

**Table S1 Summary of the ventilator procedure**

Variables	LRM group	Control group
Ventilator mode	Pressure control	Volume assist-control
Initial tidal volume (mL/kg of predicted body weight) <sup>a</sup>	6-8	6-8
Plateau pressure (cmH <sub>2</sub> O)	≤30	≤30
Ventilator rate setting needed to achieve a pH goal of 7.3-7.45 (breaths/min)	10-35	10-35
Ratio of the duration of inspiration to the duration of expiration	1:1 to 1:3	1:1 to 1:3
Oxygenation goal	PaO <sub>2</sub> , 55-80 mmHg, or SpO <sub>2</sub> , 88-95%	PaO <sub>2</sub> , 55-80 mmHg, or SpO <sub>2</sub> , 88-95%
	0.3 and 5	0.3 and 5
	0.4 and 5-8	0.4 and 5-8
	0.5 and 8-10	0.5 and 8-10
Allowable combinations of FiO <sub>2</sub> and PEEP (cmH <sub>2</sub> O) <sup>b</sup>	0.6 and 10	0.6 and 10
	0.7 and 10-14	0.7 and 10-14
	0.8 and 14	0.8 and 14
	0.9 and 14-18	0.9 and 14-18
	1.0 and 20-24	1.0 and 20-24
Weaning	By pressure support; required by protocol when FiO <sub>2</sub> ≤ 0.4 and PEEP ≤ 8	By pressure support; required by protocol when FiO <sub>2</sub> ≤ 0.4 and PEEP ≤ 8

*PaO<sub>2</sub>* partial pressure of arterial oxygen, *SpO<sub>2</sub>* oxyhaemoglobin saturation measured by pulse oximetry, *FiO<sub>2</sub>* fraction of inspired oxygen, *PEEP* positive end-expiratory pressure

<sup>a</sup> Subsequent adjustments in tidal volume were made to maintain a plateau pressure of <50 cmH<sub>2</sub>O in the group receiving traditional tidal volumes and <30 cmH<sub>2</sub>O in the group receiving lower tidal volumes

<sup>b</sup> Further increases in PEEP, up to 34 cmH<sub>2</sub>O, were allowed but were not required