

General Program Objectives

1. Through direct lecture and panel discussion, a review of the physiologic evidence from recent animal model research will be contrasted with clinical practice trends for the care of ARDS patients. APRV will be reviewed from an alveolar behavioral standpoint, evaluating its role as a preventative strategy for lung injury.
2. Evaluate and discuss problems associated with the mechanical ventilation management of the bariatric population. A comparison of lung mechanics for both obese and non-obese patients will be utilized.
3. Describe best practices for education partnerships, between acute care hospitals and state colleges, for the evaluation and enhancement of Respiratory Care competencies.
4. Describe, through lectures and panel discussion the evolution of the human airway. The discussion will review how sleep, obesity and genetics affect optimum performance. The limitations and rehabilitation of the injured airway will be contrasted as well.
5. Review and discuss the role of aerosolized agents during mechanical ventilation. The following questions will be addressed: How should aerosols be delivered? What drugs should be delivered by aerosol? What is the optimum delivery system?
6. The ABCDEF has been shown to reduce the duration of ICU stay and improve outcomes in mechanical ventilation. The individual components of the bundle will be reviewed and a discussion of the implementation will be provided.

7. Describe, the ten most common pediatric emergencies and strategies for managing them, from the perspective of an Emergency Department physician.
8. Delineate the unique practices for mechanical ventilation, in the pediatric intensive care unit, with special emphasis on clinical safety issues.
9. Evaluate the changing Florida statutes for health care surrogates, concerning end of life decisions. The following questions will be addressed through lecture and discussion: What are the current patient and family rights for end of life decisions? What are the expectations for changes to the Health Care Surrogate Law, in Florida. How could these changes impact the Respiratory Therapists who have primary responsibility for initiation, maintenance and termination of mechanical ventilator support?
10. The recently enacted law for the further regulation of medical marijuana will be reviewed with emphasis on the following questions: *What are the Current Restrictions? What are the Short and Long Term Effects? What are the Implications for Respiratory Care Practice?*