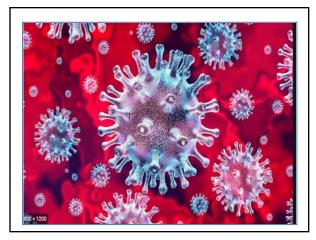
# What We Have Learned from COVID 19 **Changing Practice, Affecting** our Souls

 $B.McLean \ {\tt MN, RN, CCRN, CCNS-BC, NP-BC, FCCM}$ Critical Care Nurse Specialist Division of Critical Care Grady Hospital Atl GA

#### **Disclosures**

- slippery virus
  - ◆The healthcare providers who care for them and forget to care for themselves
- @ My discussion does not necessarily reflect the views of
  - +Baxter
  - → Grady Health or Emory University
  - → Society of Critical Care Medicine
  - → American Association of Critical Care Nurses
  - ◆The United States government
  - → ....or anyone except myself!



## **Current State Of Preparedness: 2020**

- Prior planning and preparation are crucial to provide any substantial level of emergency mass critical care
- © Current disaster preparedness has largely ignored how to care for critically ill patients in the ED, surging in the ICU and in the in-patient arena
- Without additional planning and preparation many critical and acutely ill patients may not get life-saving care during a disaster!

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# Is your center well prepared for pandemic?

- @A. Very
- @B. Partially
- @C. Not at all
- @D. I don't know

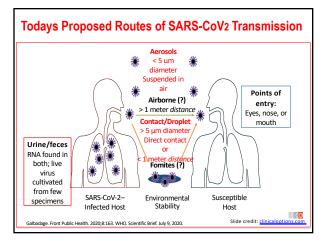
5

# **Disaster Comes to Your Hospital**

- Number of critically ill patients
- @Rate of development of critical illness
- Ouration of time that patients are critically ill
- @Intact medical infrastructure
- @Intact social and commerce infrastructure
- Q Justice and equality in healthcare
- @ Are your staff prepared?



**Transmission** 



# **Key Considerations on Modes of SARS-CoV-2 Transmission**

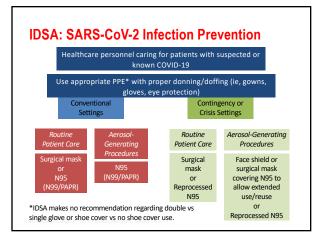
- Person-to-person considered predominant mode of transmission, likely via respiratory droplets from coughing, sneezing, or talking<sup>[1,2]</sup>
  - + High-level viral shedding evident in upper respiratory tract<sup>[3,4]</sup>
  - Airborne transmission suggested by multiple studies, but frequency unclear in absence of aerosol-generating procedures in healthcare settings<sup>[2]</sup>
- Virus rarely cultured in respiratory samples > 9 days after symptom onset, especially in patients with mild disease<sup>[5]</sup>
- Multiple studies describe a correlation between reduced infectivity with decreases in viral loads and rises in neutralizing antibodies<sup>[5]</sup>
- ACOG: "Data are reassuring that vertical transmission appears to be uncommon"<sup>[6]</sup>

1. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html 2. WHO. Scientific Brief. July 9, 2020. 3. Wölfel. Nature. 2020;581:465. 4. Zou. NEJM.

VPIO. Scientific Brief. July 9, 2020. 5. Wolfiel, Nature. 2020;382:1177.
5. WHO. Scientific Brief. June 17, 2020. 6. ACOG. Practice Advisory: Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). Last updated July 1, 2020.

Slide credit: clinical options.com

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What does this mean to us?

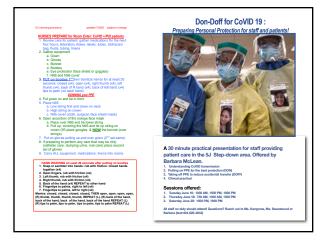
# Safety when working with Hazardous Diseases

- @ Healthcare Worker Safety
  - →Minimize risk of intervention to staff
- @ Patient Safety
  - → Some interventions may be too risky in biocontainment
- @ Community Safety

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## **Healthcare Worker (HCW) Safety**

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
  - →PPE effective at decreasing exposure to infected bodily fluids among healthcare workers
  - ◆It alone not enough to avoid all transmission to HCW
  - +Can introduce risk as well proper donning & doffing
- @ Buddy system highly recommended
  - → All donning & doffing of PPE observed by teammate
- Consider check lists to prompt staff of proper protocols
  - +All procedures observed & procedure list monitored by another HCW in PPE in the room to monitor for exposure



Is there a strong, evidenced based PPE supply chain available at your site?

@A. Yes

**⊚**B. No

@C. I don't know

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# Rigid methods of PPE







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# **Healthcare Worker (HCW) Safety**

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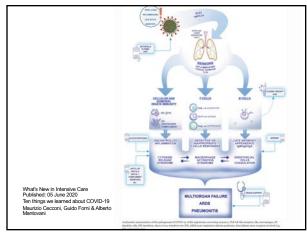
"You will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself and the other for helping others."

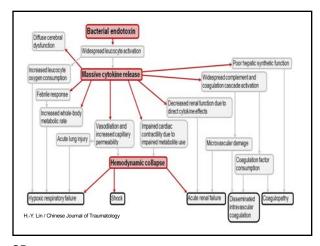
-Audrey Hepburn

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## Recognizing and Managing CoVID Organ Dysfunction

And why are they so sick?





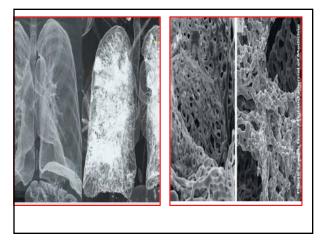
## **Providing Critical Care**

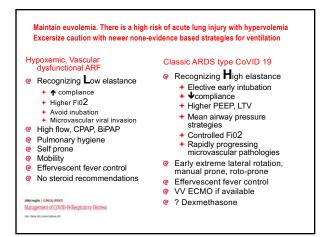


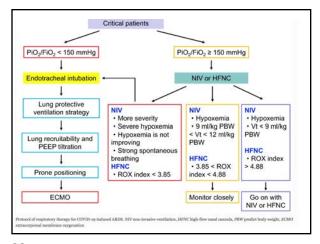
- Exuberant inflammatory response
- Severe hypoxia and loss of lung compliance
- Capillary permeability changes
- Profound histopathology changes
- Euvolemia, not hypervolemia
- Aggressive coagulation
- Increased blood viscosity

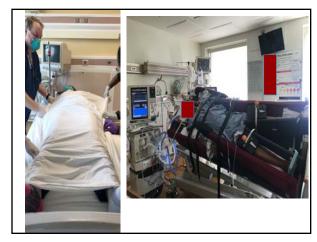
26

# Acute Alveolar Injury: CARDS and Sepsis COVID-19 COVID







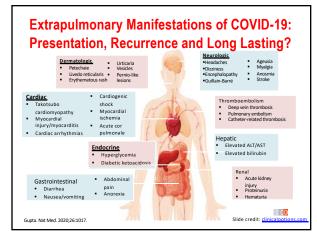


# **Characterization of COVID-19 Patients Returning for Care After Hospitalization**

- Retrospective cohort study of patients with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection discharged from 5 NYC hospitals (N = 2864)
  - + 3.6% (n = 103) sought emergency care after median 4.5 days
- + 2.0% (n = 56) required inpatient readmission
- One half of patients returning for care experienced respiratory distress
- © Compared with patients not returning for care, those seen again had:
  - + More COPD (6.8% vs 2.9%) and hypertension (36.0% vs 22.1%)
  - + Shorter median length of initial stay (4.5 vs 6.7 days)

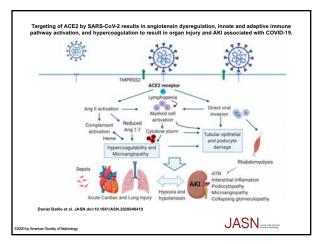
Somani. J Gen Intern Med. 2020;[Epub].

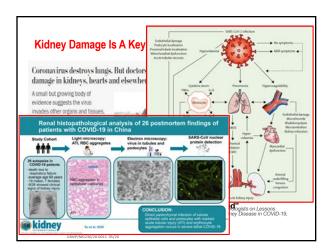
Slide credit: clinicaloptions.com



## **Renal Dysfunction**

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# Maintain euvolemia. There is a high risk of acute kidney injury with hyper/hypovolemia.

#### What can I do to improve CRRT in CoVID

- Limiting fluid resuscitation
- Monitored and early Anticoagulation ( to the filter first)
- Blood flow advice
- OTI? What is the role
- Change in renal replacement methodology
- @ Citrate?
- Daily evaluation?
- Careful monitoring of filter, transmembrane, Δ pressure and return pressures
- Early intervention for refractory metabolic acidosis

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#### **CRRT Is Preferred RRT Modality in COVID-19**

#### **Patients**

- Clinical guidelines recommend CRRT for hemodynamically unstable patients
- Slow, gradual fluid removal allows time for the vascular space to refill, reducing the impact on hemodynamics and organ perfusion
- Accurate measures of fluid removal and infusion facilitate precise control over patient fluid balance
- Gradual process allows solute and fluid removal to be fine-tuned on an

oneoine hasis
CRRT (if available) is preferred
over intermittent hemodialysis in
the setting of
biocontainment/isolation as
intermittent hemodialysis requires
1:1 nursing support. Health Trust,

American Society of Nephrology (ASN)
"If available at an institution, the preferred modality for RRT in critically ill patients is CRRT or PIRRT..."

#### Acute Dialysis Quality Initiative (ADQI)

"Continuous types of RRT are recommended in situations where shifts in fluid balance and metabolic fluctuations are poorly tolerated."

#### Kidney Disease | Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO)

"We suggest using CRRT, rather than standard intermittent RRT, for hemodynamically unstable patients."

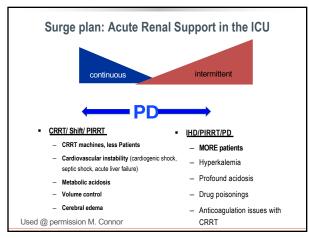
#### Surviving Sepsis Campaign (SSC)

"We suggest using CRRT to facilitate management of fluid balance in hemodynamically unstable UNION TO STATE AND TO STATE OF STATE

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#### Issues?

- Can we provide enough CRRT in a CoVID surge?
- How do we deal with the increased clotting in a non-citrate hospital?
- Its not just about ventilators, it is about CRRT
  - Can you plan to increase your devices?
    - No hoarding allowed
- Remember the kidney is the last to recover, plan for longer term dialysis



#### Goals and demands

- A: acid base balance
- E: electrolyte disorders
- I: intoxications
- O: overload (fluid)
- U: uremia

- A: anticoagulation
- E: extra demands on staff
- I: immediate attention to Filter pressures and alarms
- O: overcoming immobility
- U: unexpected issues with drug clearance







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# Options for Ordering Fluid Removal during CRRT

NET zero: DO NOT remove ANY fluid, just solutes!: making patient positive

 do not remove the fluids you are giving and do not remove any fluid from the patient

Net Even: Match total Intake with total Output: making patient even

 During each 12 hour Shift - the Total Volume put into the patient and the total volume removed from the patient ( pumps tubes and CRRT Should be equal

**Net Negative Fluid Removal:** making patient negative

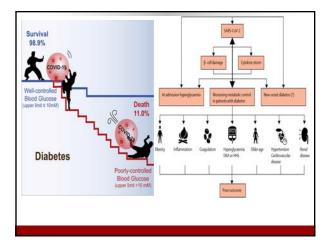
Match I and O and then remove more!

#### Unknowns of Hemofiltration for Sepsis/CoVID

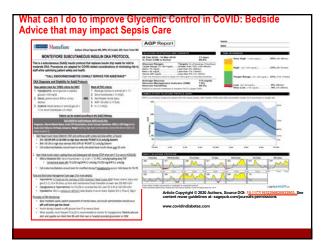
- Interaction of immune system with foreign surface of the circuit?
  - Complement activation
  - Bradykinin generation
  - Leukocyte adhesion
- Clearance of anti-inflammatory mediators?
- Clearance of unknown good mediators?
- What do plasma levels of mediators really mean?
- What is next?

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## **Hperglycemia**







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# **Prioritizing Critical Care Interventions**

- Supports the organ systems most likely to cause death
- ② Do not introduce anything new without adequate training!
- © Demonstrated effectiveness or best professional judgment to improve survival in similar clinical conditions
- On not require prohibitively expensive equipment
- Should be implemented without consuming extensive staff or hospital resources

#### **Staff Psychological Issues**

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## Reactions to serving in a combat zone Just like a pandemic!

- Reactions to being in a pandemic zone may disappear when normalized
- The persistence of feelings of isolation and failure can cause significant feelings of despair
- Serving in a combat (pandemic) zone can change worldview
  - → The world isn't safe→ I might be harmed

  - + I might harm my family and friends + I must be ready for danger at all times

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# **Psychological Issues**

- @ Tips for Survival
  - ◆Promotion of safety
  - ◆Promote calm
  - →Promote connectedness
  - ◆Promote self-efficacy
  - →Promote hope
  - **+R**est
  - **+R**eturn home
  - +Rejuvenate!

Sorrow and Sharing	

## Prepare your staff

- @ practicing response roles
- e implementing all levels of quarantine
- @ enforcing movement restrictions
- @ managing limited resources
- e handling mass fatalities
- @ conducting mental health screening
- e coping with high stress demands
- preparing for the needs of their families if workers are required to be more engaged at work or quarantined

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# The pandemic stress: life in the time of CoVID

- physical strain of protective equipment (dehydration, heat, exhaustion)
- physical isolation (restrictions on touching others, even after working hours)
- constant awareness and vigilance regarding infection control procedures
- pressures regarding procedures that must be followed (lack of spontaneity)

## Prepare your staff

- Specific details about transmission of the COVID-19 virus
- When and how to screen patients and, potentially, family members
- The use of personal protective equipment
- When to invoke quarantine and isolation
- Ethical decision-making about triage and surge capacity issues

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## Prepare your staff

- continued daily workload demands competing with COVID-19 preparation and treatment measures
- @ a need to maintain high standards in the face of a low-frequency event within which official recommendations and policies change regularly
- possible separation from and concern about family members
- e fears about infection and subsequent implications for self, patients, and family
- inner conflict about competing needs and demands

#### **Be Observant**

- **@**PTSS
- Oepression
- Substance abuse (usually ETOH)
- @ Panic Disorder
- Phobias
- © Somatic Symptoms

61

#### What we saw

- @ Extreme mental and physical challenges
- @ Isolation
- @Spiritual decline
- @PPE fatigue
- @Short tempers
- @ Failure to filter
- @ Call-ins increasing
- Others picking up slack

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## Working your staff to DEATH

- @ Monitor and support staff activities.
- If staff seem tired and wornout, REQUIRE them to take a break
- Provide resources to staff to help take care of their physical and emotional health
- Provide a meditative quiet room for emotional breaks

## Therapeutic endeavors

- Group therapy: sharing of traumatic experiences and support from other group members
- @ Group yoga or other mind-body relaxation techniques
- Regular in person and/or virtual support groups

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# Does your system have methods to encourage dialogue and support staff?

- @A. Yes
- @ B. No
- @C. Possibly
- @D. I don't know

65

#### Mild TBI and PTSS have many smiliarities

#### Postconcussion Syndrome (PCS)

- @ Insomnia
- @ Impaired Memory
- Poor concentrationDepression
- e Deplesse Anxiety
- @ Irritability
- e Headachee Dizziness
- @ Fatigue
- Noise/Light intolerance

#### Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome

- @ Insomnia
- Memory Problems
- Poor concentration
- DepressionAnxiety
- @ Irritability
- Emotional numbing
- Q Avoidance
- Intrusive symptoms

# The pandemic stress: life in the time of CoVID

- @Little things
  - +Gratitude
  - →Praise
  - ◆Snacks and food
  - ◆Spiritual prayer
- System awareness
  - **→**Debrief
  - → Meditation
  - **+**Yoga
  - +Quiet rooms
- Support circles
- @ 30 minutes down after death

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# Gratitude from colleague to colleague









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Innovation



#### Innovation





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#### **Innovation**



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# System and Self Accountability

- e regular check-ins with colleagues, family, and friends
- working in partnerships or in teams
- brief relaxation/stress
   management breeks
- management breaks
   regular peer consultation and supervision
- time-outs for basic bodily care and refreshment
- increasing supervision, consultation, and collegial support
- regularly seeking out accurate information and mentoring to assist in making decisions
- focusing their efforts on what is within their power
- e acceptance of situations they cannot change
- fostering a spirit of fortitude, patience, tolerance, and hope

# System and Self Accountability

- @ DO
  - + self-monitoring and pacing
  - seeking out and sharing social support, virtually
  - checking in with other colleagues to discuss work experiences
  - scheduling time off work for gradual reintegration into personal life
  - talk about work experiences with others

AVOIDING negative coping strategies such as:

- use of alcohol, illicit drugs, or excessive amounts of prescription drugs, which all interfere with sleep cycles and prolong recovery
- Q AVOID
  - suddenly making big life changes
  - negatively assessing their work contributions
  - + keeping too busy
  - viewing helping others as more important than self-care

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#### **Lessons Learned from CoVID**

- One size fits all
  - → High flow oxygen vs. ladder peep and Fi02
  - ◆Less fluid and determined endpoint
  - ◆Prone, prone, prone
  - →Recognize refractory acidosis
  - →Rigorous control of hyperglycemia
- Q All of our efforts WILL change our CoVID/sepsis care

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# Lessons Learned from CoVID

- Rapid evolution of science, research and strategies
- @ Differences:
  - ◆Pathology
  - →Workload
  - +Resource
  - +Immediate burden
  - ◆Innovation
  - +Resilience



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# How CoVID has impacted disaster preparedness in my hospital

- · Resuscitation concerns and policies
- TRUE competency in Don/Doff and hazard preparedness
- ECC, EVS, Facilities, DM, CCM, Lab and nursing ALL together on this!
- Communication studies
- · Drills, drills and drills
  - Long competency classes
  - Biweekly practice Don-Doff
  - Bimonthly spill practice
- Monthly full scale drills
- Purchased additional CRRT and Mechanical Ventilators

Rise up critical care program

Disaster Care: You can never really be prepared. You can never prepare enough!

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#### How we have impacted CoVID

- @ Pumps outside room
- @ Tablets, phones and EOL visits
- @ Meditation, mindfulness, psychology rounds
- @ Meals and snacks are delivered
- Urinary monitoring devices outside room via tablet

Staff awareness: the little and the giant things that assist with emotional and moral well being

80

#### How we have impacted CoVID

- @ Mobility coach classes
- @ Prone leaders
- @ Daily Leadership calls
- Oaily CoVID updates
- @ Daily personal check in
- @ Appreciation for intra unit support
- @ EOL scheduled visits



## **Health Care Heroes**

- @ Don't call us heroes
- @We are not superhuman
- We need support
- We need space
- @We need each other
- @ Gonzales, G. (2003). Deep survival. Who lives, who dies, and why. True stories of miraculous endurance and sudden death. W.W. Norton & Company. New York.
- Reissman, D. B., Watson, P. J., Klomp, R. W., Tanielian, T. L., & Prior, S. D. (2006). Pandemic influenzapreparedness: adaptive responses to an evolving challenge. Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, 3(2).







#### What we have learned from CoVID



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