

# Ontario Critical Care Clinical Practice Rounds (OC3PR): COVID-19

October 20 2022

## Prolonged Ventilation Weaning in ICU

Chaired by Dr. Dave Neilipovitz

Presented by Dr. Ian Fraser



### Meeting Etiquette



- Attendees can submit questions to Q&A in the Zoom chat.



- Please note, reproduction in part or in full of any of this presentation requires express permission from CCSO.

Hosted by  
CCSO | SMPCO

# Prolonged-ventilation Weaning in the ICU

**Ian M. Fraser, MD, FRCPC**

Medical Director, Prolonged & Long-Term Ventilation Program & Provincial  
Prolonged-ventilation Weaning Centre of Excellence,  
Michael Garron Hospital, Toronto East Health Network  
[ian.fraser@tehn.ca](mailto:ian.fraser@tehn.ca)

Oct 20, 2022

# Learning Objectives

## **Define**

Acute, prolonged and long-term ventilation

## **Identify**

Process barriers to prolonged ventilation weaning

Common reversible factors to prolonged ventilation weaning

## **Understand**

Quality standards for care (*Action 11 framework*)

Options for management including

Referral to pilot long-stay ICU units,

Long-term ventilation strategy including Prolonged-ventilation Weaning Centre (PWC )

Virtual consultation.

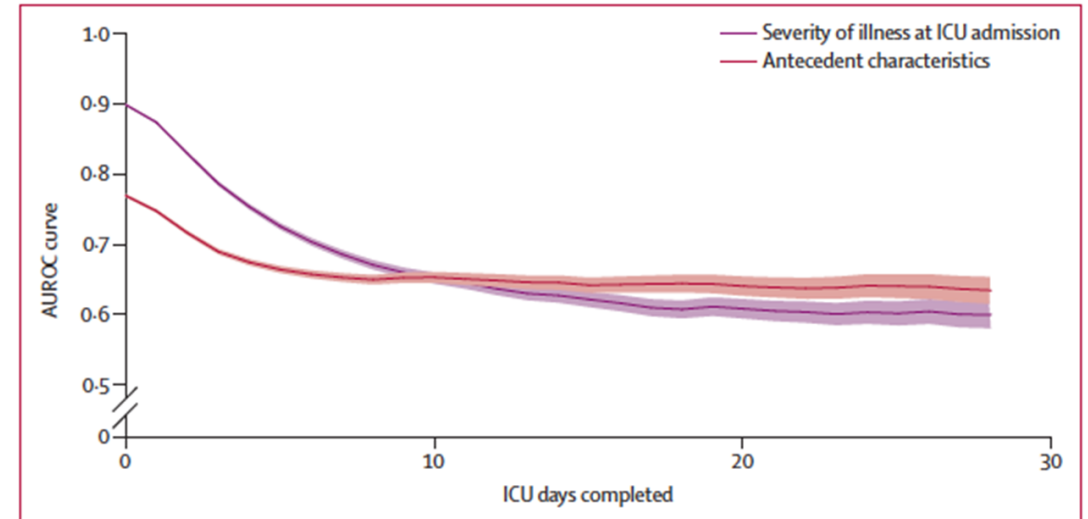
***Starting Point: Expertise in acute ICU ventilation weaning & ICU liberation (ABCDEF) protocols***

# What is prolonged-ventilation in the ICU?

1. Physiologically stable patient
2. Repeatedly unsuccessful weaning attempts
3. Consideration of the patient's wishes

## *Other Considerations*

- Patient characteristics (underlying disease, presence of comorbidity and cognitive status)
- Diagnosis & prognosis
- Anticipated quality of life
- Consideration of patient & family motivation
- Establishment of a ventilator weaning plan



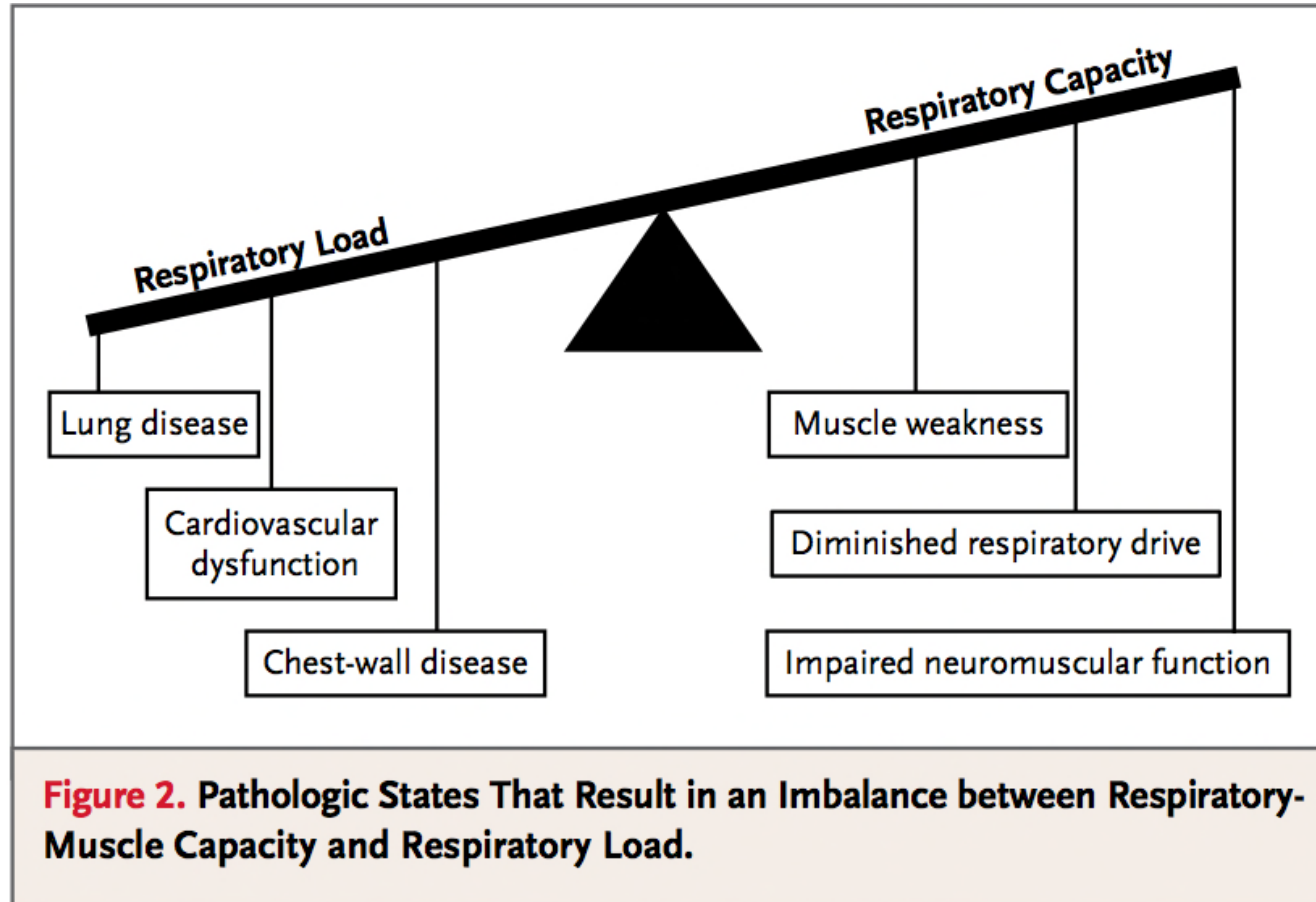
**Figure 3: Predictiveness of severity of illness at ICU admission and antecedent characteristics for hospital mortality in the validation cohort**

Shaded areas are 95% CIs. The appendix contains all characteristics and regression weights ( $\beta$  coefficients from derivation sample). AUROC=area under the receiver operating characteristics. ICU=intensive care unit.

# What is prolonged-ventilation in the ICU?

- 1 in 10 Vented ICU beds (11%)
- 50% one-year mortality
- 50% readmission rate within 1 year
- 90% diversion rate from invasive long-term ventilation
- CCSO stats (May 31, 2022)
  - 258 Long Stay patients
  - Median = 41.0, IQR (24.0-79.0) Range (11-618) Vented days
- Multiple transitions of care post acute care discharge
- Significant risk of caregiver anxiety & depression after acute care discharge
- Low probability of return to independent living in the community
- Estimated up to 30% ICU costs

# Ventilator-dependence Model



# Common Unrecognized Individual Factors

Untreated hypothyroidism

Upper airway obstruction

Under-treated airway disease

Obesity-hypoventilation

Excess sedation

Unrecognized neuromuscular disease

Cardiac impairment

Sepsis (lines, catheters)

Pleural effusions/Fluid overload

Absence of shared understanding of natural history of disease with family

# Barriers to Prolonged-ventilation Weaning

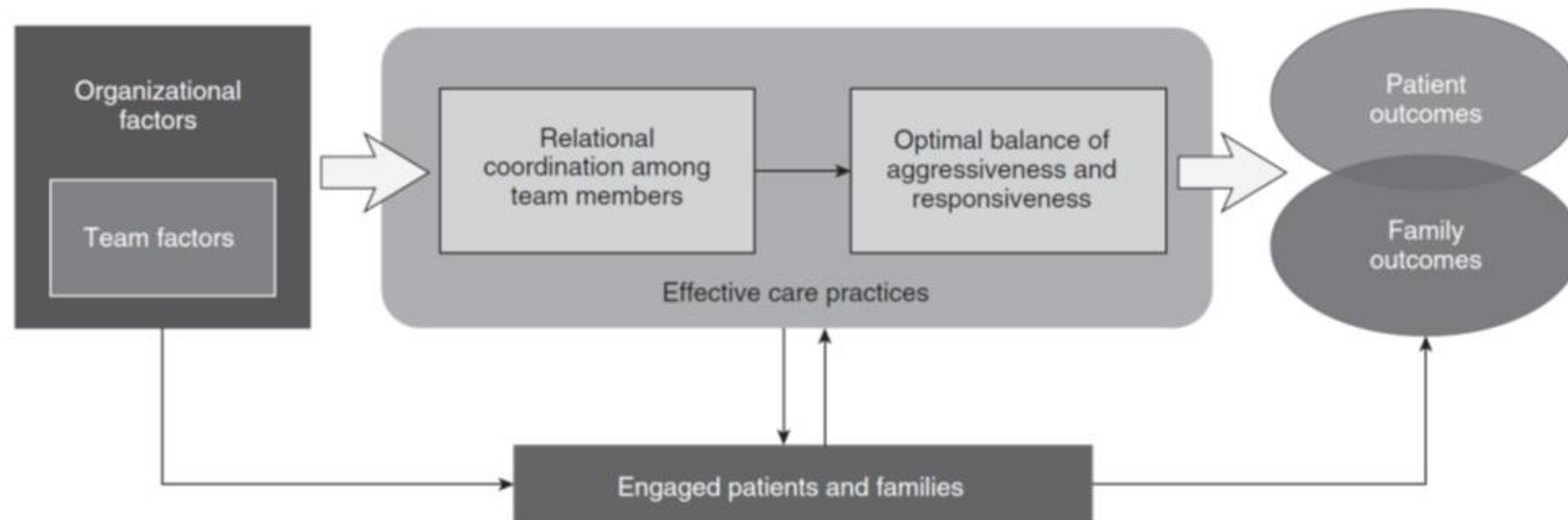
- Competing priorities of acute ICU
- Staffing Shortages
- Developing & Implementing Individualized Care Plan
  - Weaning, Communication with patient, Mobilization, Nutrition, Minimal Sedation, Psychological Management (Anxiety, Delirium, Depression, Sleep)
- Ensuring continuity of weaning care plan
  - day to day, weekday to weekend & week to week
- Patient/Family/ICU Team Discordance
- Intrinsic prolonged recovery from critical illness



# Organizational and Team-Level Determinants of Effective Care for Prolonged ventilation

- Leadership
- Physician staffing
- Nursing staffing
- Protocols & pathways
- RRT, PT and OT staffing
- Ancillary staffing
- Team meetings
- Physical Plant

# Organizational and Team-Level Determinants of Effective Care for Prolonged ventilation



**Figure 1.** Conceptual framework for the care of patients receiving prolonged mechanical ventilation. This framework, derived from an ethnographic evaluation at eight long-term acute care hospitals, holds that patient and family outcomes are optimized when care achieves a balance of aggressiveness and responsiveness. Although typically this balance requires a trade-off between aggressiveness and responsiveness, care can be made both more aggressive and more responsive through relational coordination (i.e., task-oriented collaboration between care providers). Patient and family factors can influence, and be influenced by, these relationships. Relational coordination is also influenced by discrete organizational and team-level factors that are common at high-performing hospitals.

# ***Action 11 Checklist***

## **Patients, Families and Providers Improving Quality Together**

- 1**    **Involve patient and family in goal setting and decision making**
- 2**    **Provide aids to help patients communicate (including method to access help)**
- 3**    **Promote physical comfort and minimize complications**
- 4**    **Promote self-care and restore normalcy**
- 5**    **Optimize ventilator weaning**
- 6**    **Optimize physical therapy**
- 7**    **Assess swallowing function and establish safe return to normal drinking and eating**
- 8**    **De-escalate/optimize pharmacotherapy including past medications for existing comorbidities**
- 9**    **Assess and treat psychological issues**
- 10**   **Minimize delirium risk**
- 11**   **Appropriate referrals are made**

# **Co-designed/consensus-based patient and family-centered actionable quality processes**

Rose L, Istamboulian L, Amaral ACKB, Burry L, Cox CE, Cuthbertson BH, et al. Co-designed and consensus based development of a quality improvement checklist of patient and family-centered actionable processes of care for adults with persistent critical illness. Journal of Critical Care. 2022 Dec 1;72:154153.

## 5. Optimize ventilator weaning

- ☐ Assess and track ventilator weaning progress
- ☐ Use a structured tool (protocol or individualized weaning plan) to plan and guide weaning
- ☐ Include the patient (when able) and family in the development of the weaning plan
- ☐ Assess readiness to deflate the tracheostomy cuff, downsize or decannulate the tracheostomy as part of the weaning process
- ☐ Use strategies to manage excess secretions or inability to cough up secretions
- ☐ Assess endocrine function and treat in relation to weaning failure

## Action 11 Checklist













### Patients, Families and Providers Improving Quality Together

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Involve patient and family in goal setting and decision making                             |
| 2  | Provide aids to help patients communicate (including method to access help)                |
| 3  | Promote physical comfort and minimize complications  |
| 4  | Promote self-care and restore normalcy   |
| 5  | Optimize ventilator weaning  |
| 6  | Optimize physical therapy  |
| 7  | Assess swallowing function and establish safe return to normal drinking and eating         |
| 8  | De-escalate/optimize pharmacotherapy including past medications for existing comorbidities |
| 9  | Assess and treat psychological issues  |
| 10 | Minimize delirium risk   |
| 11 | Appropriate referrals are made   |

# How can you improve the process of care?

Step	Prolonged ventilation weaning in ICU	Interventions
Plan	<i>Set Daily Goals</i>	Therapist-driven weaning protocols Measure Delirium (e.g. CAM-ICU) Measure Mobility (CCSO Early Mobility Toolkit) Communication Strategy (verbal & non-verbal) Action 11 Priorities
Do	<i>Ensure Continuity</i>	Continuity Intensivist model Nurse-specialist, NP or RRT coordinator Align interprofessional team Dedicated interprofessional weekly rounds Proactively scheduled regular patient/family meetings Order sets (Rehab, Nutrition, Sedation)
Study	<i>Trend Progress</i>	Graph Weaning Progress Dedicated health record notes/standard format Assign clear role accountability Weekly Interprofessional meetings
Act	<i>Individualize Care</i>	Involve patient & family in decision-making Consult experts (e.g. PWC Virtual consult) Non-Acute ICU environment (Specialized Unit Transfer)

# Sampling of Provincial Resources for Prolonged & Long-term Ventilation

Medical Instability ↑	Unit	System failure	Care setting & tracheostomy	London HSC	Mackenzie	Michael Garron (TEHN)	Toronto Grace	WestPark HC	Ottawa
	Acute ICU	Single or Multisystem	Acute (+/- Trach)						
	Non-acute ICU	Single or Multisystem	Acute (trach+ prolonged-ventilation)	CIRP ** 	LSICU ** 	LSICU ** 			
	Non-ICU Weaning Centre	Single Respiratory	Acute ( trach + inhouse access to ICU)			PWC + Virtual consultation, 	Provincial Long-term Ventilation Strategy		
	Rehabilitation centre (+/- tracheostomy)	Single Respiratory	Transition to home ventilation ICU Recovery						
	LTV beds	Single Respiratory	Long-term Care (Trach)						
	Community	Single respiratory	OPD						



Renal replacement capacity , CIRP = Critical Illness Recovery Program (CIRP) , \*\* low dose IV vasopressors provided if necessary

## Case Study (ICU day 3 )

- 65 y.o. former 30 pack-year smoking obese (BMI 34) treated hypothyroid diabetic hypertensive widowed (lives alone) mother of 4 depression, atrial fibrillation, COPD (MRC =4), mild CKD (Cr 140) and past bowel resection for benign bowel obstruction (2018)
- Preadmit frailty score = 6
- Non-anglophone or -francophone as first language
- Acute hypercarbic COPDE secondary to diffuse CAP (COVID-19 PCR negative, influenza A +ve) requiring 24 hours of NIV in ICU
- Discharged to ward in the evening on weekend.

## Case Study (ICU day 3 )

- Readmitted to ICU within 24 hours after massive aspiration on ward
- “difficult” intubation
- resuscitated with invasive ventilation, IV fluid resuscitation, vasopressors, muscle paralysis, IV sedation and IV antibiotics.
- Labs: ABG 7.28 55 62 FIO2 0.5 PC 30/10 Vt 300 RR 20 Hb 90  
Platelets 45 Cr 300 (ACEI stopped) Normal range Na, K, Ca, Mg, P



# ICU day 14

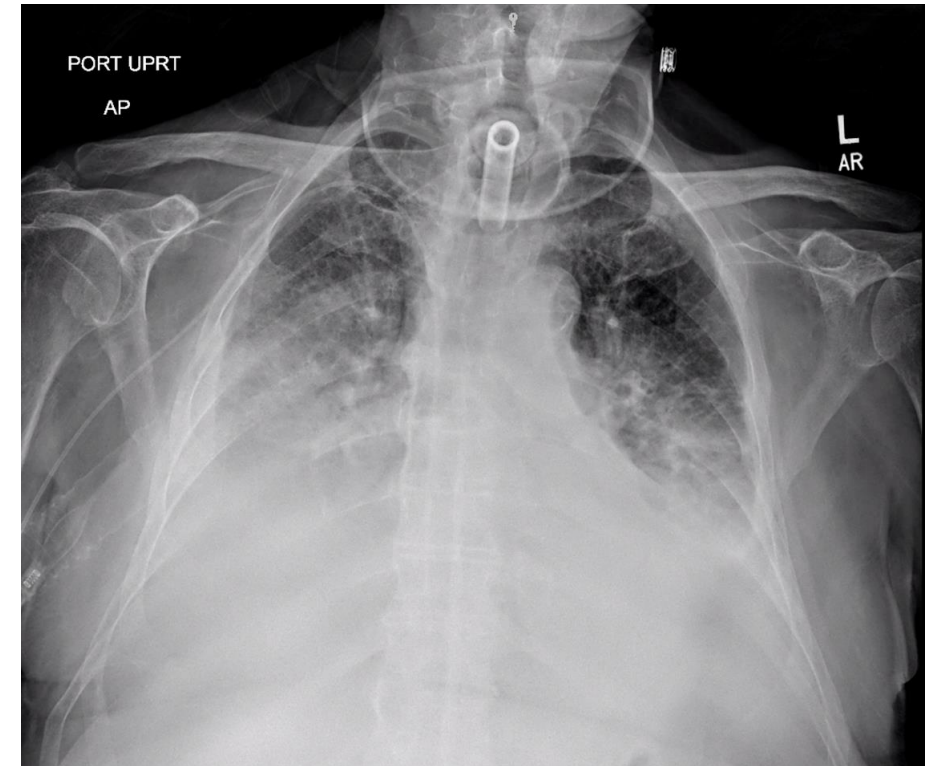
## Prolonged-ventilation?

- Tracheostomy & PEG tube inserted
- Failed weaning attempts (longest trach trial 15 minutes)
- Treated for VAP on day 10 (intermittent need for IV vasopressors)
- One family meeting (no identified single family contact)
- Worsening AKI – ? Need for renal replacement
- Conservatively treated GI bleed (Apixaban stopped)
- Ongoing delirium (small non-dominant embolic CVA on CT head)
- Lift to chair

# ICU day 21

## Prolonged-ventilation Weaning Centre Consult? Other options?

- Weaning progress (max = 1 hour trach mask BID)
  - Thick white secretions with plugs
  - FIO2 0.45 SpO2 90%
- Process check in
  - No documented weaning plan (varies week to week)
  - Family meeting being scheduled
  - Communication = lip reading by family & gestures
  - Continuous PEG tube feeds tolerated
  - Reducing sedation
- Intermittent IV low dose norepinephrine for BP
- Anasarca, Cr 500
- 2-person assist to sit up in bed
- Hyperactive delirium in evenings with night/day sleep reversal

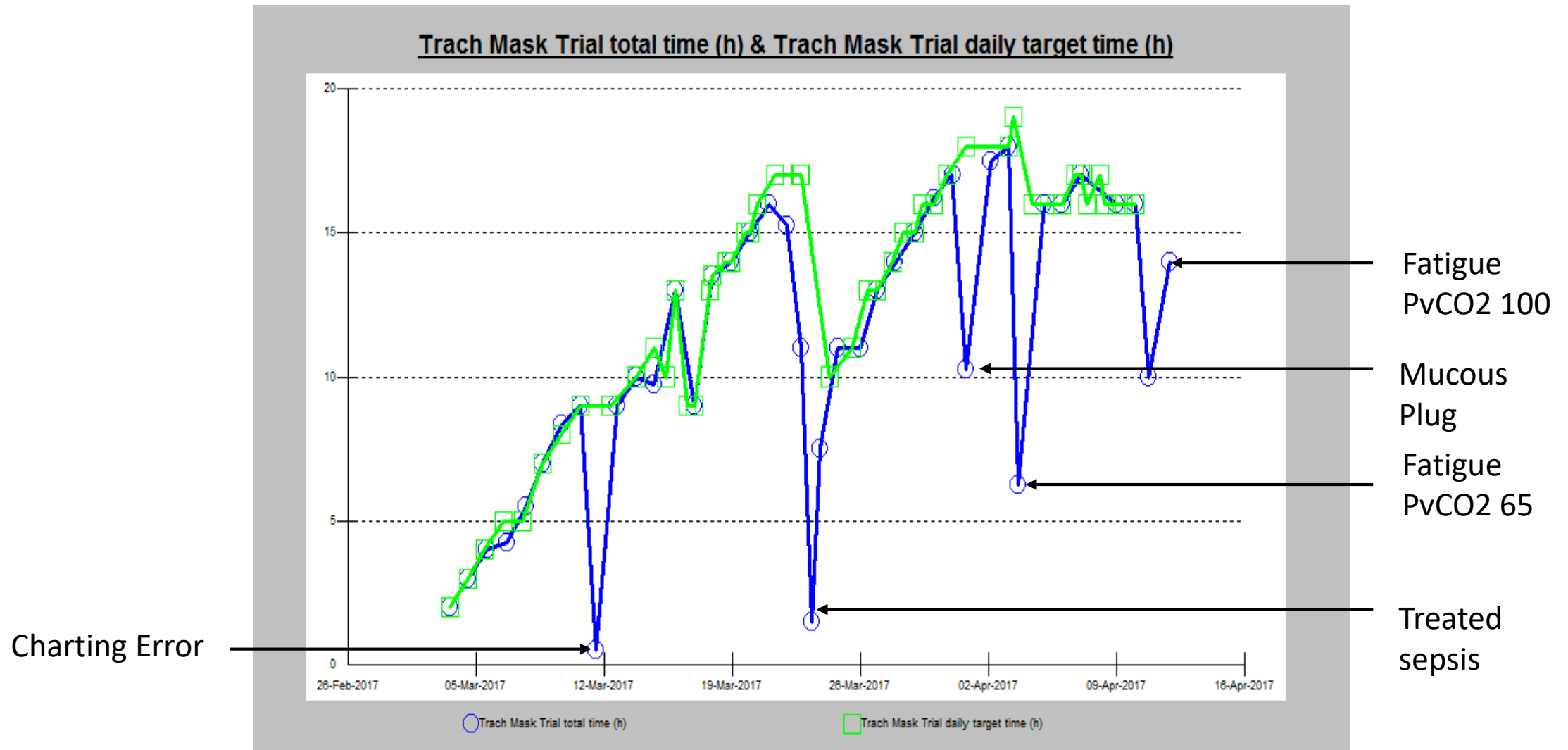


# ICU day 28

Prolonged-ventilation Weaning Centre Consult?  
Other options?

- Weaning Progress (best result = 4 hours)
  - PAV, HFNO (Airvo), Trach mask trials
  - Cough-Assist BID added
- Line sepsis – PICC line removed
- Family meeting
  - Goals of care = to return home (other preferences not identified)
  - Fall while attempting to ambulate
  - Multiple family concerns raised with hospital patient representative
- Delirium management plan in place

# Daily Weaning Progress with Goal Setting (target vs. actual trach mask hours)



# ICU day 42

Prolonged-ventilation Weaning Centre Consult?  
Long-term Ventilation Strategy Referral?  
Other options?

- Weaning = trach mask weaning (max 16 hours daily)
- SLP consulted (swallowing & communication)
  - RRT collaboration for speaking valve trial
  - Refocus on simple non-verbal communication aids
- Foley removed
- 2-person assist to walk 3 m
- Nocturnal NIV (daytime practice sessions)

# Summary

**Define** Prolonged ventilation

**Identify**

- Common process barriers
- Individual reversible factors

**Understand**

Consensus co-designed QI actions (*Action 11*)

Options for management include

- PDSA (goals, continuity, trend, individualize) process improvement

- PWC virtual consultation [prolongedventilation@tehn.ca](mailto:prolongedventilation@tehn.ca)

- Pilot long-stay ICU units

- Long-Term Ventilation Strategy including Prolonged-ventilation Weaning Centre (PWC )

Learn more about the LTVS (CCSO Webinar on October 27<sup>th</sup>)

# Acknowledgements

- Louise Rose (TEHN)
- Dr. Brooks Fallis (TEHN)
- Laura Istanbouliau (TEHN)
- Dr. Marcus Kargel (TEHN)
- Dr. Kimia Honarmand (MH)
- Dr. Alina Toma (MH)
- Dr. Karen Bosma (LHSC)
- Cathy Mawdsley (LHSC)
- Dr. David Leasa (LHSC)
- Dr. Doug McKim (OH)
- Dr. Roger Goldstein (WPHC)
- Raj Kohli (WPHC)
- Sally Macklin (WPHC)
- Dr. Margaret Herridge (UHN, Grace)
- Dr. Bernard Lawless (CCSO)
- Staff, Patients, & Families of the Long-term Ventilation Strategy

# Addenda – Program Admission Criteria

- Long Stay ICU Pilot Program Admission Criteria  
[LongStayICU@MackenzieHealth.ca](mailto:LongStayICU@MackenzieHealth.ca) & [LongStayICU@tehn.ca](mailto:LongStayICU@tehn.ca)
- Prolonged-ventilation Weaning Centre Admission Criteria  
(MGH/TEHN) [prolongedventilation@tehn.ca](mailto:prolongedventilation@tehn.ca) or via RMR
- Critical Illness Recovery Program (LHSC) [cathymawdsley@lhsc.on.ca](mailto:cathymawdsley@lhsc.on.ca)
- Toronto Grace RECOVER Program for Chronic Critical Illness via RMR
- Long-term Ventilation Strategy (LTVS) (Western, Central & Eastern hubs) via RMR



# Long Stay ICU pilot Admission Criteria

[LongStayICU@MackenzieHealth.ca](mailto:LongStayICU@MackenzieHealth.ca) & [LongStayICU@tehn.ca](mailto:LongStayICU@tehn.ca)

## Inclusion Criteria

Adult patient  $\geq 18$  years of age currently admitted to a Level 3 ICU within the catchment area.

ICU length of stay  $\geq 10$  days with reasonable evidence based on clinical diagnosis of a much longer need for critical care at the time of application.

Requiring invasive or non-invasive ventilation.

Not able to tolerate trials of weaning from invasive mechanical ventilation (or weaning from daytime non-invasive ventilation if not invasively ventilated).

Hemodynamically stable, with stable or decreasing vasopressor requirements.

**Does not have a condition that precludes the potential for participation in rehabilitation and liberation from mechanical ventilation.**

Clearly established and documented appropriate goals of care that are consistent with transfer to the Long Stay Unit for rehabilitation and weaning.

## Exclusion Criteria

Patient is dependent on long-term (home) invasive ventilation prior to current admission.

Patient has a known terminal illness (e.g., end-stage cancer, dementia, etc.).

Patient's pre-admission Clinical Frailty Score = 8.

Patient is on peritoneal dialysis.

Patients has advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD) or is approaching the need for long-term dialysis and is known to a CKD program other than Mackenzie Health.

Patient is requiring a cardiac mechanical device (e.g., LVAD).

Patient requires ongoing care by that surgical service at the referring hospital.

# Prolonged-ventilation Weaning Centre Admission Criteria (MGH/TEHN)

[prolongedventilation@tehn.ca](mailto:prolongedventilation@tehn.ca) or via RMR

- Adult ICU patients who remain on a mechanical ventilator for more than 14 days and have a tracheostomy in place
- Patients who can participate in and direct their own care.
- Patients who are in stable condition, apart from mechanical ventilation
- Advanced care plan and/or goals of care discussions documented
- Patients who have a feeding support in place
- Patients who do not require kidney replacement treatment (in 2023, renal replacement will be available)
- Patients who do not have a clearly irreversible disease such as such as metastatic cancer or advanced dementia

# Critical Illness Recovery Program (LHSC)

[cathymawdsley@lhsc.on.ca](mailto:cathymawdsley@lhsc.on.ca)

## Admission Criteria

- Invasively ventilated over 14 days with tracheostomy
- Stable renal replacement therapy (IHD, not PRIMSA/CRRT)
- Stable trajectory of vasopressors (e.g., weaning, maintenance to support IHD, etc)
- Neurologically able to participate in care plan, or reasonable expectation neurological recovery to the point of participation is expected
- Patients on chronic technology (e.g., NIV, LTV) as a baseline, known to our Home Respiratory and Ventilatory Care team), with goal of return to community
  - e.g., invasive ventilation with plan to extubate to NIV, and return to baseline settings and attempt to avoid tracheostomy
- Goals of care/patient values align with model of care of CIRP

## Exclusion Criteria

- Unable to participate/meaningful engage in rehabilitation and recovery (devastating neurological injury, etc)
- CRRT or cardiac devices (e.g., LVAD, etc)
- Hemodynamic instability e.g., escalating pressors, etc
- Active acute and/or surgical issues

# Toronto Grace RECOVER Program for Chronic Critical Illness via RMR

**Patients requiring mechanical ventilation for >14 days, and medically stable for 7 days prior to transfer who have weaning and rehab potential/candidacy for vent to home/vent to palliation in the opinion of the referring critical care physician.**

- 1. Documented Advance Care Plan/Goals of Care discussion within 48h of transfer.**
- 2. Stable ventilator settings for 7 days prior to transfer/ $Fi-O_2 < 0.5$  on/off the ventilator.**
- 3. Tracheal Suctioning frequency not to exceed q2-3 hours.**
- 4. Tracheostomy in situ/PICC in situ.**
- 5. G/J/PEG tube in situ.**
- 6. No pressor/inotrope use 7 days prior to transfer.**
- 7. No significant medication changes 7 days prior to transfer.**
- 8. No major cardiac or respiratory events 7 days prior to transfer.**
- 9. Hemodialysis is possible – Patient must be pre-scheduled at referring site prior to transfer.**
- 10. If prior COVID infection, documented COVID negative in past 7 days. Repeat COVID testing will be required 72h prior to transfer.**
- 11. All IPAC practices documented.**

# Long-Term Ventilation Strategy (LTVS)

via RMR - contact [Sally.McMackin@westpark.org](mailto:Sally.McMackin@westpark.org)

- Patient medically stable for past 30 days
- No constant monitoring requirements
- No inotropes in the past 30 days
- No significant medication changes in the past 30 days
- No major cardiac or respiratory events in the past 30 days
- Supplemental oxygen less than 40% on or off the ventilator
- No hemodialysis unless patient is able to attend outpatient clinic on their own
- No NG tube (patient either takes food orally or switched to G/J/PEG tube)
- Appropriate ventilator settings
- All patients should be fully ventilated at night utilizing set respiratory rate rather than pressure support
- Suctioning cannot be more frequent than every 2-3 hours
- Suggest lung hygiene routine (i.e. cough assist, breath stacking) for patients on trach mask for patients who have an ineffective/weak cough

***Coming Soon!*** LTVS Portal Website - Hub LTV Services and Referral Information

# Thank you for joining us today

Feedback?  
Suggestions for  
the next topic?

Submit ideas in our  
evaluation survey  
(Link in chat)

Subscribe



Critical Care  
Services Ontario

Follow



@CriticalCareON

Join

**Eventbrite**

**December**

Early Warning Systems

Questions? [info@ccso.ca](mailto:info@ccso.ca)



Hosted by  
**CCSO | SMPCO**