

Anaesthetic Considerations for Lung Volume Reduction Surgery—A Case Report

M Y H Chow,**MBBS, M Med*, L H Tan,***MBBS*, T Agasthian,***MBBS, FRCS*

Abstract

Introduction: This case describes some of the unique problems faced by the thoracic anaesthesiologists during anaesthesia for lung volume reduction surgery. **Clinical Picture:** The usual pulmonary function requirements for lobectomy are normally not met in these patients with severe emphysema. **Treatment:** Maintenance of the functional residual capacity of the lung and normocapnia during anaesthesia are not as important. Instead problems due to barotrauma and dynamic hyperinflation from positive pressure ventilation are. **Outcome:** Modification of ventilation strategy and providing an anaesthetic tailored towards early extubation is the cornerstone of the anaesthetic plan. **Conclusion:** A good understanding of the respiratory physiology in patients with severe emphysema is essential.

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Key words: Dynamic hyperinflation, Early extubation, Emphysema, One-lung ventilation, Permissive hypercapnia

* Consultant

** Registrar

Department of Anaesthesia and Surgical Intensive Care
Singapore General Hospital

*** Senior Consultant

National Cancer Centre, Singapore

Address for Reprints: Dr Mark YH Chow, Department of Anaesthesia & Surgical Intensive Care, Singapore General Hospital, Outram Road, Singapore 169608.