

Special Issue

Cough Assist Therapy: From Critical Care to Home Care

Message from the Guest Editor

Mechanically ventilated critically ill patients and ventilator-dependent patients at home are two major clinical issues that have a variable spectrum of respiratory muscular weakness, poor cough reflex, and different airways devices that are associated with a high risk of respiratory complications, mortality, and outcome. Cough-assisted therapy is a well-defined and established technology for airway clearance secretion in mechanical ventilated patients from hospital to home care. Improving cough capacity is an essential early and rational therapeutic strategy to control associated mechanical ventilation complications. However, the appropriate tools for early diagnosis and treatment are still not clear. We analyze rationale and clinical evidence for the best clinical practice guide, settings, patient-mechanical ventilator cough devices, pressure waveforms, determinant of response, monitoring, short- and long-term outcomes, discharge plans from ICU to pneumology departments, and appropriate clinical and at home technology for a safe application.

Guest Editor

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