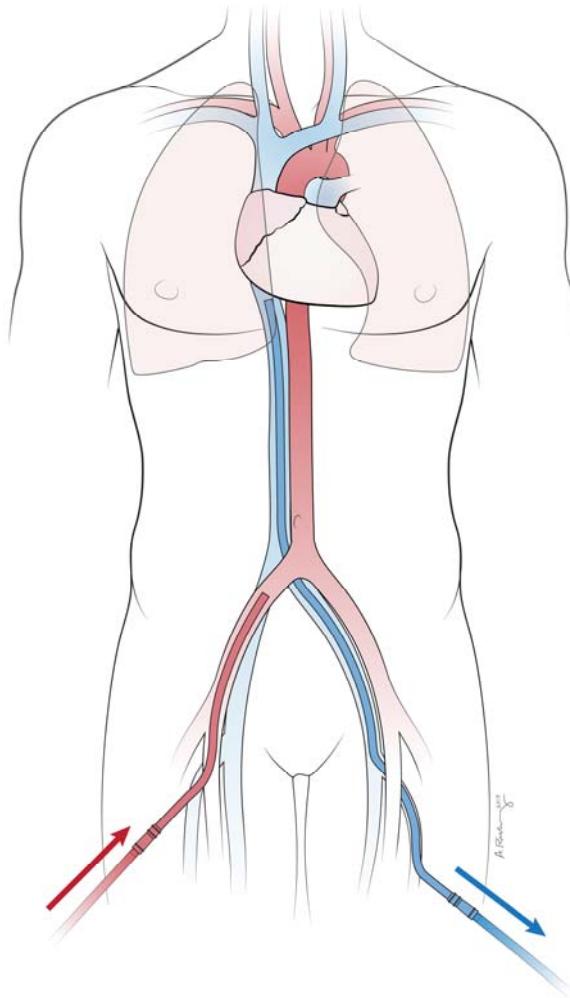


Venous → Pump → Gas Exchange → Arterial

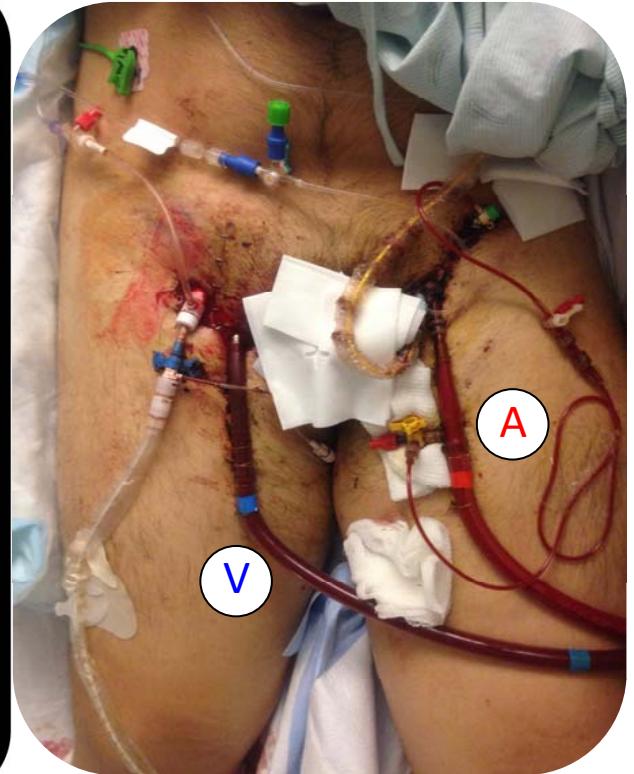
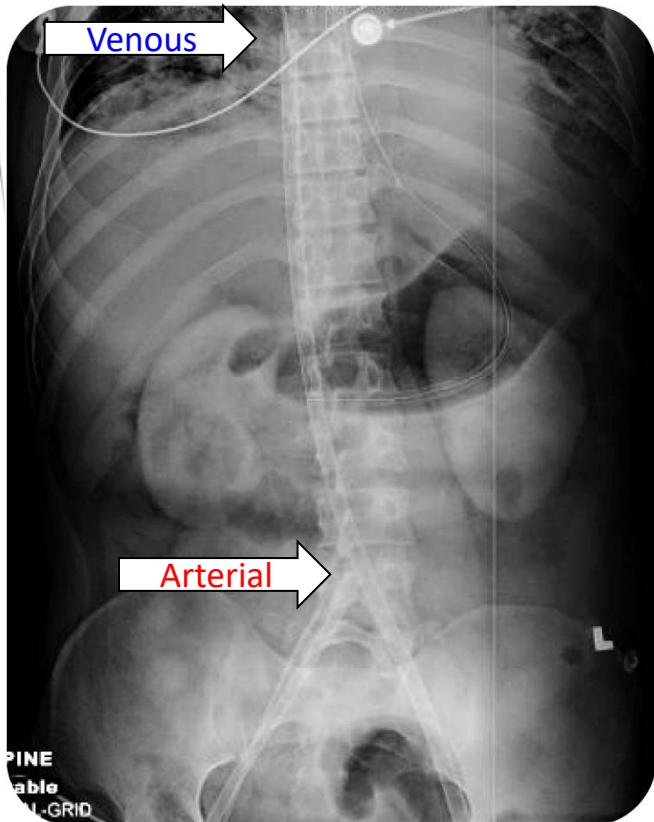
## Veno-venous (VV)



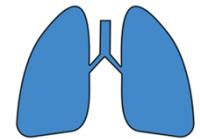
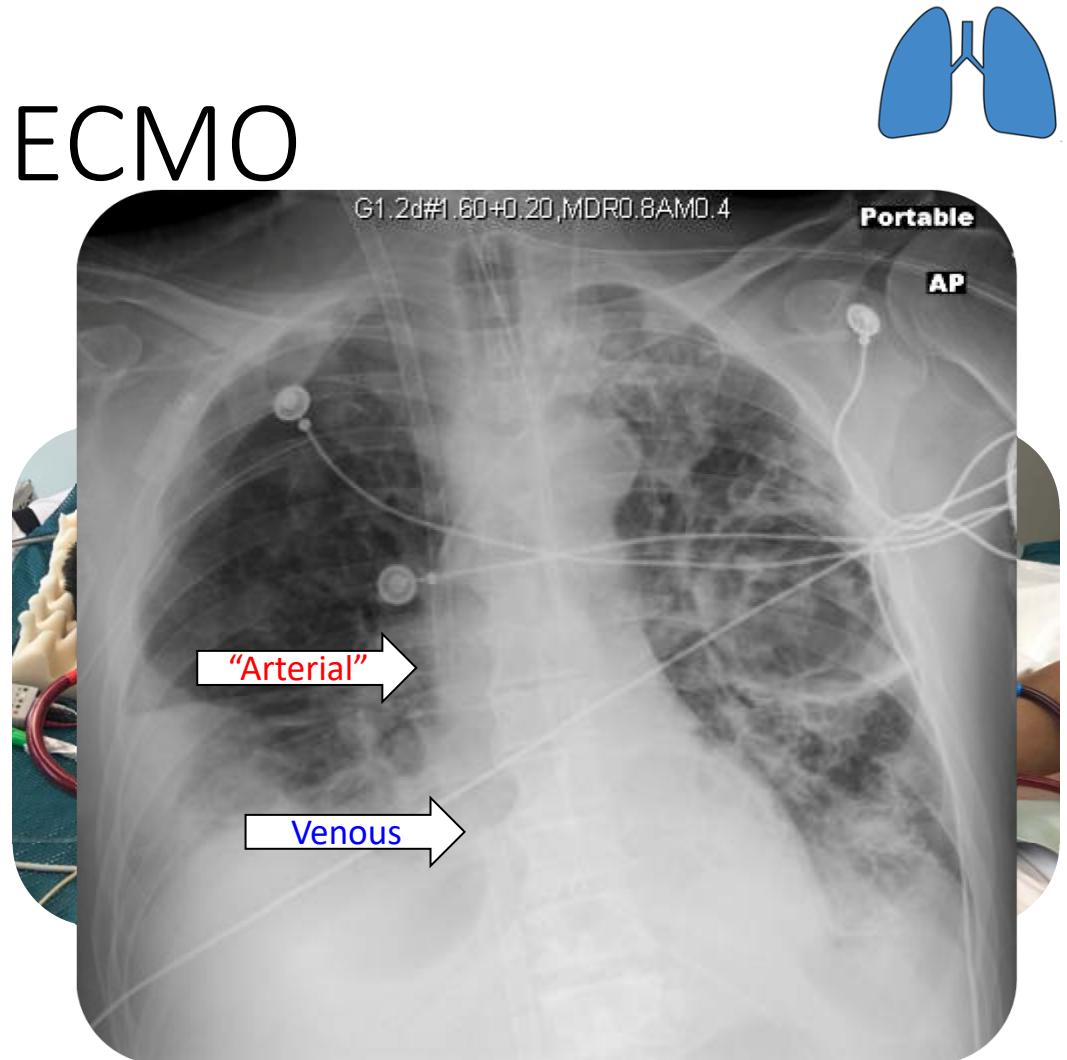
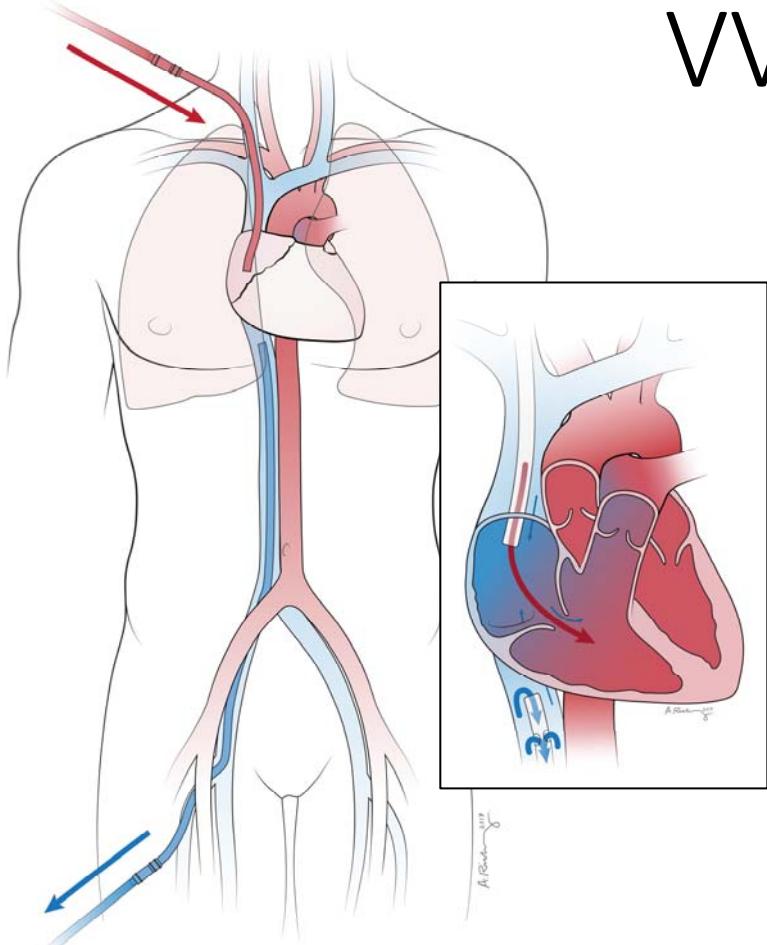
Venous → Pump → Gas Exchange → Venous



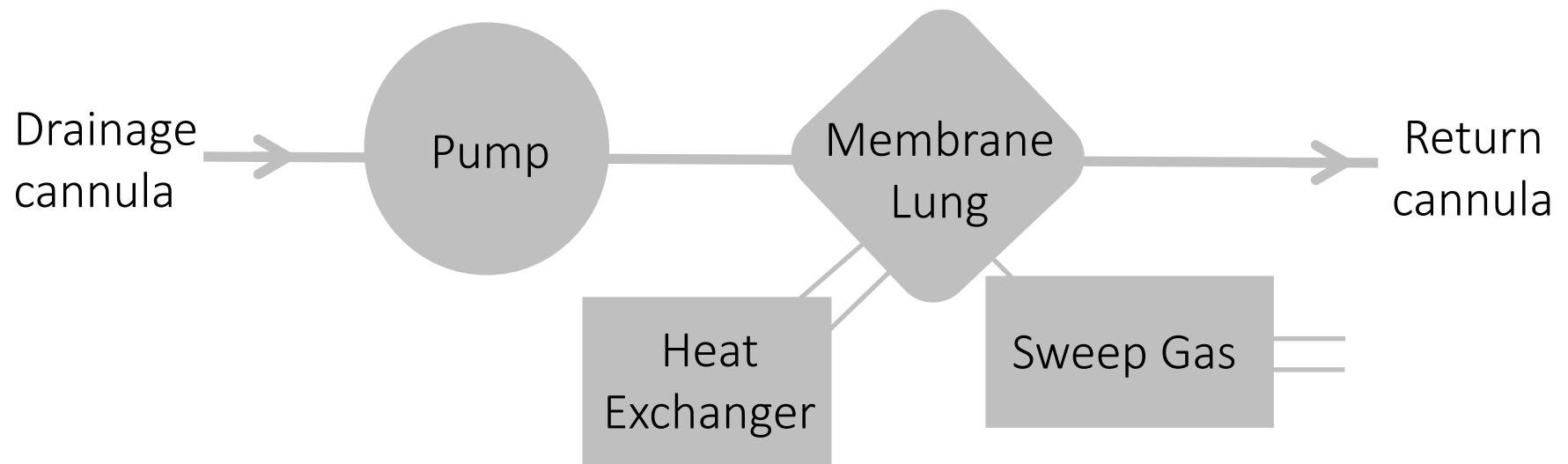
# VA ECMO

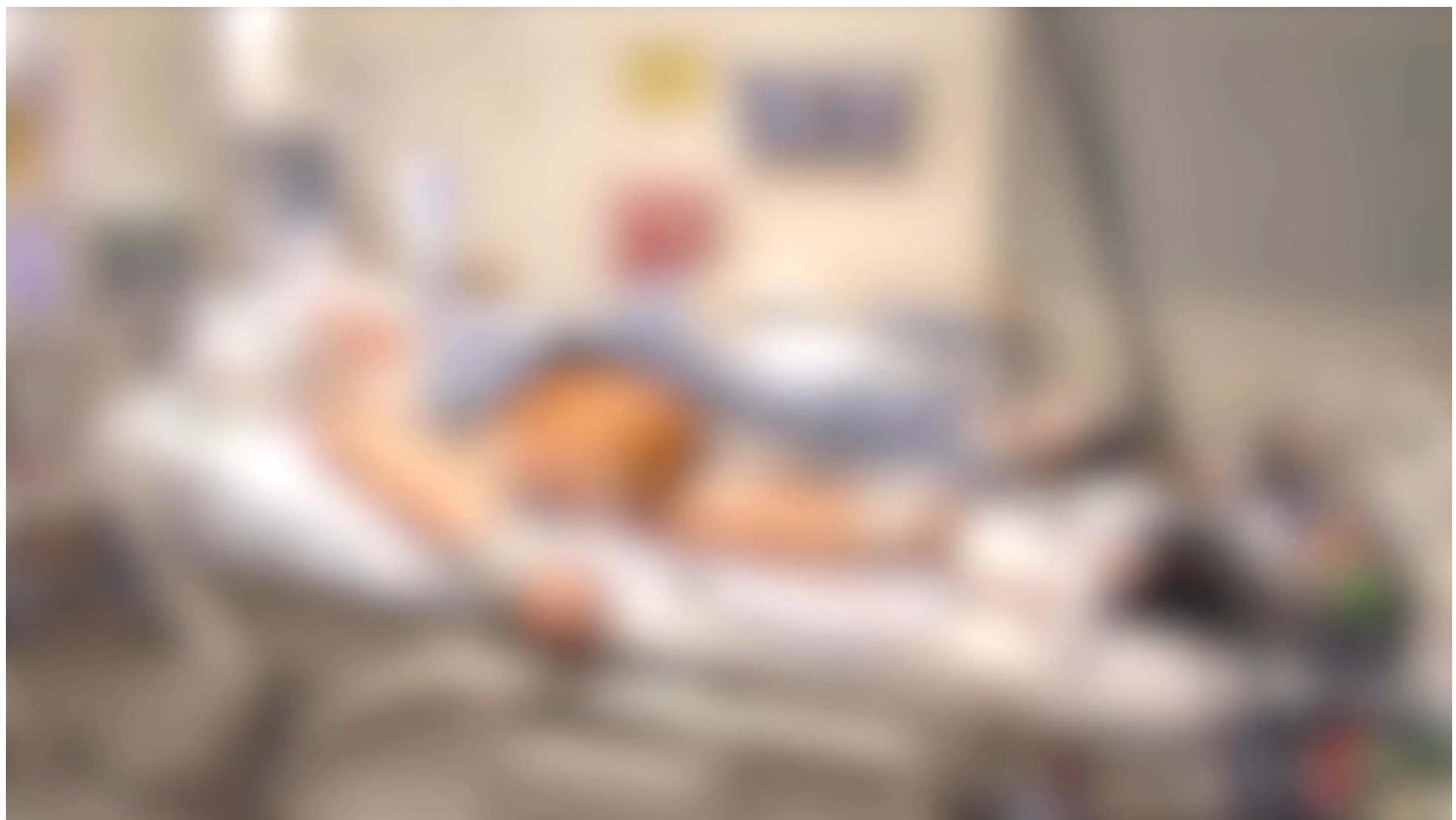


# VV ECMO



# The Circuit





## Pump Console Screen

ECMO Blood Flow ( $\dot{V}$ )

4.37 lpm

3620 rpm

Venous Pressure ( $P_{ven}$ )

-73 mmHg

275 mmHg

Internal Pressure ( $P_{int}$ )

300 mmHg

37.3 °C

$$\Delta P = P_{int} - P_{art}$$

25 mmHg

78.2 %

Pump Speed

Arterial Pressure ( $P_{art}$ )

Temperature ( $T_{art}$ )

Pre-membrane saturation ( $S_vO_2$ )



# Patient Selection

# Meet Steve

35 M COVID19 ARDS day 4 IMV, prone, neuromuscular blockade, inhaled epoprostenol

VC  
Vt 5cc/kg  
RR 35  
FiO<sub>2</sub> 100%  
PEEP 18  
Pplat 35



pH 7.22  
PaCO<sub>2</sub> 60  
PaO<sub>2</sub> 47  
SpO<sub>2</sub> 83%



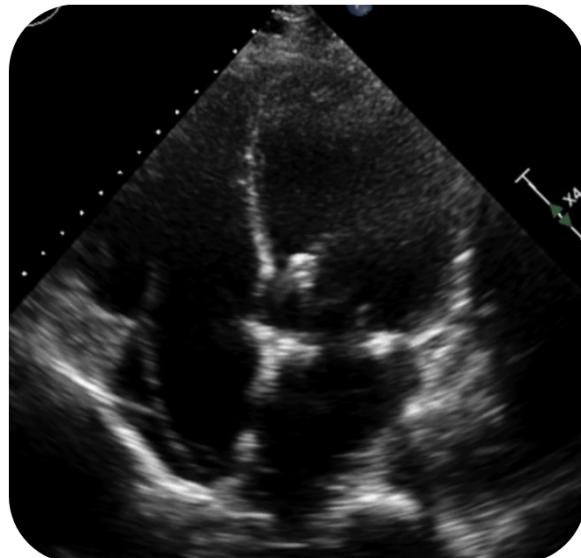
0.15 mcg/kg/min

VV ECMO candidate?

# Meet Sandy

55 F with palpitations for “a while”, hypotensive, rapid Afib, cool extremities  
Intubated, DCCV, amiodarone, persistently hypotensive, end organ dysfunction

VC  
Vt 8cc/kg  
RR 30  
FiO<sub>2</sub> 40%  
PEEP 5  
SpO<sub>2</sub> 98%



RA 18  
RV 36/17  
PA 35/25(28)  
Wedge 24  
SvO<sub>2</sub> 35%  
CI 1.3(thermo)  
BP 81/62



0.3 mcg/kg/min



10 mcg/kg/min



0.08 mcg/kg/min

VA ECMO candidate?



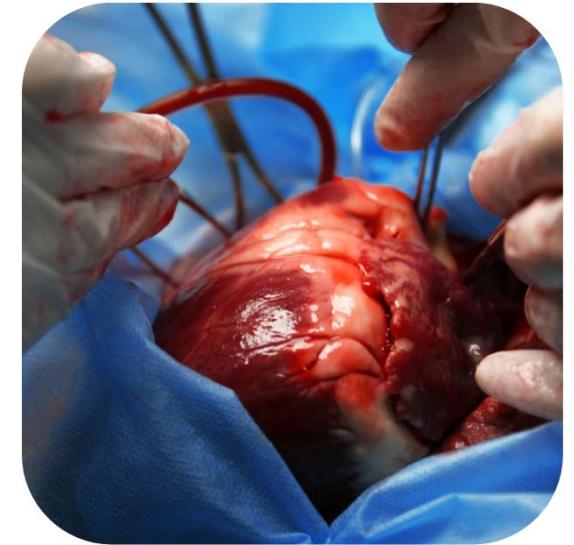
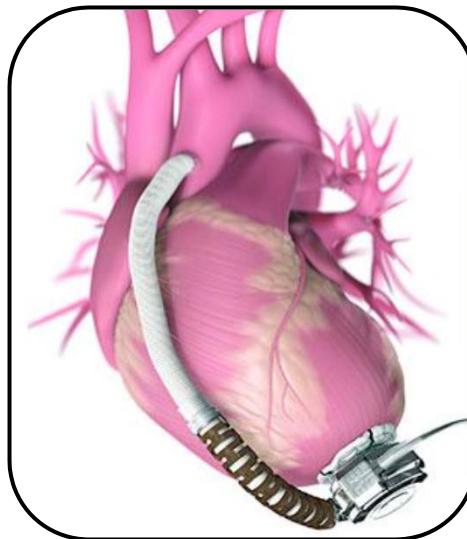
# General Indications for ECMO

- Acute severe cardiopulmonary failure with high mortality risk refractory to conventional therapy
- Bridge to recovery, durable organ replacement... or decision

Use ECMO for a disease process with a solution

# ECMO Discontinuation Strategies

Recovery



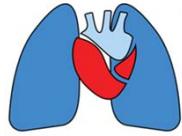
End Of Life Care



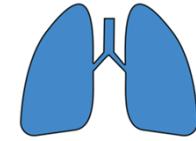
# General Contraindications for ECMO

- Futility: too sick (irreversible multi-organ failure), on conventional therapy too long
- Preexisting life-limiting conditions: central nervous system pathology, end stage diseases (ESRD, cirrhosis, malignancy)
- Advanced age
- Limited vascular access

# Disease-specific Indications



VA ECMO	VV ECMO
Refractory cardiogenic shock	Severe ARDS
Cardiac arrest (ECPR)	Refractory hypercarbia
Massive pulmonary embolus	Pulmonary injury
Environmental hypothermia	Bronchopleural fistula
Cardiotoxic ingestion	Bridge to lung transplant
Post-cardiac surgery	Post-thoracic surgery



# Severity of Respiratory Failure

## CESAR Inclusion Criteria<sup>1</sup>

Murray score > 3  
or  
pH < 7.2

## Modified Murray Lung Injury Score<sup>2</sup>

CXR quadrant consolidation

$\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2$

PEEP

Respiratory system compliance

## EOLIA Inclusion Criteria<sup>3</sup>

$\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 < 50$   
for > 3 hrs

$\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 < 80$   
for > 6 hrs

pH < 7.25 and  $\text{PaCO}_2 > 60 \text{ mm Hg}$  for > 6 hrs

Despite maximal conventional therapy

<sup>1</sup>Peek et al. Lancet (2009) 374: 1351–63, <sup>2</sup>Murray et al. Am Rev Respir Dis (1988) 138:720-723, <sup>3</sup>Combes et al. N Engl J Med (2018) 378:1965-75



# VV ECMO ARDS Outcomes

Study	Design	Table 1	Intervention (n)	Survival
CESAR Lancet 2009	RCT	P:F 75, PEEP 14 pH 7.1	ECMO referred (90) Usual care (90)	63% 47% (p = 0.03)
Noah H1N1 JAMA 2011	Prosp. cohort	P:F 55	ECMO referred (80) Matched control (195)	76% 50% (p < 0.01)
EOLIA NEJM 2018	RCT	P:F 72, PEEP 12 pH 7.24	ECMO (124) Usual care (125)	65% 54% (p = 0.09)



# VA ECMO Outcomes

Study	Design	n	Data Source	Etiology of shock	Survival
Lorusso 2016	Cohort	57	13 centers Italy & UK	Myocarditis	71.9%
Aso 2016	Cohort	4,658	> 1k centers Japan	Ischemic 42.2%, ADHF 34.8%, valvular 13.7%, myocarditis 4%, cardiomyopathy 4.1%	26.4%
Truby 2015	Cohort	179	Single center New York City	Post-cardiotomy 39%, MI 26%, primary graft failure 10%, ADHF 13%	44.7%
Biancari 2018	Meta-analysis	2,986	31 studies International	Post-cardiotomy	36.1%
Meneveau 2018	Case series	52	9 centers France	Pulmonary embolism	39%

Acute decompensated heart failure (ADHF), myocardial infarction (MI)

# ECLS Registry Report

International Summary

January, 2020



Extracorporeal Life Support Organization  
2800 Plymouth Road  
Building 300, Room 303  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

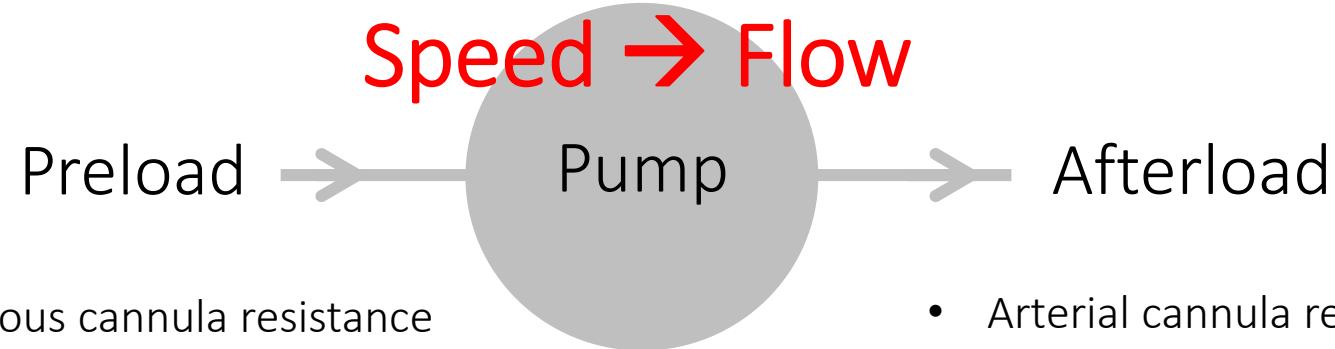
## Overall Outcomes

	Total Runs	Survived ECLS	Survived to DC or Transfer	
Adult				
Pulmonary	24,395	16,971	69%	14,714
Cardiac	25,488	15,184	59%	11,191
ECPR	8,075	3,363	41%	2,387

Extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation (ECPR)

# Physiology

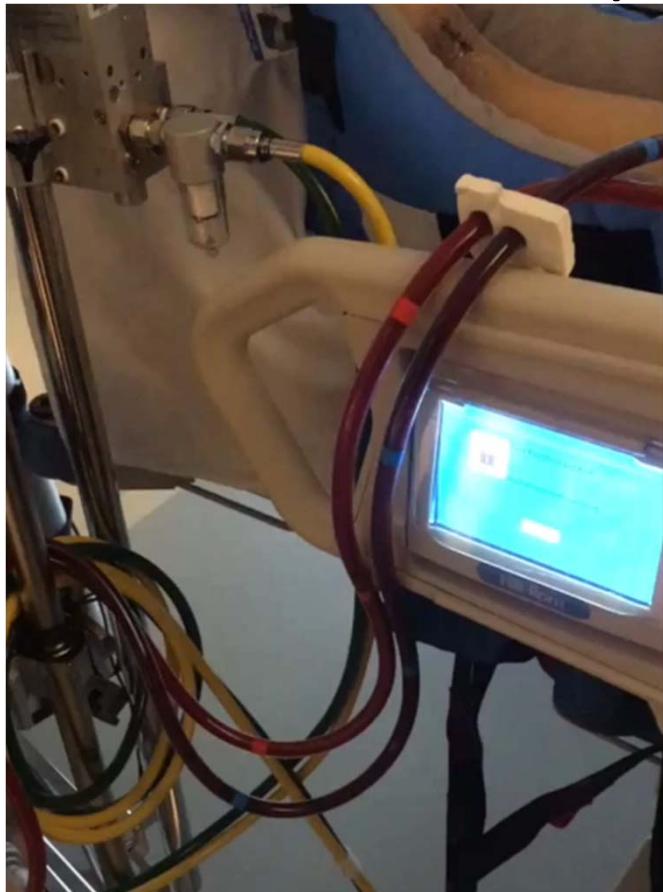
# The Pump



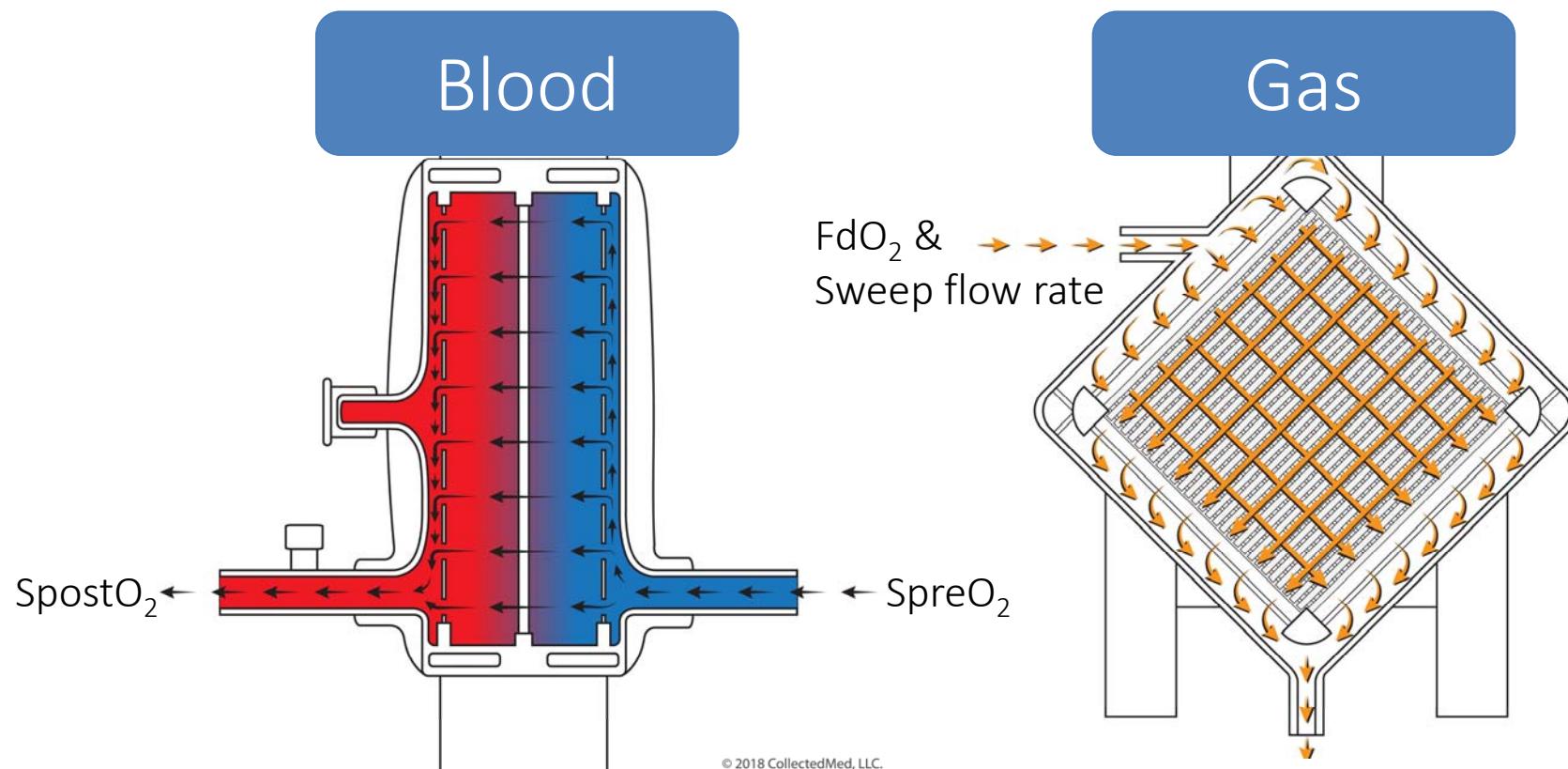
Preload sensitive and afterload limited

Systemic vascular resistance (SVR), mean arterial pressure (MAP)

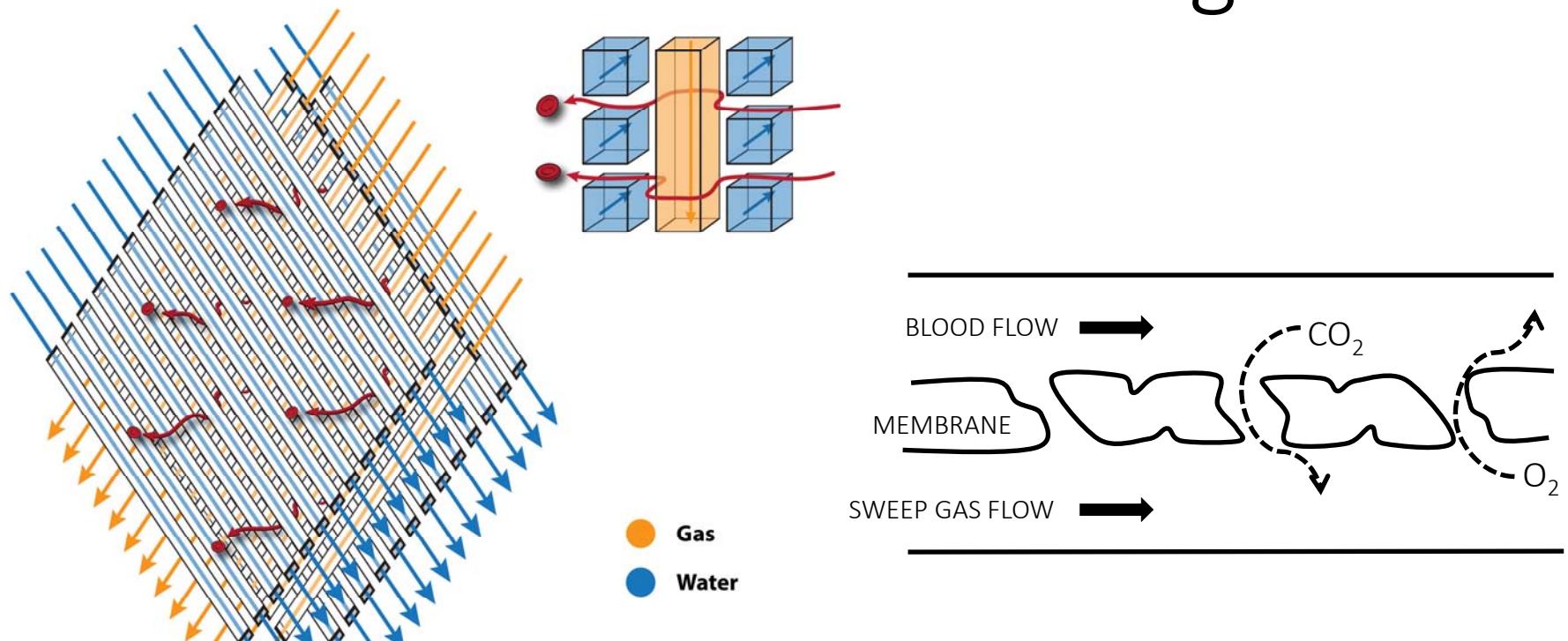
# Inadequate Pump Preload



# The Membrane Lung



# The Membrane Lung

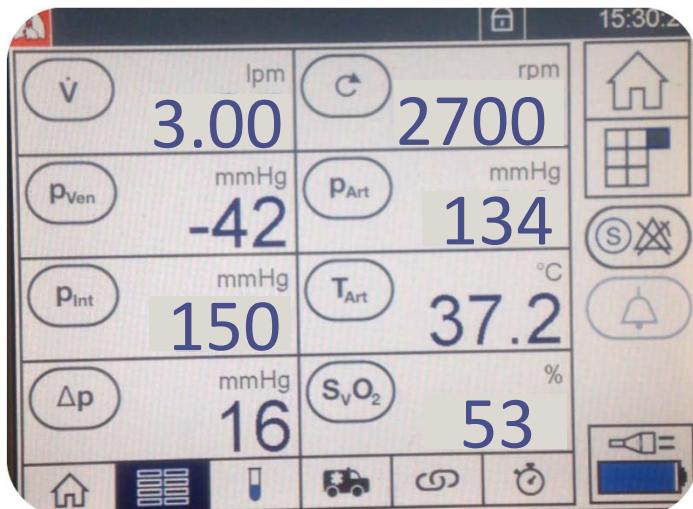


Increase sweep flow rate to remove more  $\text{CO}_2$

VV ECMO

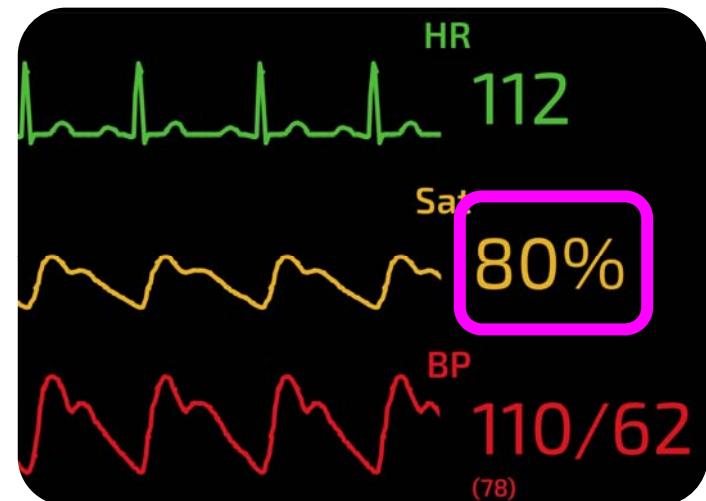
# VV Day 1

Steve is cannulated for VV ECMO



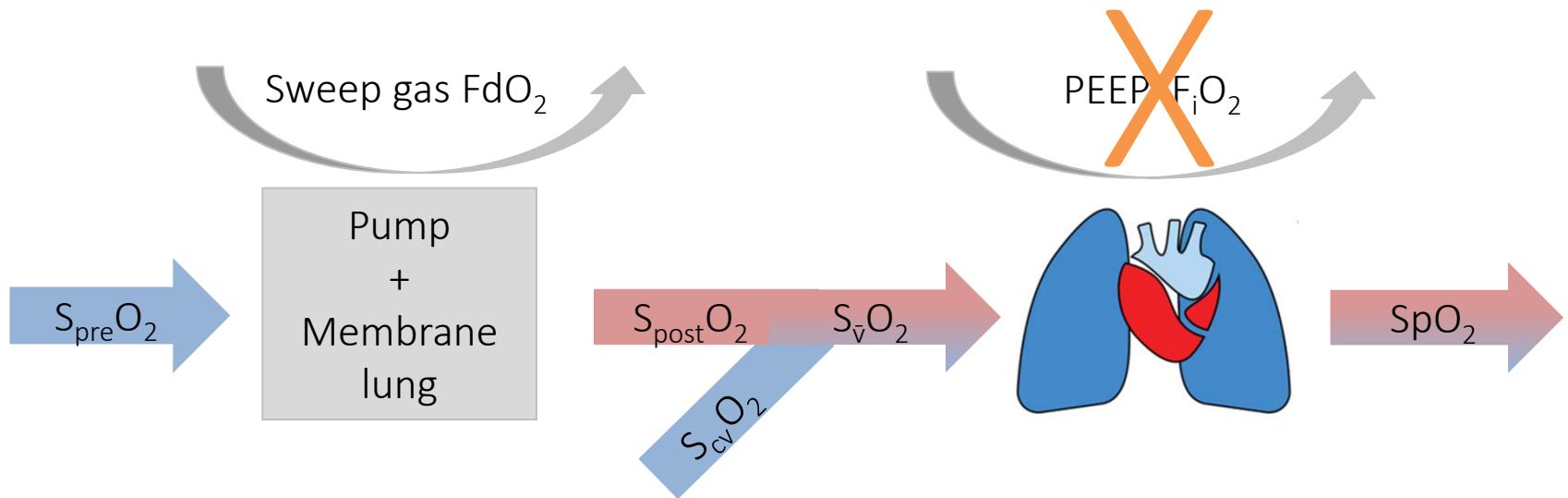
Sweep: 3 L/min,  $FdO_2$ : 100%

PC  
Ppeak14  
RR 10  
FiO<sub>2</sub> 40%  
PEEP 10  
Vt 150cc



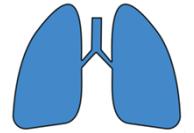
Pressure control ventilation (PC)

## How can we improve $SpO_2$ ?

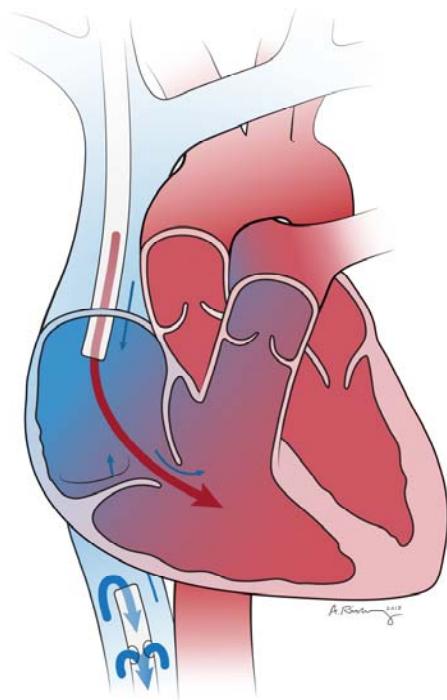


Two circulations in series

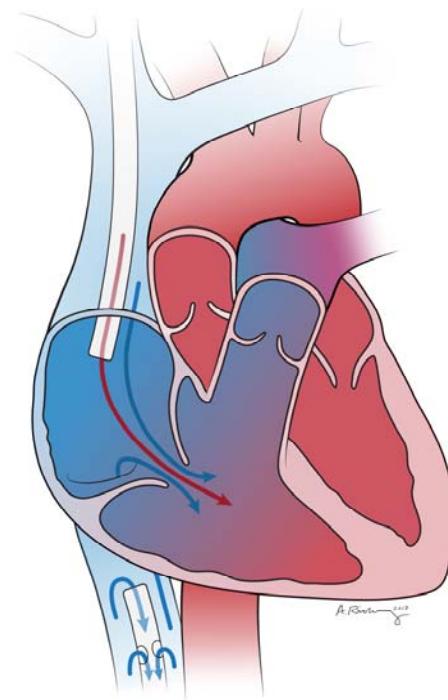
saturation pre-membrane ( $S_{\text{pre}}O_2$ )  
saturation post-membrane ( $S_{\text{post}}O_2$ )  
Fraction delivered oxygen percentage ( $F_dO_2$ )



High ECMO: Q



Low ECMO: Q

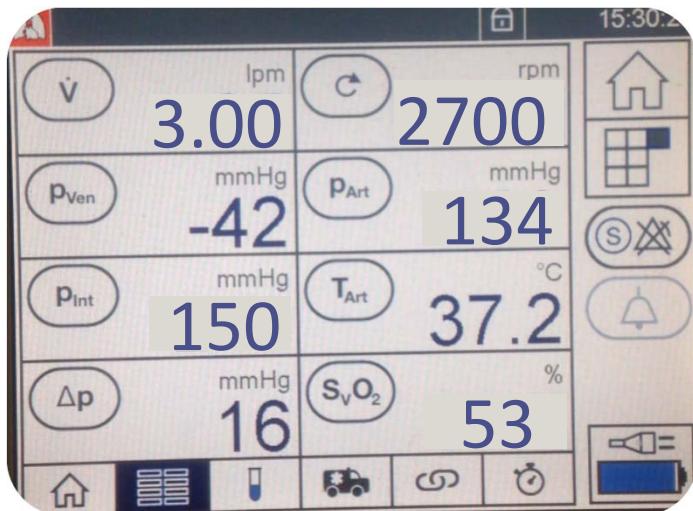


ECMO blood flow → Oxygenation

Schmidt et al. *Intensive Care Med.* 2013;39(5):838-846.

# VV Day 1

Steve is cannulated for VV ECMO



Sweep: 3 L/min, FdO<sub>2</sub>: 100%

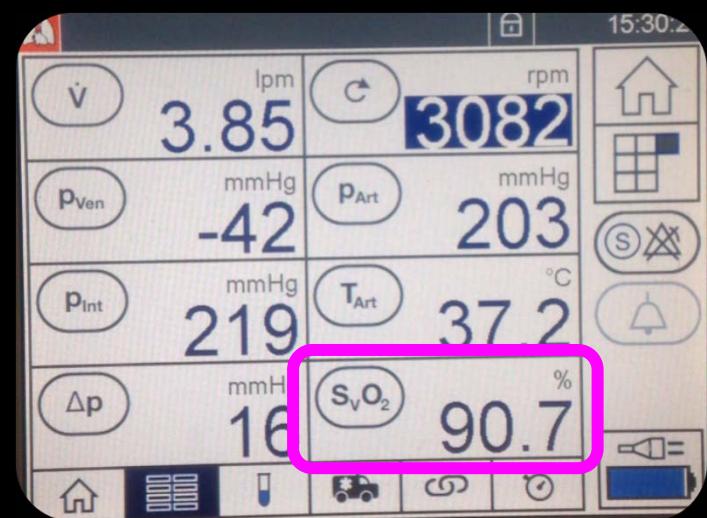
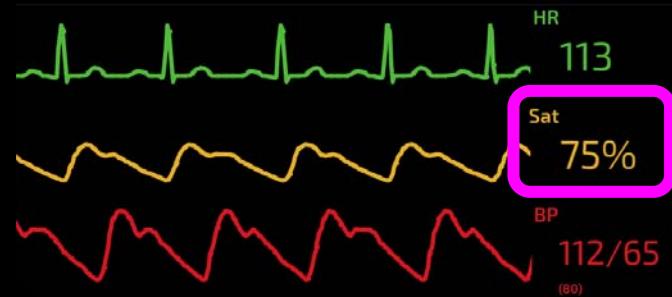
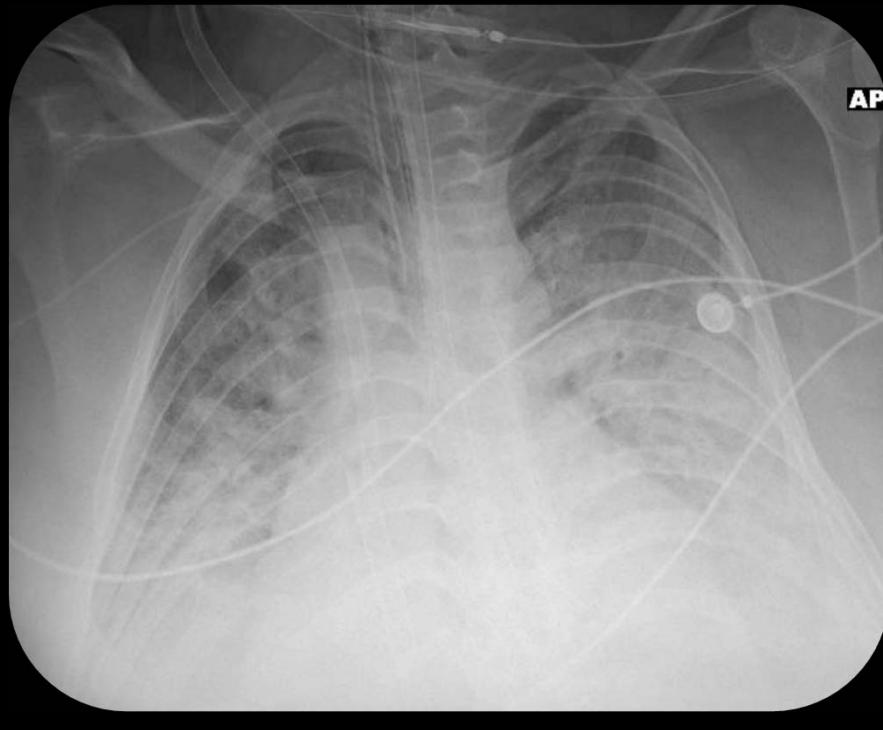
PC  
Ppeak14  
RR 10  
FiO2 40%  
PEEP 10  
Vt 150cc

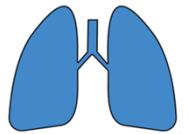


Increase ECMO blood flow!

Pressure control ventilation (PC)

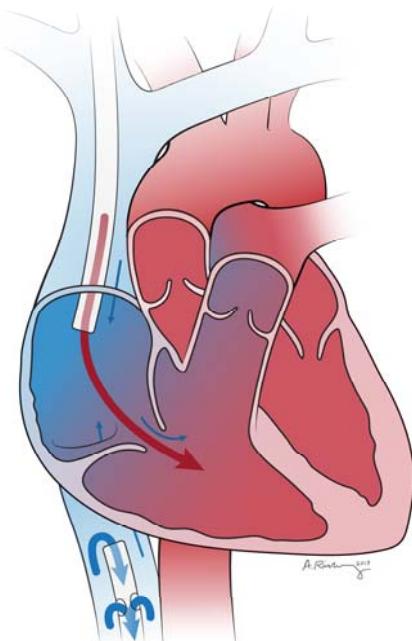
# VV Day 3



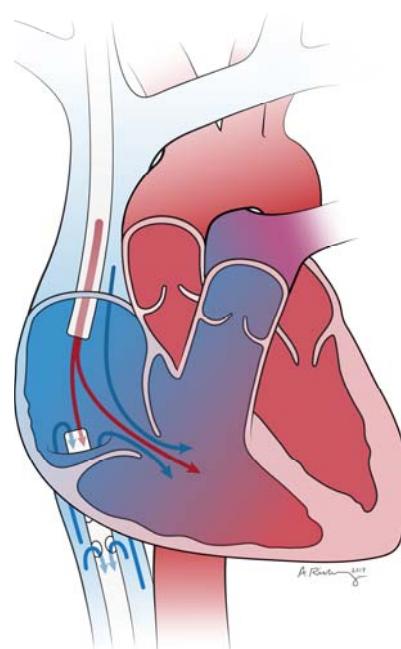


# Recirculation

Normal



Recirculation



## Signs:

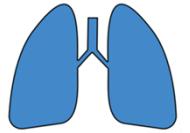
- Falling  $S_pO_2$
- Rising  $S_{pre}O_2$
- Both cannulas bright red

## Treatment:

- Decrease speed
- Adjust cannula position

Abrams et al. ASAIO Journal 2015; 61:115–121

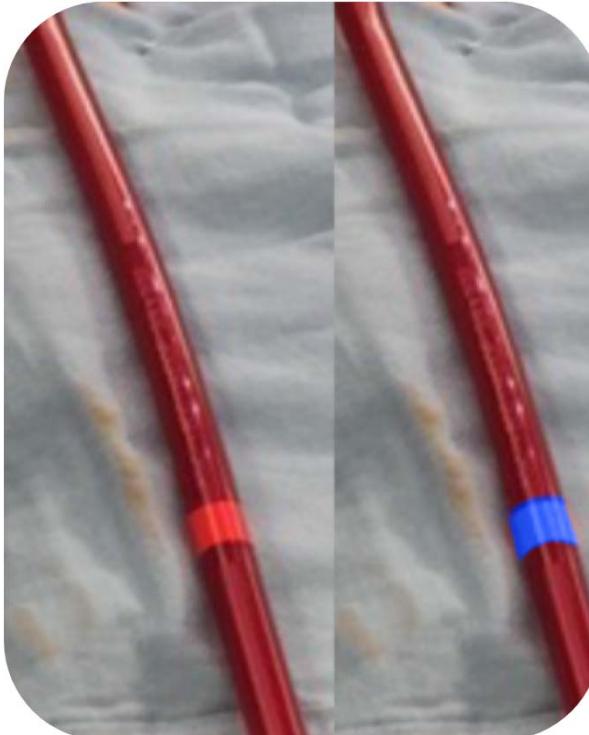
$O_2$  saturation of venous drainage cannula ( $S_{VD}O_2$ )



# Check tubing color



Normal



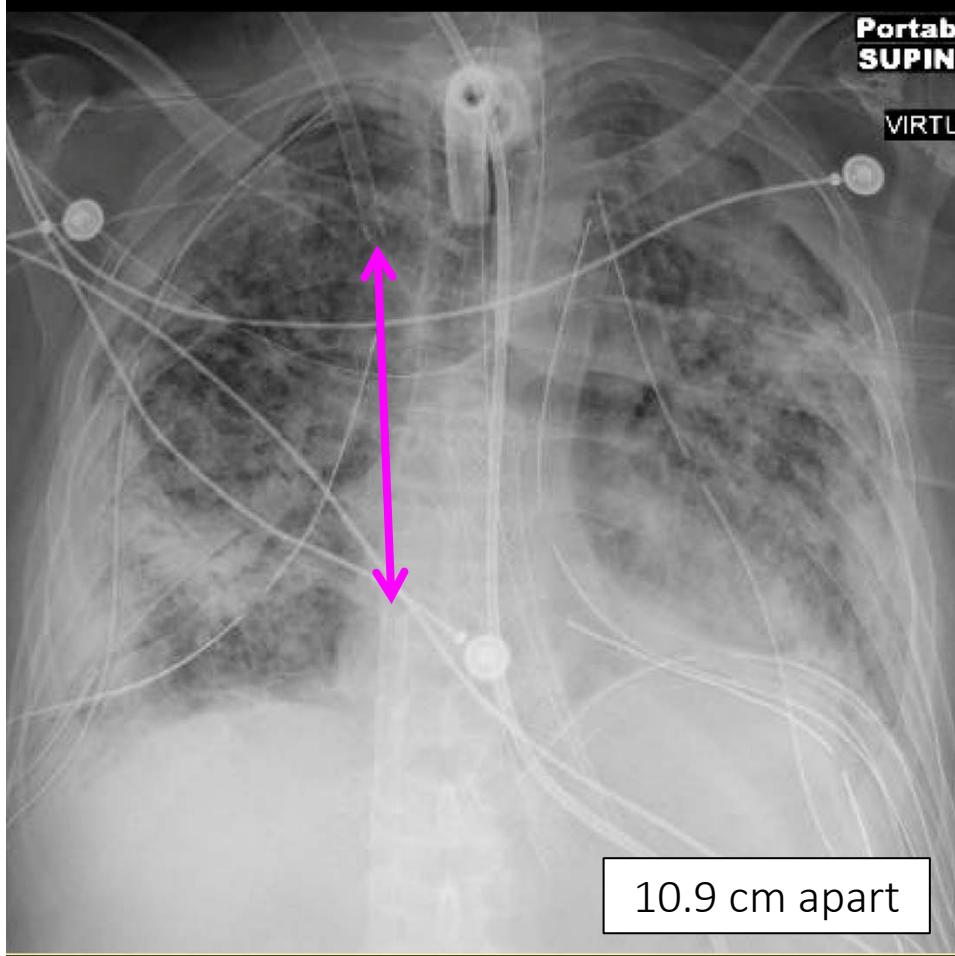
Recirculation



Membrane lung failure

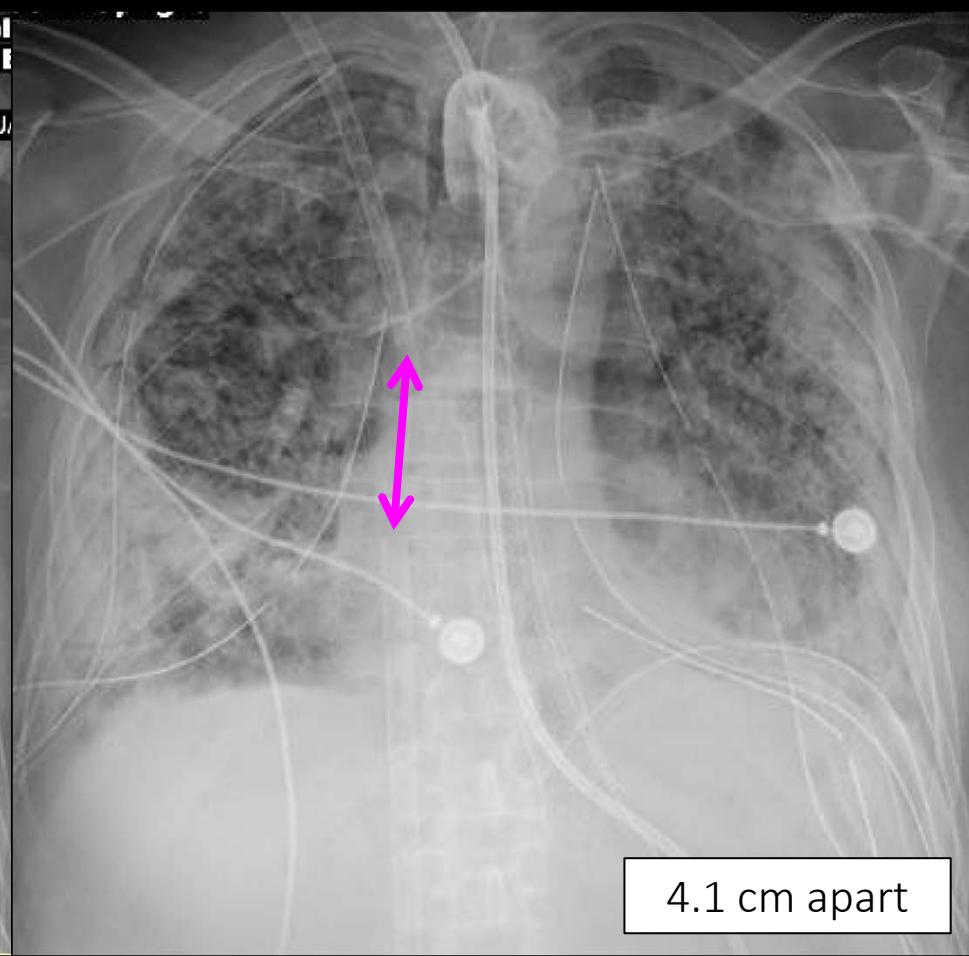
Normal

Portable  
SUPINE  
VIRTU



10.9 cm apart

Recirculation



4.1 cm apart

# VV ECMO Hypoxemia?

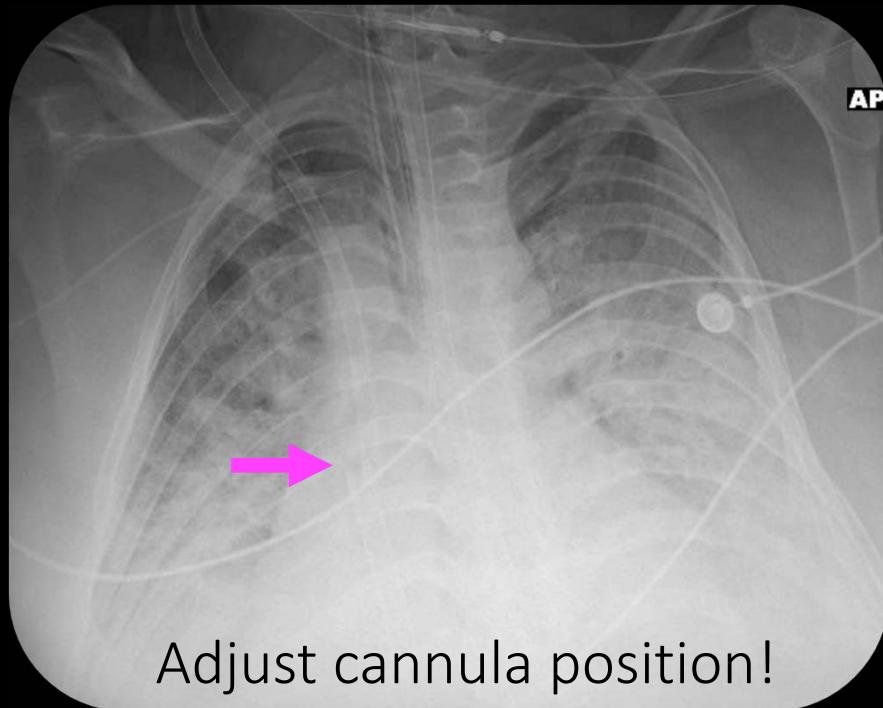
ECMO blood  
flow

Tubing color  
change

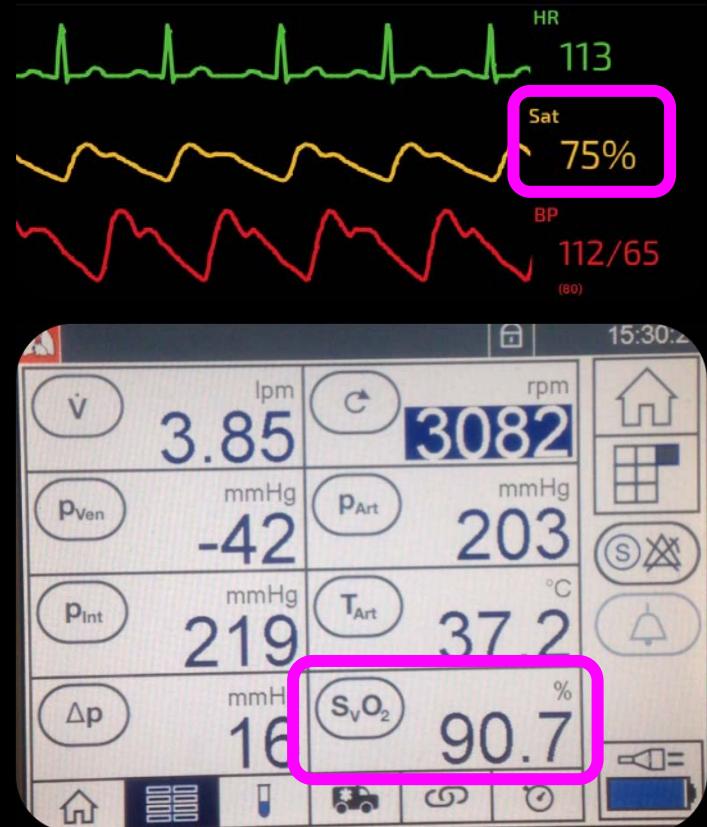
SpreO<sub>2</sub>

saturation pre-membrane ( $S_{\text{pre}}O_2$ )

# VV Day 3



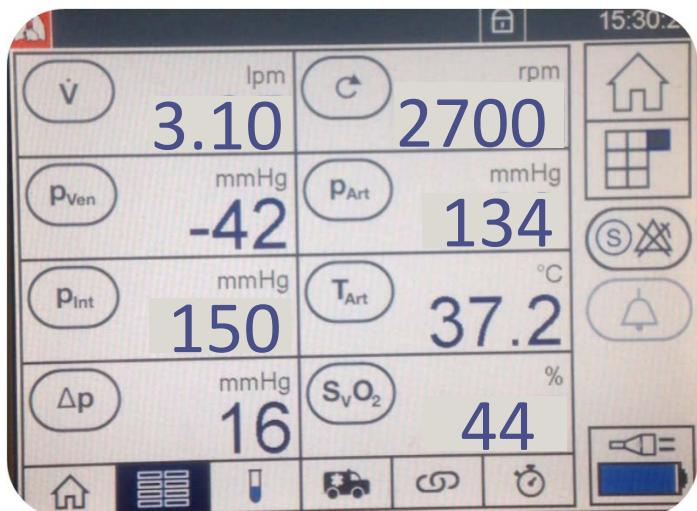
Adjust cannula position!



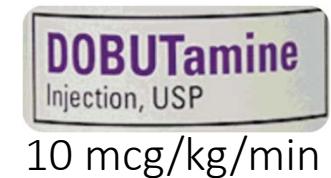
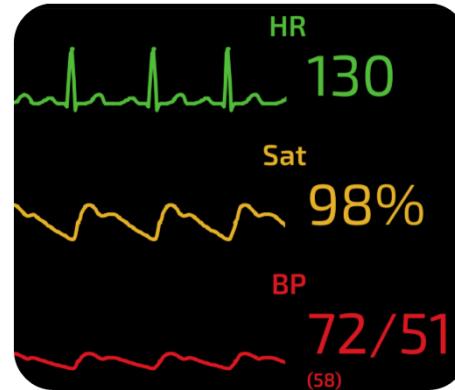
VA ECMO

# VA Day 1

Sandy is cannulated for VA ECMO



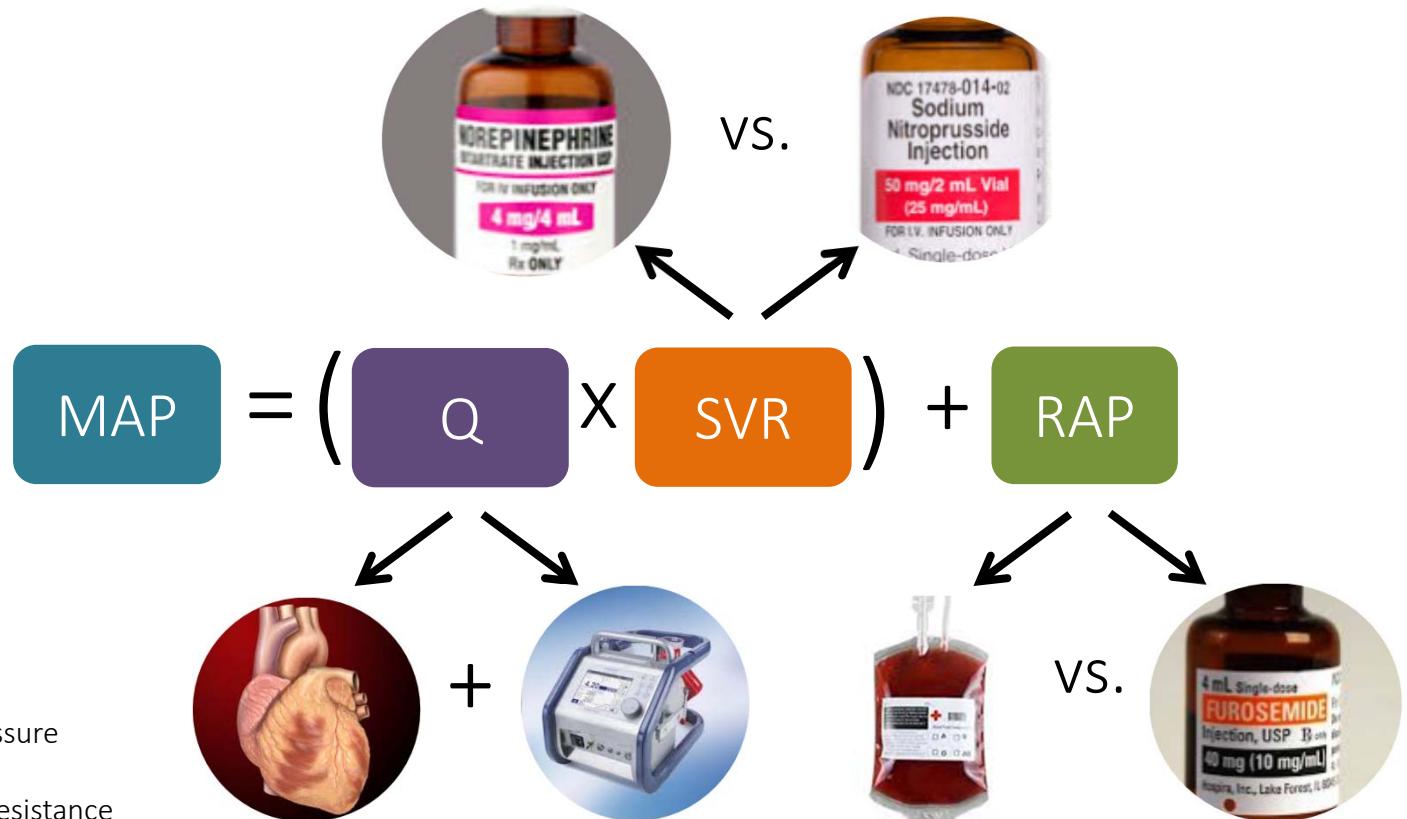
Sweep: 2 L/min, FdO<sub>2</sub>: 100%



How should we improve blood pressure?

Fraction delivered oxygen percentage (FdO<sub>2</sub>)

# VA ECMO Hemodynamics



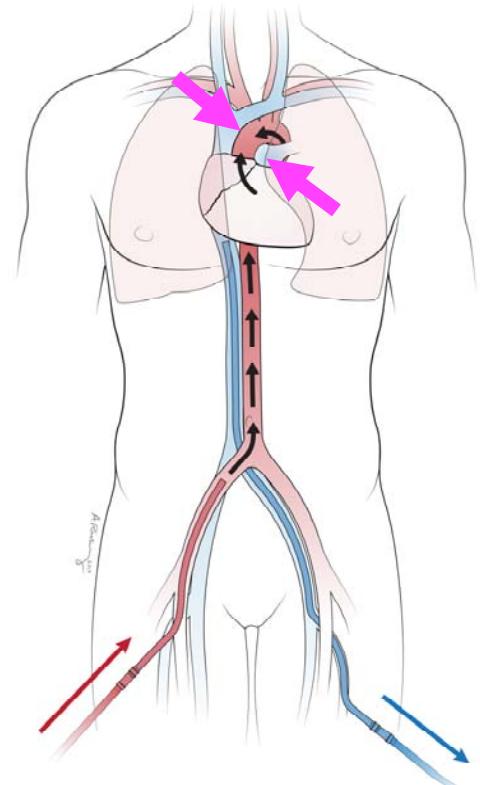
MAP: mean arterial pressure

Q: flow

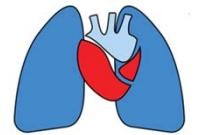
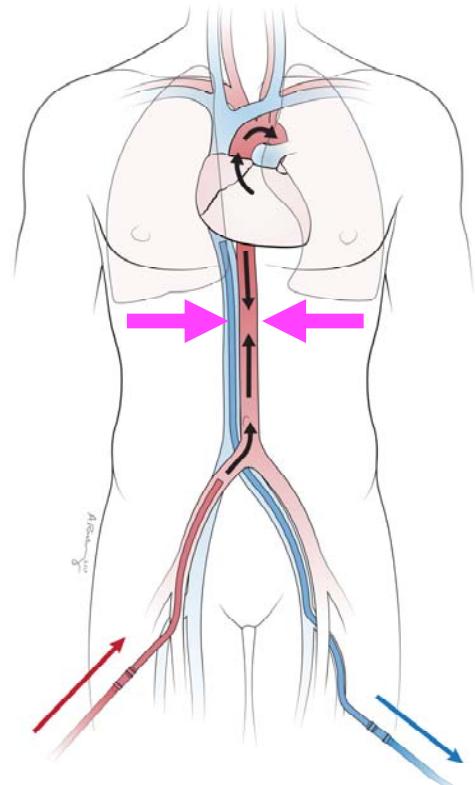
SVR: systemic vascular resistance

RAP: right atrial pressure

↑ ECMO Flow to Cardiac Output Ratio



↓ ECMO Flow to Cardiac Output Ratio

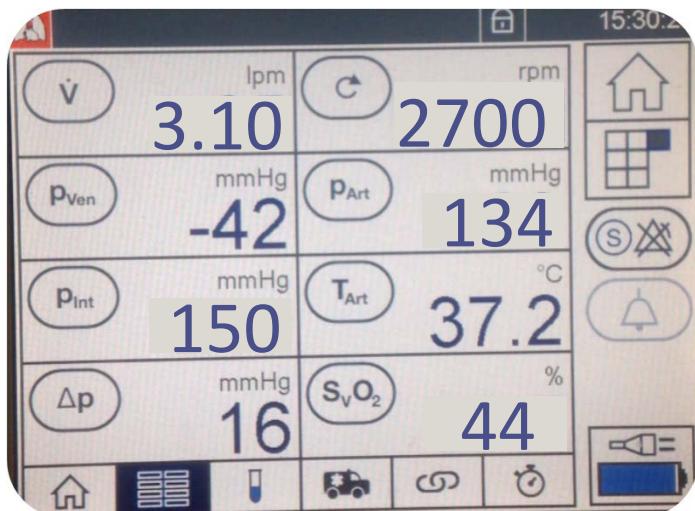


Total systemic blood flow = ECMO Flow + CO

Stevens et al. *J Biomech.* 2017;55:64-70

# VA Day 1

Sandy is cannulated for VA ECMO



Sweep: 2 L/min, FdO<sub>2</sub>: 100%

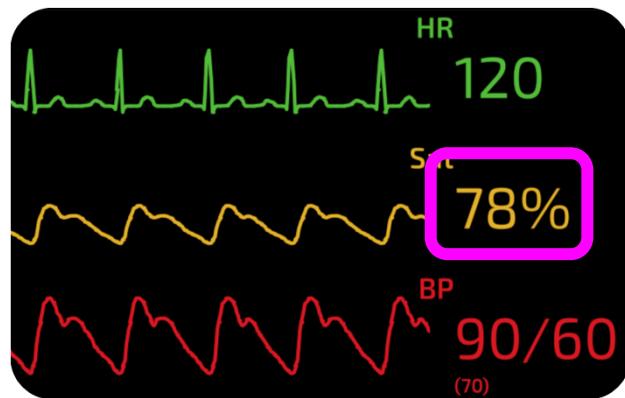


Increase ECMO blood flow!

Fraction delivered oxygen percentage (FdO<sub>2</sub>)

# VA Day 4

- LVEF now 20% (was 10%)
- Ventilator starts alarming with increased peak pressure on volume control



Norepinephrine  
Bitartrate  
Injection, USP  
0.04 mcg/kg/min

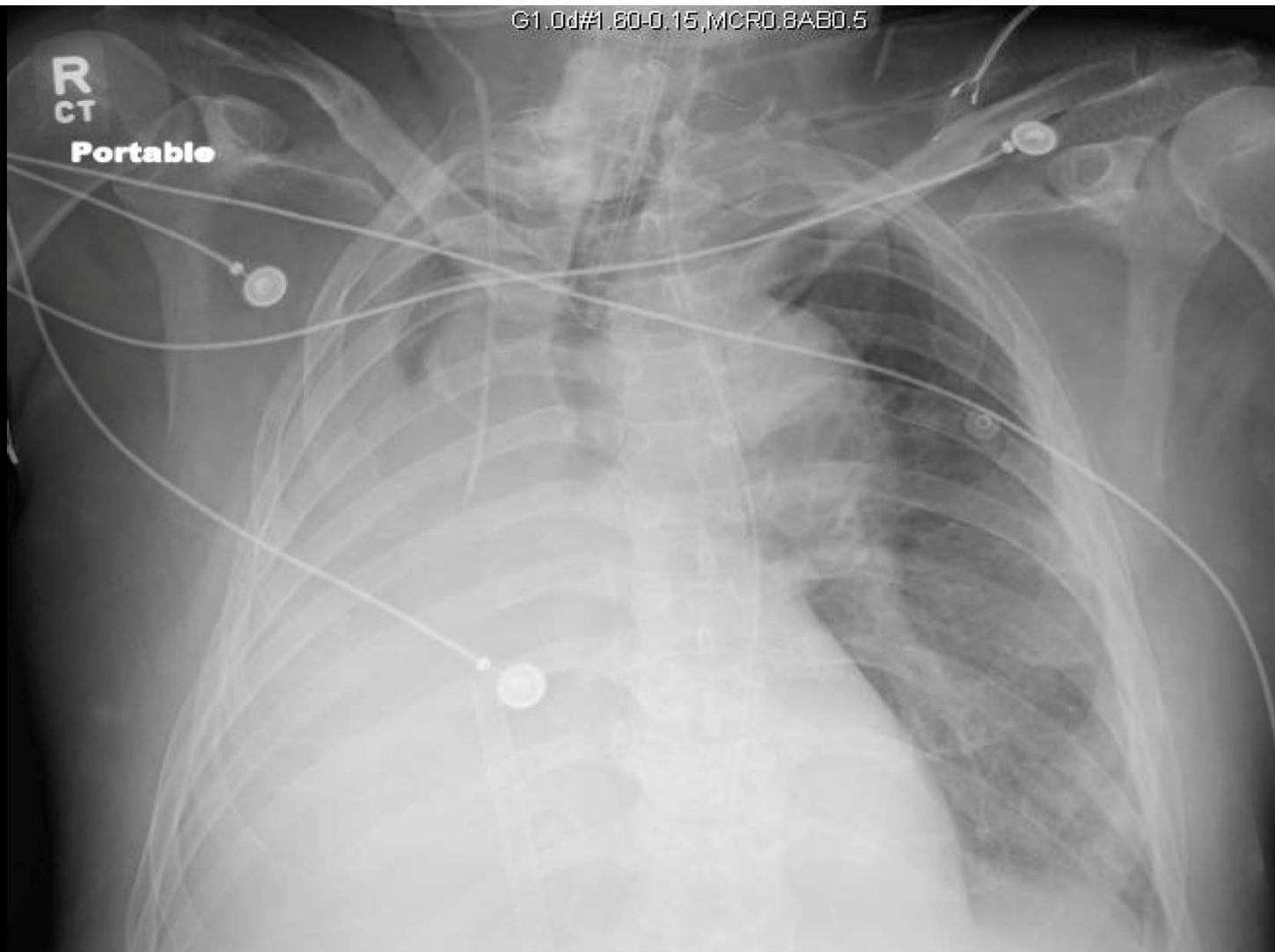
DOBUTamine  
Injection, USP  
3 mcg/kg/min

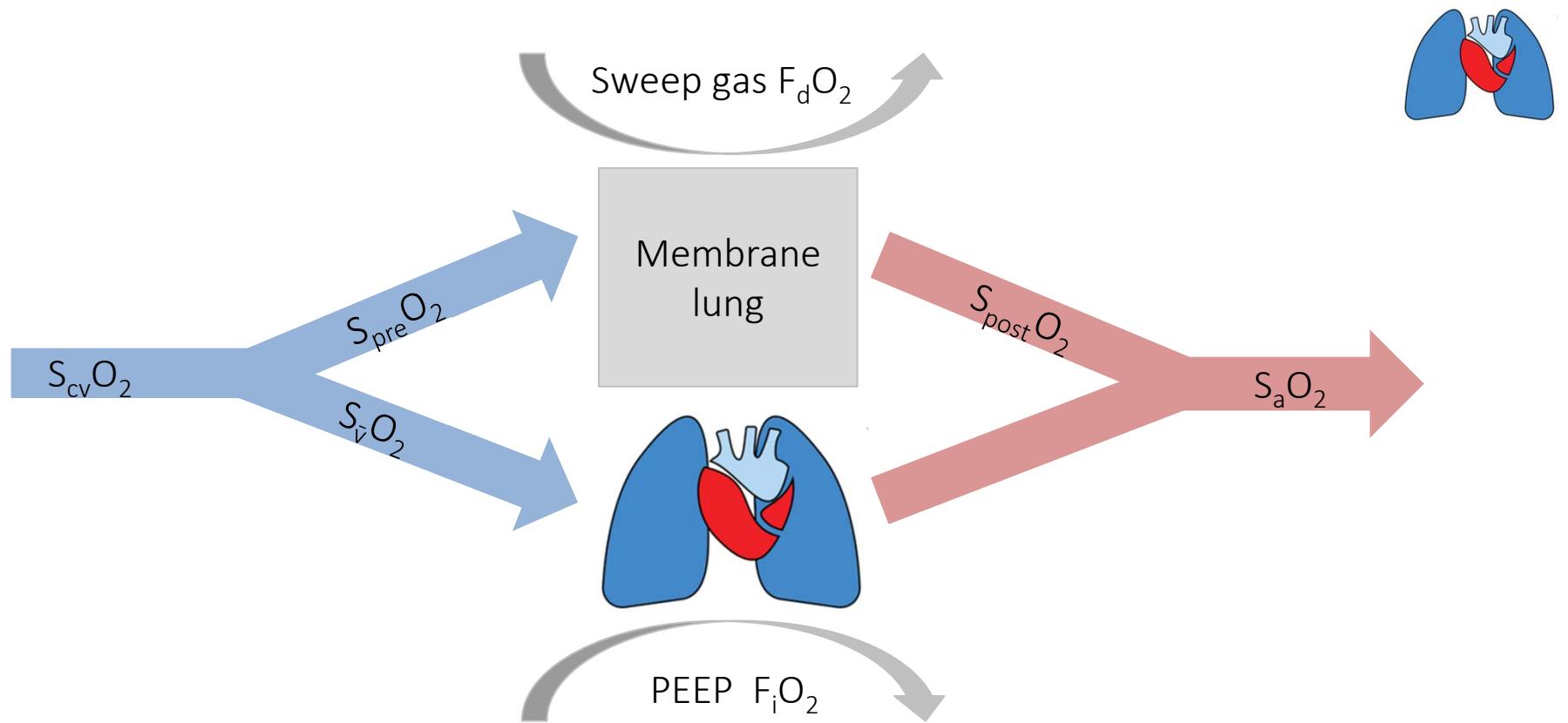
How do you troubleshoot this?

G1.0d#1.60-0.15,MCRO.8AB0.5

R  
CT

**Portable**





Two circulations in parallel

Fraction delivered oxygen percentage ( $F_dO_2$ ), saturation pre-membrane ( $S_{pre}O_2$ ), saturation post-membrane ( $S_{post}O_2$ )

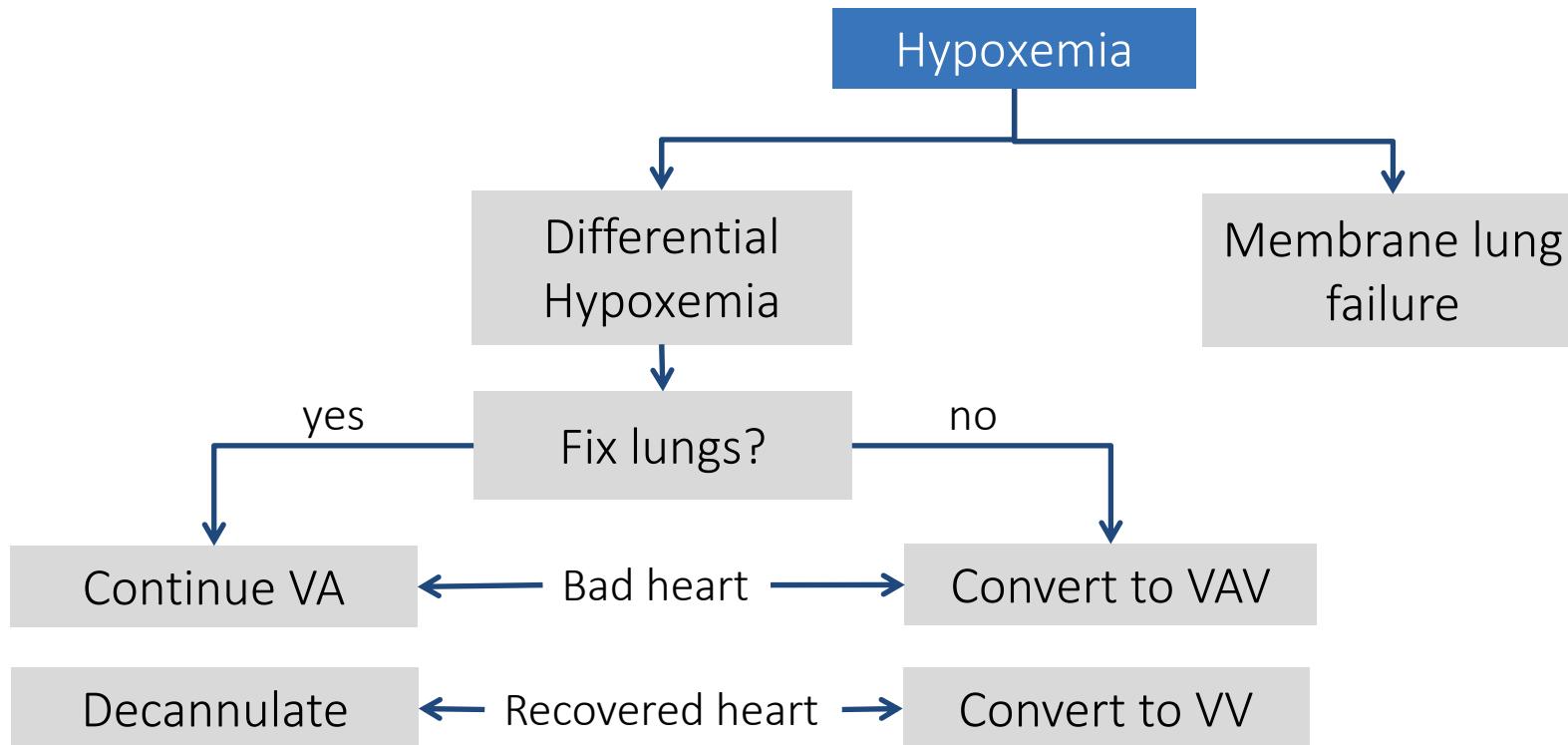


Upper body hypoxemia

Keep pulse  
oximeter on right  
upper extremity!

Regional gas exchange → differential oxygenation

# Hypoxemia on VA ECMO



Venoarteriovenous (VAV)

# VA Day 4

- LVEF now 20% (was 10%)
- Ventilator starts alarming with increased peak pressure on volume control

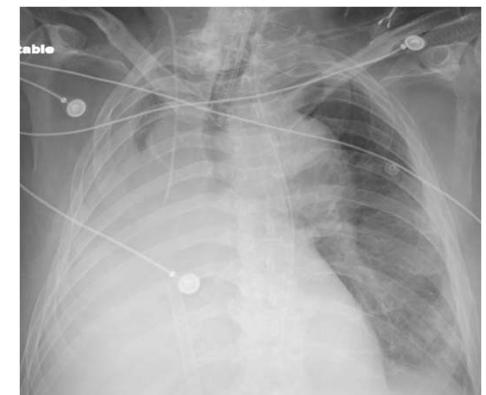


Norepinephrine  
Bitartrate  
Injection, USP

0.04 mcg/kg/min

DOBUTamine  
Injection, USP

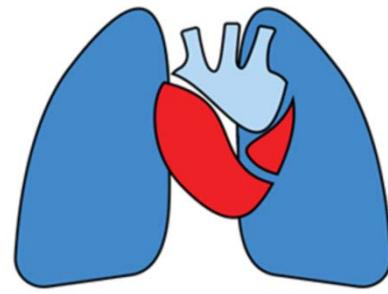
3 mcg/kg/min



Fix lungs!

# Summary

- Drainage → pump → membrane lung (sweep) → return
- Cannulate only with discontinuation strategy
- Centrifugal pump pre-load dependent & afterload sensitive
- Increase sweep gas rate to decrease  $\text{PaCO}_2$
- VV oxygenation improved with increased blood flow
- VV recirculation when  $\text{P}_{\text{preO}_2}$  high and  $\text{SpO}_2$  low
- VA ECMO flow + native cardiac output are additive
- Regionalized gas exchange in peripheral VA ECMO

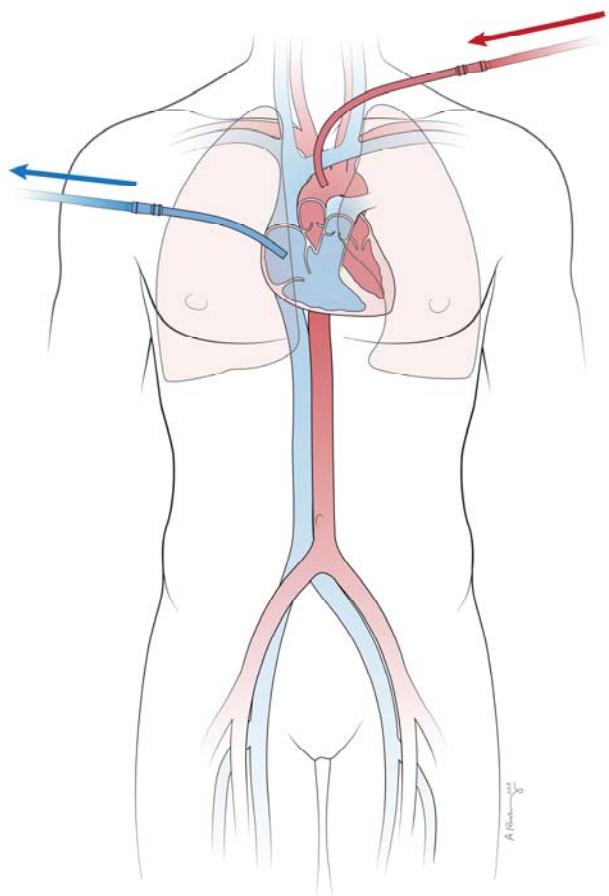


# Questions?

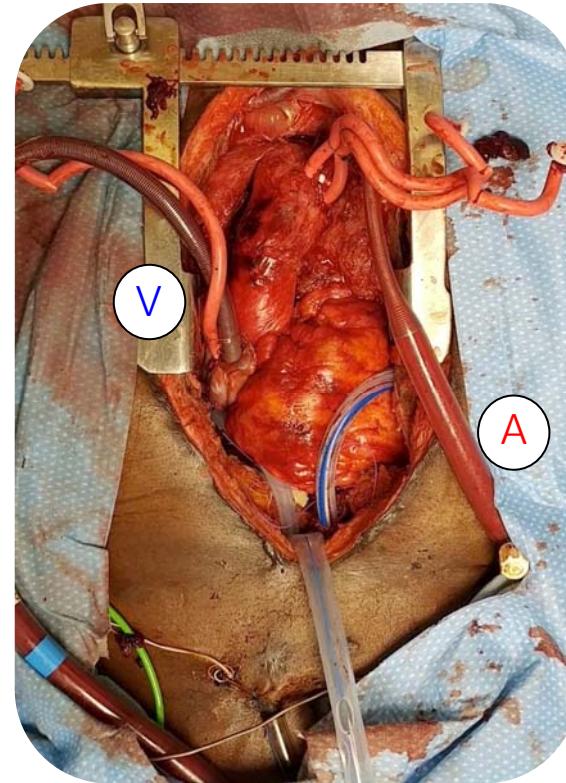
 badulakj@uw.edu

 @JenelleBadulak

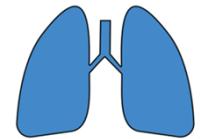
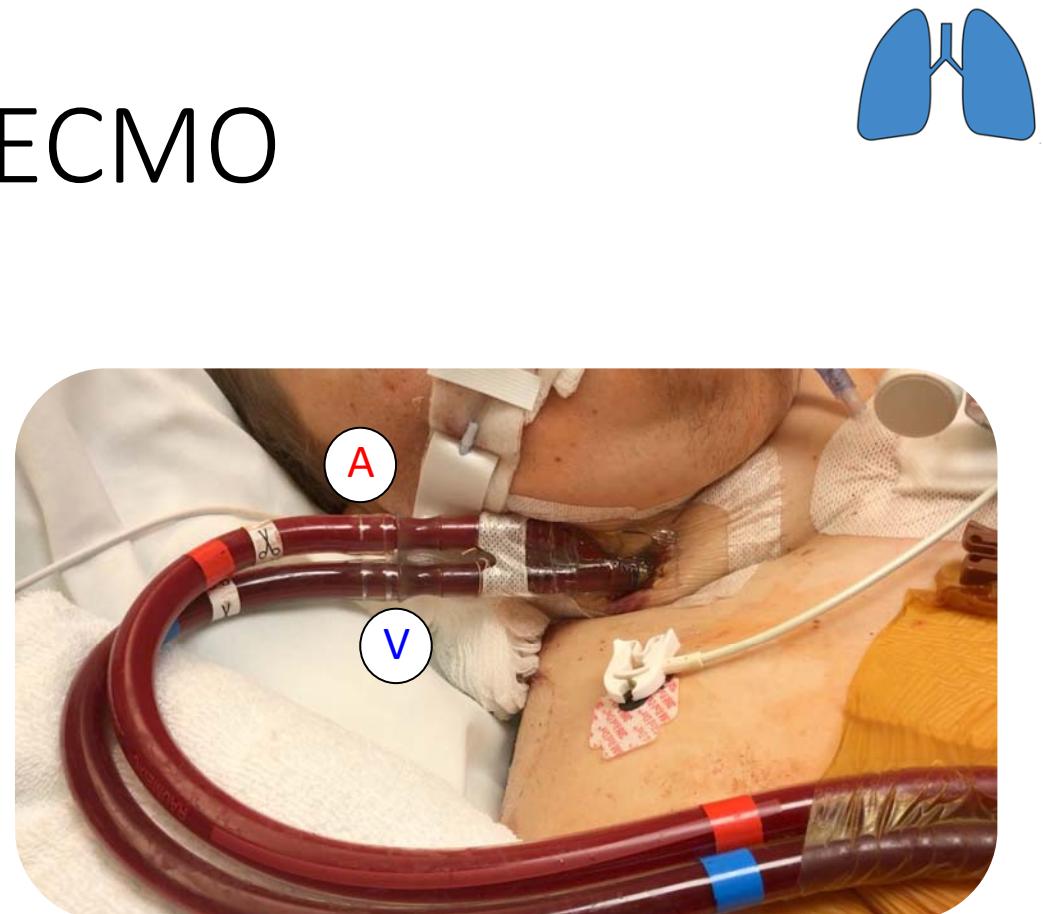
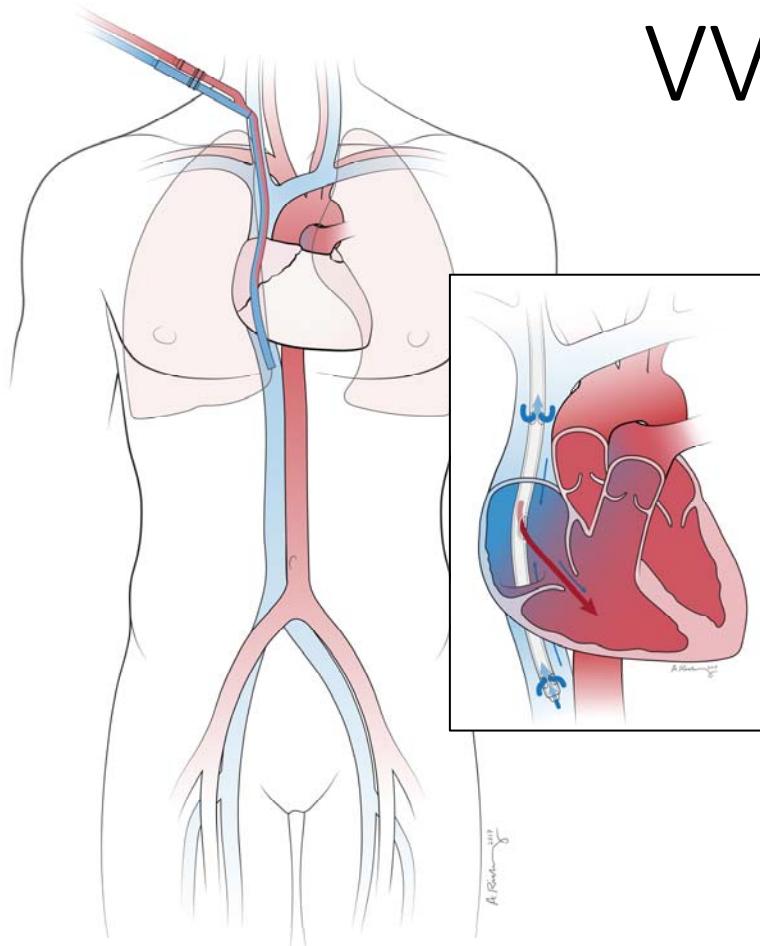




# VA ECMO



# VV ECMO



# Membrane Lung Failure

## Intrinsic

Microtubule dysfunction

High delta P, clot

Poor CO<sub>2</sub> or O<sub>2</sub> transfer on pre/post gas

## Sweep gas interruption

Acute

Normal delta P

Clear window



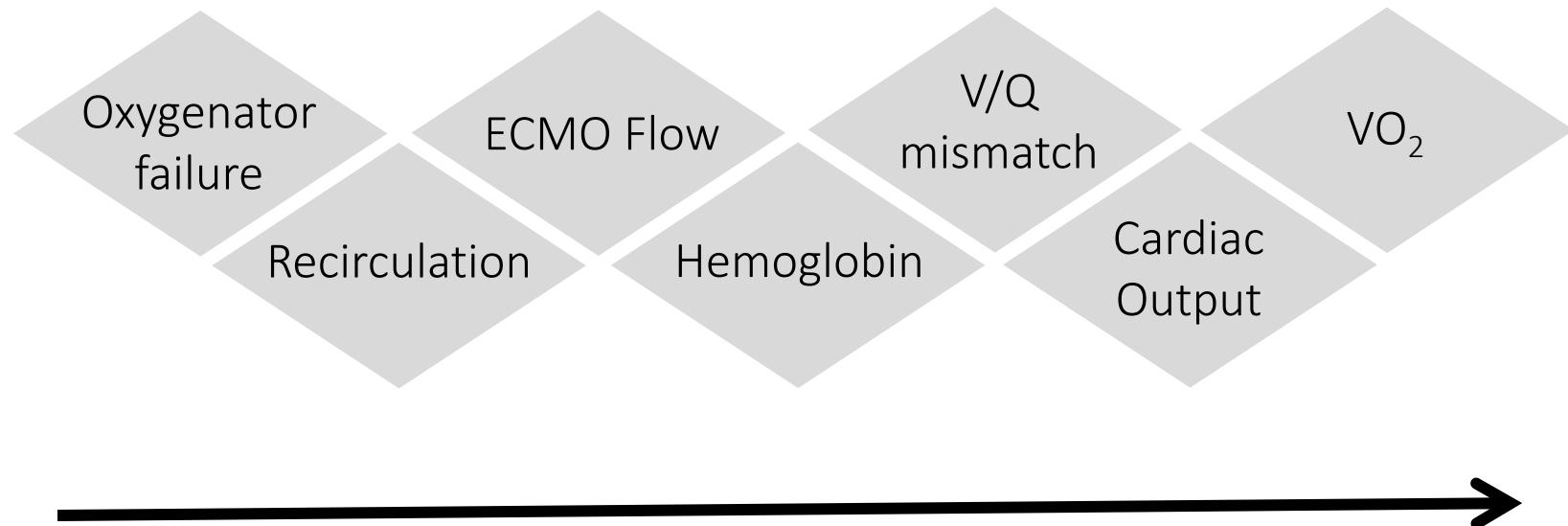
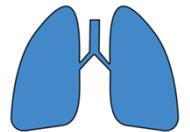
Epis et al. *J Thorac Dis.* 2018;10:S596-S605.



# VV ECMO ARDS Outcomes

Study	Design	Table 1	Intervention (n)	Survival
CESAR Lancet 2009	RCT	P:F 75, PEEP 14 pH 7.1	ECMO referred (90) Usual care (90)	63% 47% (p = 0.03)
ANZ H1N1 JAMA 2009	Obs.	P:F 56, PEEP 18 pH 7.2	ECMO (68)	79%
Noah H1N1 JAMA 2011	Prosp. cohort	P:F 55	ECMO referred (80) Matched control (195)	76% 50% (p < 0.01)
Pham H1N1 AJRCCM 2013	Prosp. cohort	P:F 63, PEEP 13 pH 7.26	ECMO referred (123) Matched control (52)	65% for both (p = 0.32)
EOLIA NEJM 2018	RCT	P:F 72, PEEP 12 pH 7.24	ECMO (124) Usual care (125)	65% 54% (p = 0.09)

# Oxygenation



Montisci et al. ASAIO J. 2015;61(3):227-236.