



How to....

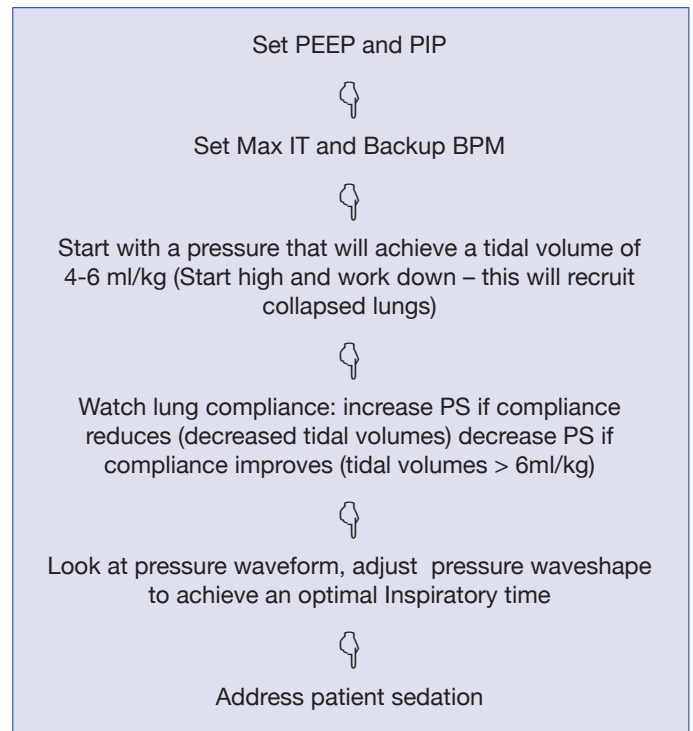
Set up Pressure Support Ventilation

Description

When a patient attempts to breathe spontaneously through an endotracheal tube, the narrowed diameter of the airway results in higher resistance to airflow, and thus a higher work of breathing.

PSV was developed as a method to decrease the work of breathing in-between ventilator mandated breaths by providing an elevated pressure triggered by spontaneous breathing that "supports" ventilation during inspiration. Thus, for example, SIMV might be combined with PSV so that additional breaths beyond the SIMV programmed breaths are supported.

However, while the SIMV mandated breaths have a preset volume or peak pressure, the PSV breaths are designed to cut short when the inspiratory flow reaches a percentage of the peak inspiratory flow (e.g. 0 - 50%). Also, the peak pressure set for the PSV breaths is usually a lower pressure than that set for the full ventilator mandated breath.



"How to..." is published as a guideline by SLE Ltd, and should only be carried out by, or on the orders of a Registered Physician. It is strongly recommended that all treatments are tailored to the individual patient.