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DEPARTMENT OF CARDIOPULMONARY PERFUSION CARE
TECHNOLOGY

COURSE NAME: CPB & Perfusion Technology – II

TOPIC : Basics of ECMO

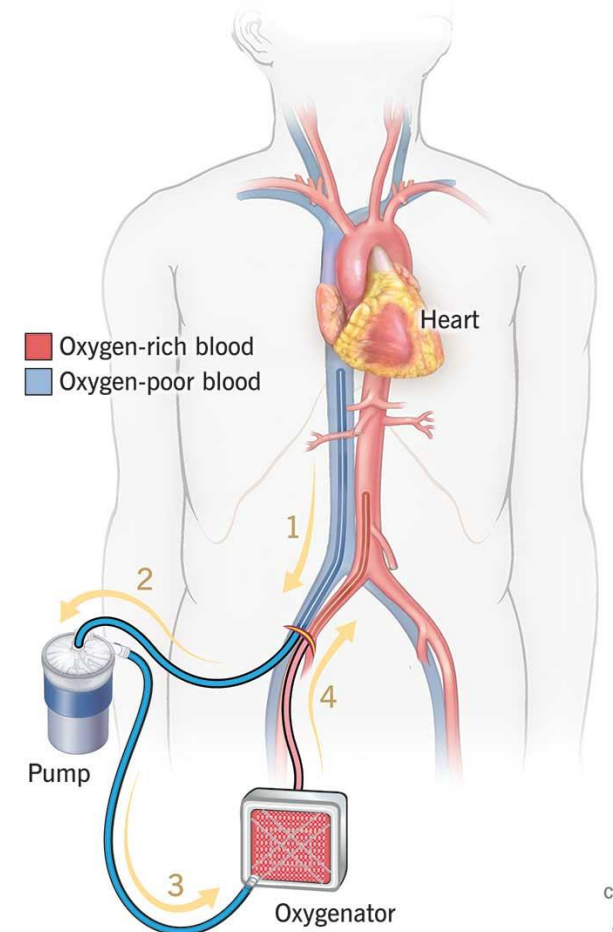


ECMO



- Extra- Corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) is a ***closed system*** without a venous reservoir mostly using a centrifugal pump
- ***It is a technique used to provide support to patients with severe but potentially reversible pulmonary and / or cardiac failure, with recovery expected in two to four weeks***
- ECMO is a ***supportive therapy***

ECMO
Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation





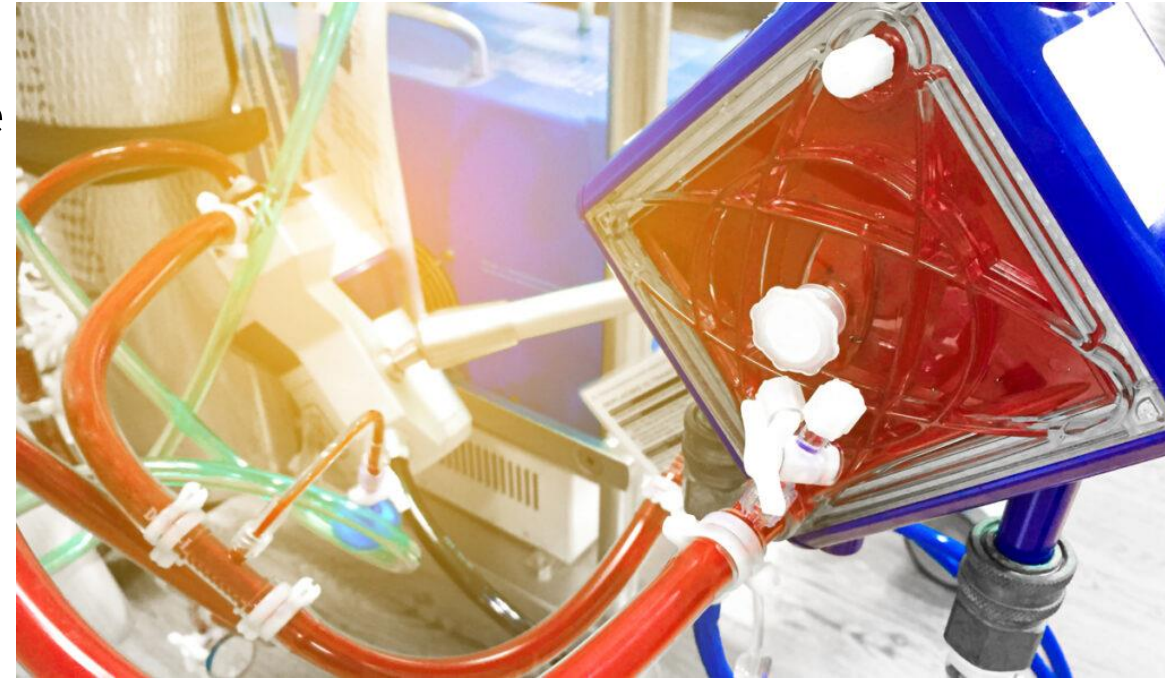
ECMO



A centrifugal pump and a membrane lung temporarily provide *life support* by taking over the functions of lungs or the entire cardiopulmonary system.

ECMO,

- Allows organs a time to heal
- Reducing the damaging effects of barotrauma
- Oxygen toxicity to lungs

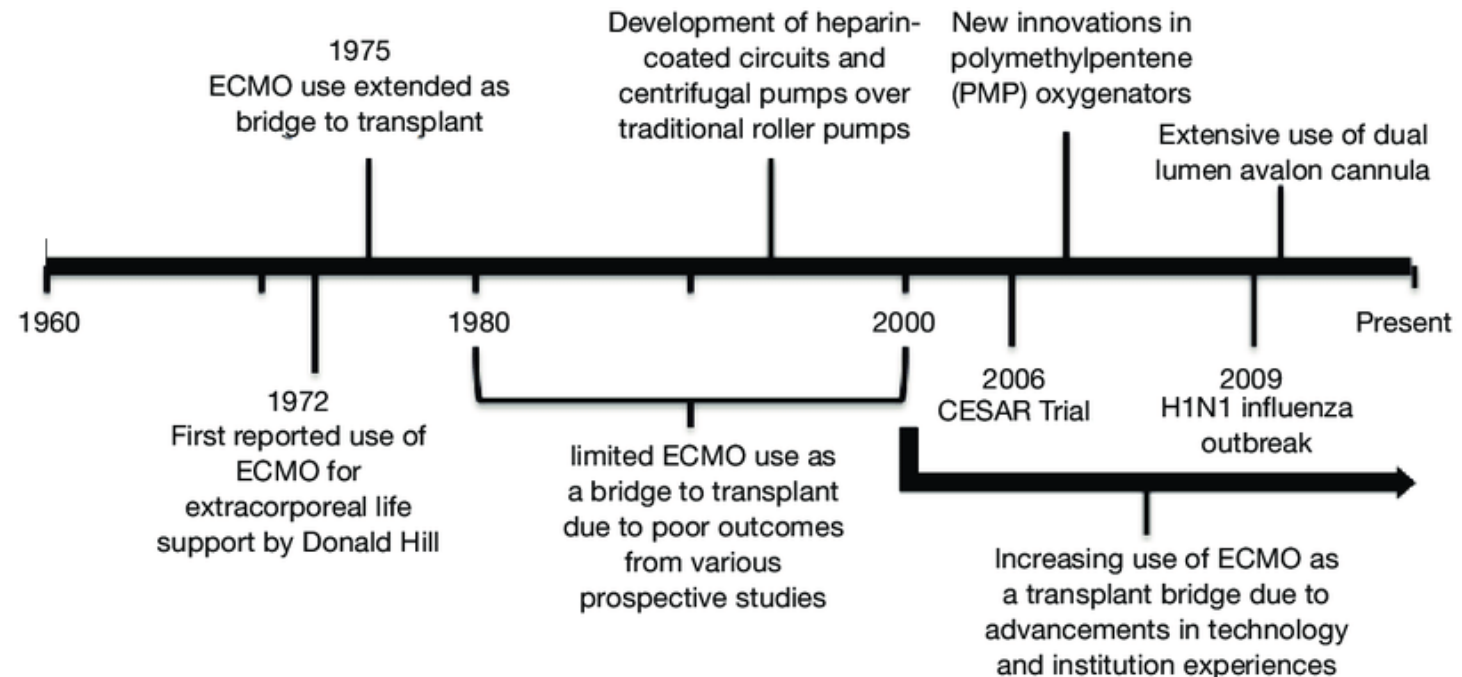




HISTORY



- The first successful use of ECMO was reported by **Hill** for the treatment of **posttraumatic ARDS** in an adult patient in 1972.
- Following this early success, in 1979 **Zapol** conducted a randomized controlled trial of VA ECMO in adult patients in the USA.
- However, this trial was fundamental to the development of a number of treatment principles relating to ECMO





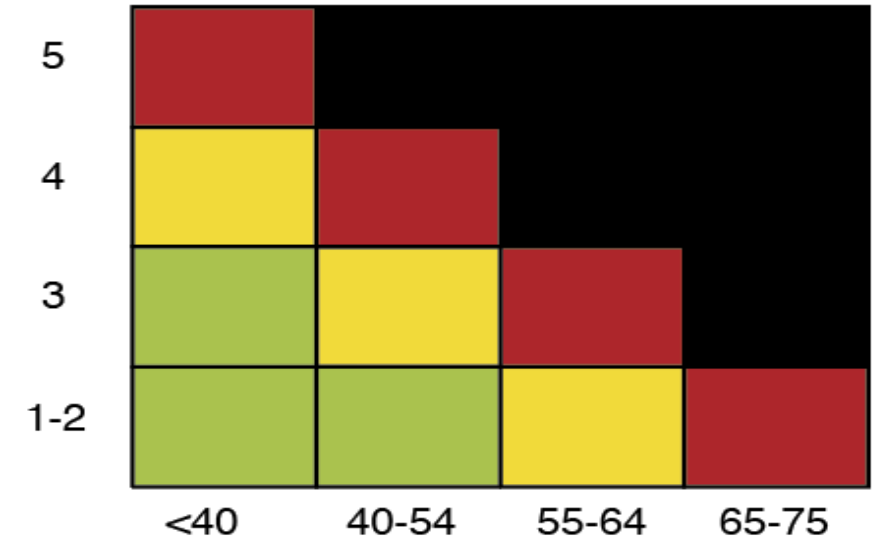
HISTORY



Treatment principles:

- Selecting patients before irreversible ventilator-associated lung injury has occurred
- The use of lung protective ventilation
- The use of low-range heparinization
- The use of veno-venous ECMO for respiratory support.

Eligibility chart



The chart indicates eligibility and expected outcome for VV ECMO according to patient age and risk score (1-5) which is the diagnostic group 1, 2 or 3 plus presence of acute (+1) and/or chronic modifiers (+1).

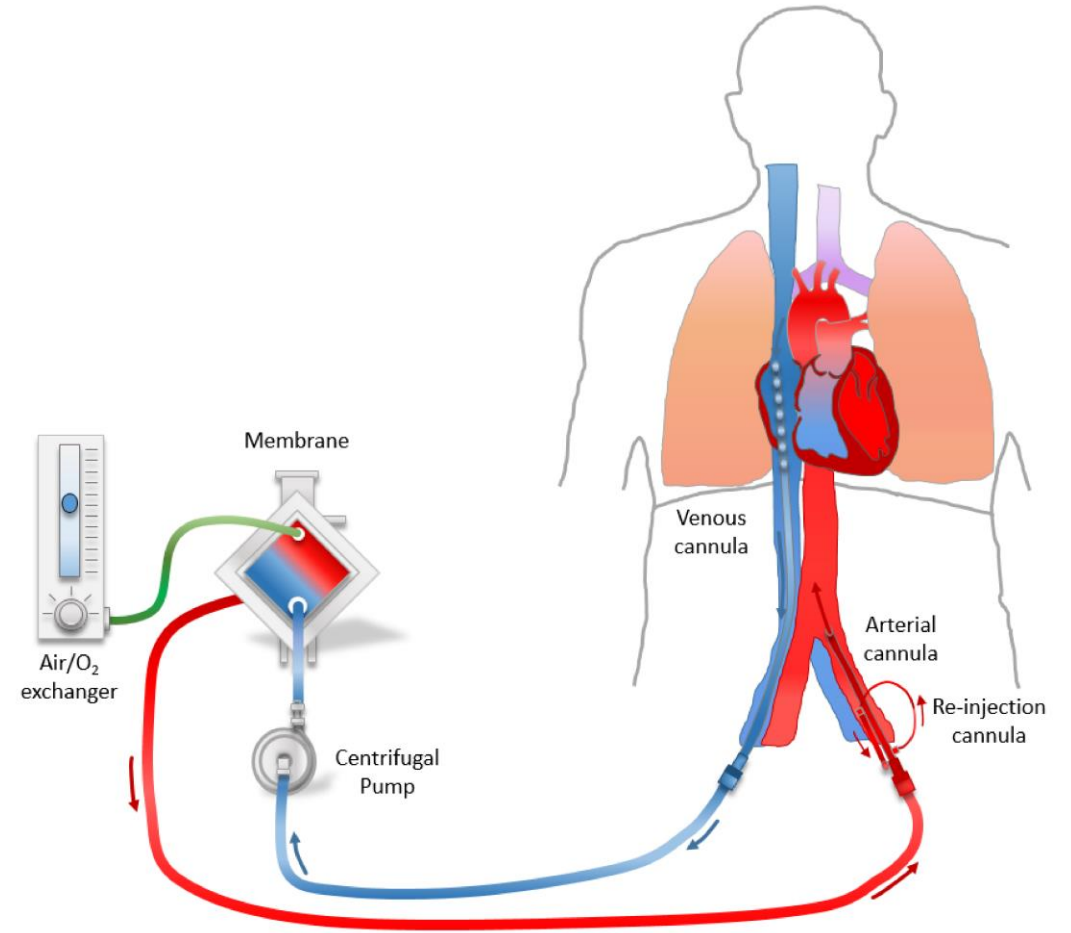
GREEN Good expected outcome
YELLOW Uncertain expected outcome
RED Poor expected outcome
BLACK Negligible benefit



USE OF ECMO



- **Respiratory** Support
- To provide primarily **Circulatory** Support
- Combined **Cardio Respiratory** support
- Bridge to **LVAD**
- Bridge to **Decision Making**
- **ECPR** (Extracorporeal Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation)
- For primary **Angioplasty** Support
- **Poisoning** Cases





For cardiac support



- ECMO unloads the distended and poorly contractile Heart
- It decreases Ventricular wall stress
- It decreases Myocardial work load
- It creates favourable environment for myocardial recovery.





INDICATIONS FOR ECMO



Paediatric & Neonatal:

- Cardiac arrest
- Failure to wean from cardiopulmonary bypass
- Treatment of fulminant myocarditis

Adults:

- cardiac arrest, cardiogenic shock, cardiac trauma, drug overdose, hypothermia.
- pulmonary edema, pulmonary embolism, status asthmaticus, smoke inhalation

• Procedural support:

- abdominal aortic graft replacement
- angioplasty, arrhythmia ablation, tracheal surgery
- cerebral arterio-venous malformation resection
- donor organ preservation, pulmonary embolectomy
- ventricular assist device placement



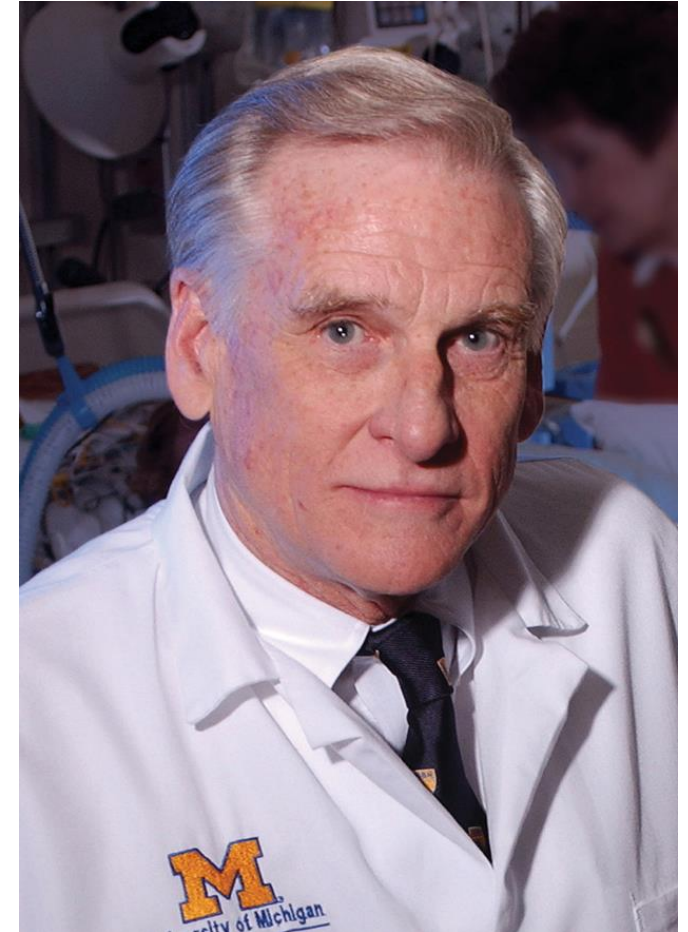
For Respiratory / Lung Support



ECMO for adults was pioneered by *Bartlett* and coworkers in 1988 at the University of Michigan.

Patient suitability for Lung support:

- Potential *reversibility of the disease* – only patients with acute and potentially reversible
- Etiology of respiratory failure.
- Duration of ventilation





For Respiratory / Lung Support



- The O₂ and Co₂ removal function of the lungs is replaced with a synthetic lung
- Reduces the need to **use high – pressure ventilation** and high inspired oxygen concentrations, both of these are harmful.
- Primary function of ECMO is to **reverse the systemic hypoxia**
- VV – ECMO provides “rest” to lungs and provide optimal conditions for recovery of lung function





Indications For Ecmo



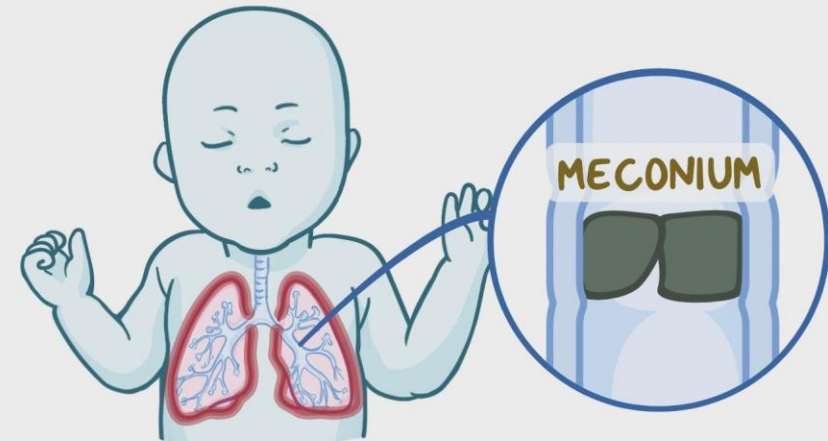
Paediatric & Neonatal:

- Meconium aspiration syndrome
- Persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn
- Congenital diaphragmatic hernia
- Severe pneumonia

Adults:

- Thoracic trauma involving lung contusion
- Smoke inhalation injury
- Severe bronchial asthma
- Severe pneumonia

MECONIUM ASPIRATION SYNDROME





ECMO components



Capital Equipment

- Centrifugal pump console
- Drive cable
- Pump head / Drive unit
- Aquatherm / Hemotherm
- Oxygen cylinder
- Continuous venous saturation monitor
- ACT machine
- Pressure monitor with cables
- Pressure bag
- Tubing clamps
- Hand crank



Tubing connects to patient

Blood gas monitor

Pressure monitoring

Water heater

ECMO pump

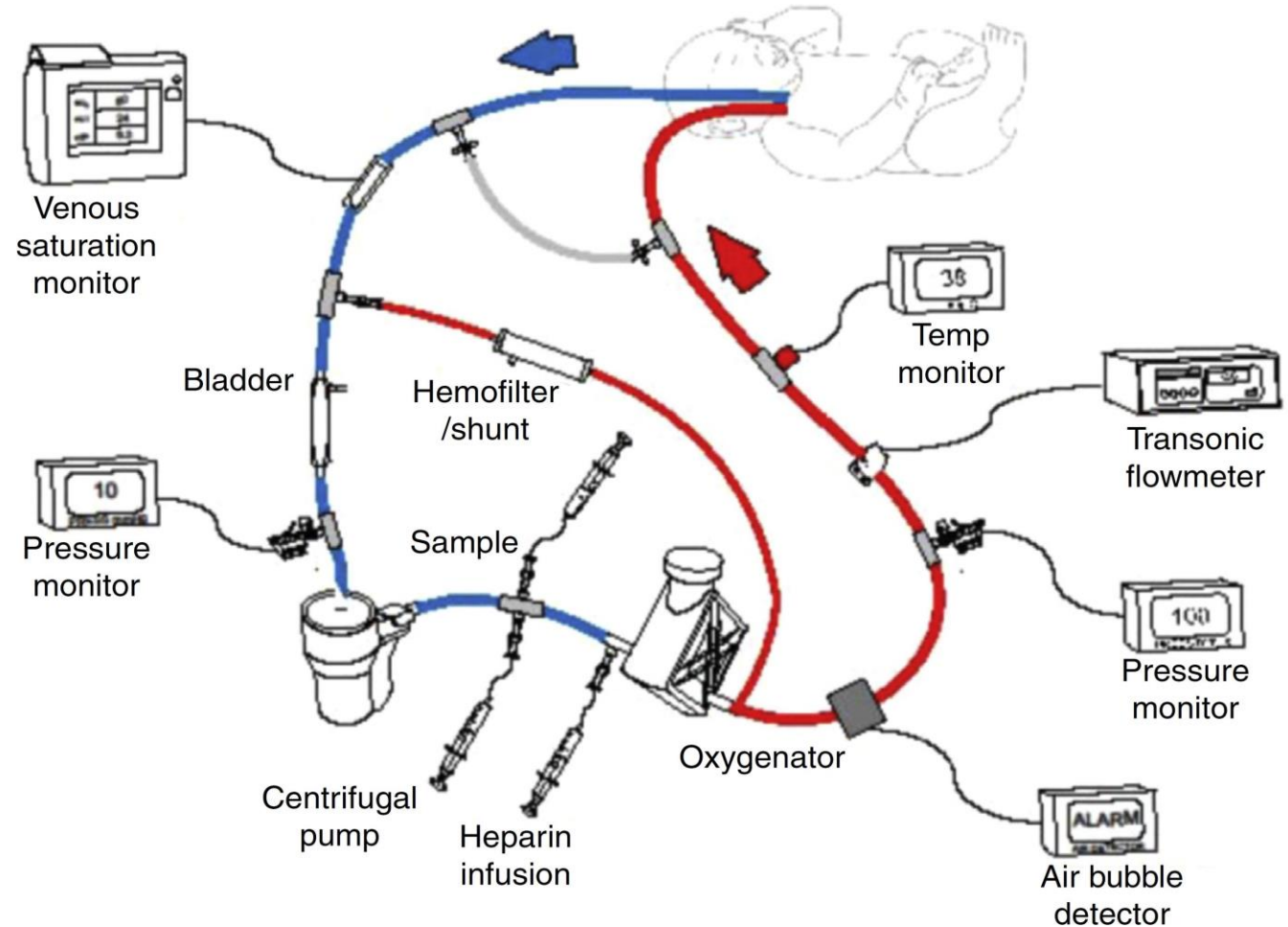
Artificial lung

Back-up battery

ECMO components

Other disposable components:

- Oxygenator
- Access cannulae
- Return cannulae
- Pressure transducers
- PM Lines
- Threeway stopcocks
- Quick prime sets
- Syringes 2ml / 5ml
- Sterile gloves
- Venous saturation probe
- ACT Catridges





Contents of ECMO Trolley



- Maquet Rota flow console
- Hand Crank
- Heater unit
- Blender
- Oxygenator holder
- Transducer holder
- IV pole
- Contact gel
- Metal clamp (4)
- 5 meter 1/4th tube (standby oxygen line)

Rotaflow Console

Oxygenator

Centrifugal Pump

Sweep Gas Flow





Connections

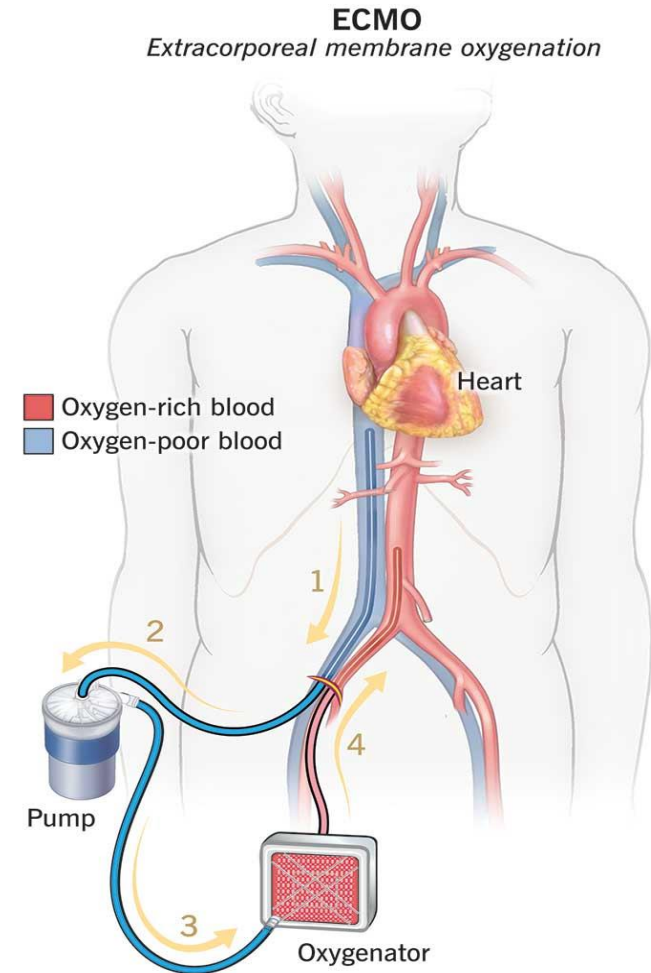


- Ensure **power cord** in
- Ensure A/C indicator light is on
- Ensure pump head drive **line** attached to drive **console**
- **Hand crank** must be sited on the trolley
- The pump is set using a **mechanical arm**.
- The pump head should be sited slightly higher than the oxygenator with the pump outlet positioning down (6'0 clock)
- Pump head inlet – 30 degree facing upwards
- **Oxygenator** should be lower than patient in order to prevent depriming of circuit in case of pump failure

Types of ECMO

V-A ECMO:

- V –A or Veno– arterial ECMO, supports both heart and lungs function.
- The surgeon places two cannulae, one in large vein and one in a large artery so that blood can be taken out of vein and returned into artery.



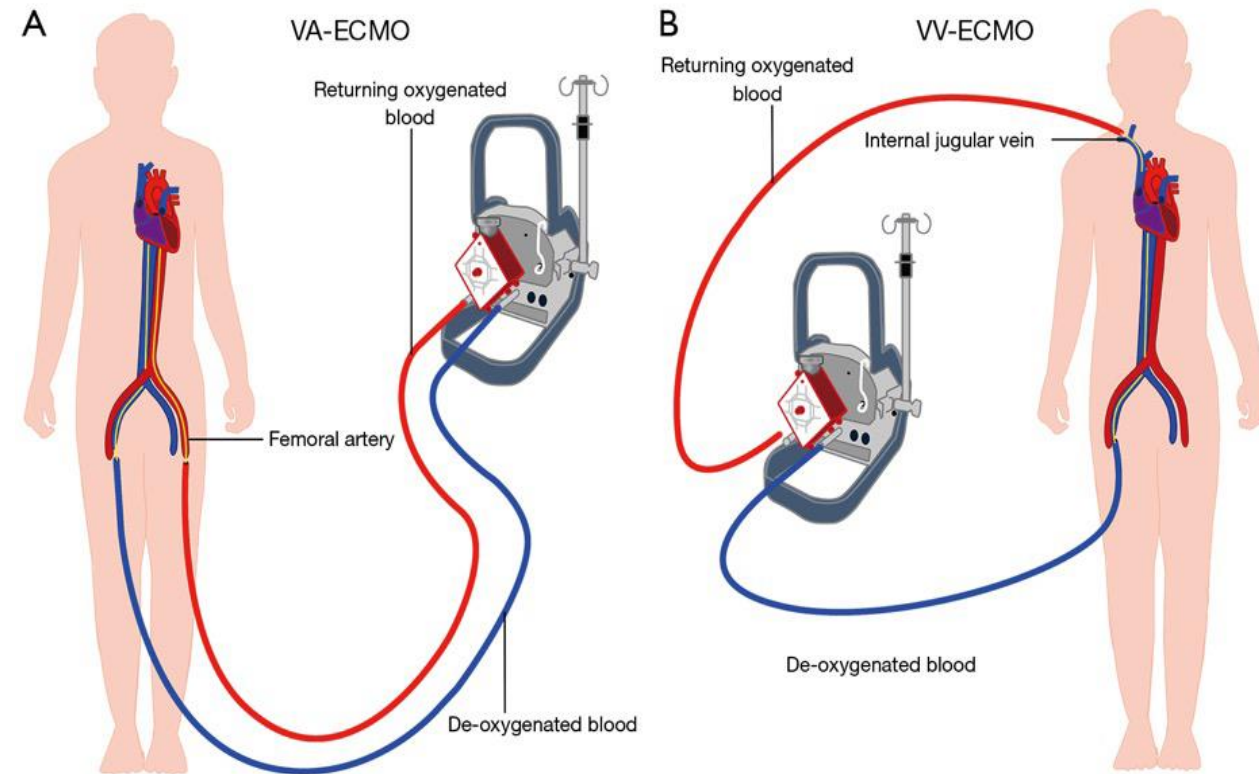
Types of ECMO

V –V ECMO:

- V –V or Venovenous ECMO, supports lung function primarily.
- Surgeon places the cannulae in the large vein only.

Central cannulation for V-A ECMO:

- It is used for neonates and small children.
- Central cannulation is through an open chest with cannulae directly placed into the arch and right atrium.





Cannulation & Method



- Blood flow in the ECMO circuit is dependent on the size of the cannula.
- A shorter cannula with a **greater internal diameter** will provide **higher flows** through the ECMO circuit.

Cannulas can be placed via:

Cut down – cut down cannulation of the neck vessel is usually necessary in neonates and children

Percutaneous cannulation (Seldinger Technique) – used for VV ECMO in children over age two and in adults

Direct cardiac cannulation – used for patients who cannot come off CPB in the OR, using the CPB cannulas



Cannulation & Method



Three ways of accessing the major vessels for ECMO

Surgical central cannulation:

- Connecting an arterial cannula or Dacron graft to major vessels of thorax
- If cannula is connected directly to the aorta, the chest is usually left opened or closed by tunnelling the cannula like ICD tube

Surgical peripheral cannulation:

- It involves placing the cannulas in femoral vessels via cut down
- Dacron graft to right subclavian artery is used when no alternative is available to maintain perfusion to distal femoral artery.



ACT & Targeted Cannula Site



- A bolus of Heparin – **50 to 100 units per kilogram**
- Given just prior to cannula placement
- Heparinization is to be done even the patient is coagulopathy and bleeding
- ACT of **180 seconds – 220 seconds**

Targeted vessels:

VA – Central ECMO = RA to AORTA

VA – Peripheral ECMO = FV to FA

VA – Peripheral ECMO = FV to Axillary artery

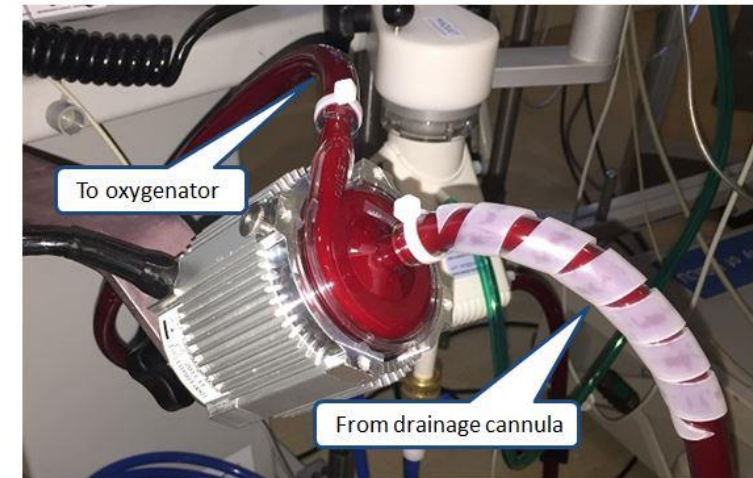
VV – Peripheral ECMO = FV to IJV

Cannulation sites varies with hemodynamic stability of patient, time of initiation whether its pre, intra, post op period.



CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS

- **Centrifugal pumps** – These utilize the spinning action of cones to create a constrained vortex, sucking blood into the pump head and expelling it from its outer edge.
- Centrifugal pumps must be used with venous line pressure monitoring to prevent excessive negative pressure and hemolysis.
- CentriMag (Levitronix), RotaFlow (Maquet) and BioConsole 550 (Medtronic Perfusion) are examples of centrifugal pumps commonly used for ECMO.

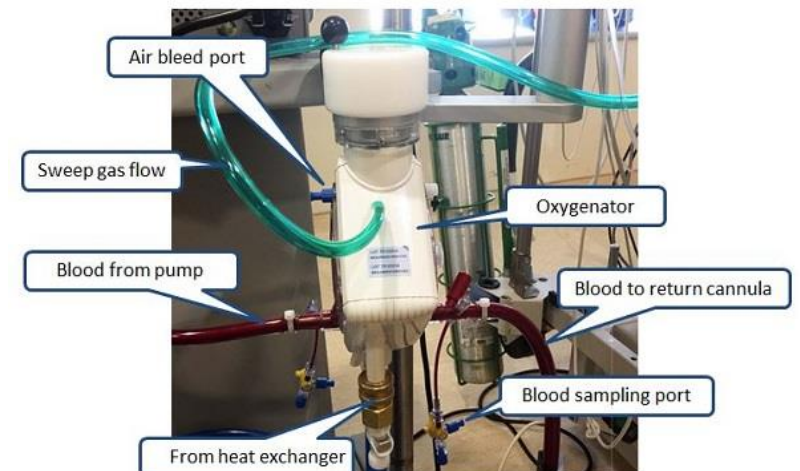
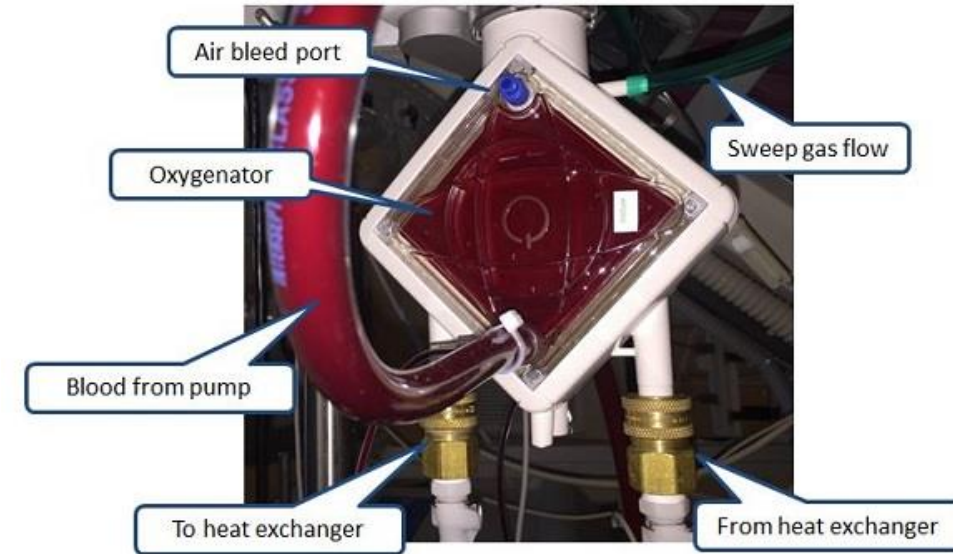




OXYGENATOR



- These are more correctly termed “*membrane lungs*” as their function is gas exchange.
- Three types of oxygenators are commonly used:
silicone spiral coil oxygenators; polypropylene oxygenators; and poly-methyl pentene (PMP) oxygenators.
- The original silicone spiral coil oxygenator (Medtronic) has been largely superseded by PMP hollow fiber oxygenators (Medos, Maquet & Dideco).
- They have a lower resistance, lower priming volume and are more biocompatible.





HEAT EXCHANGER

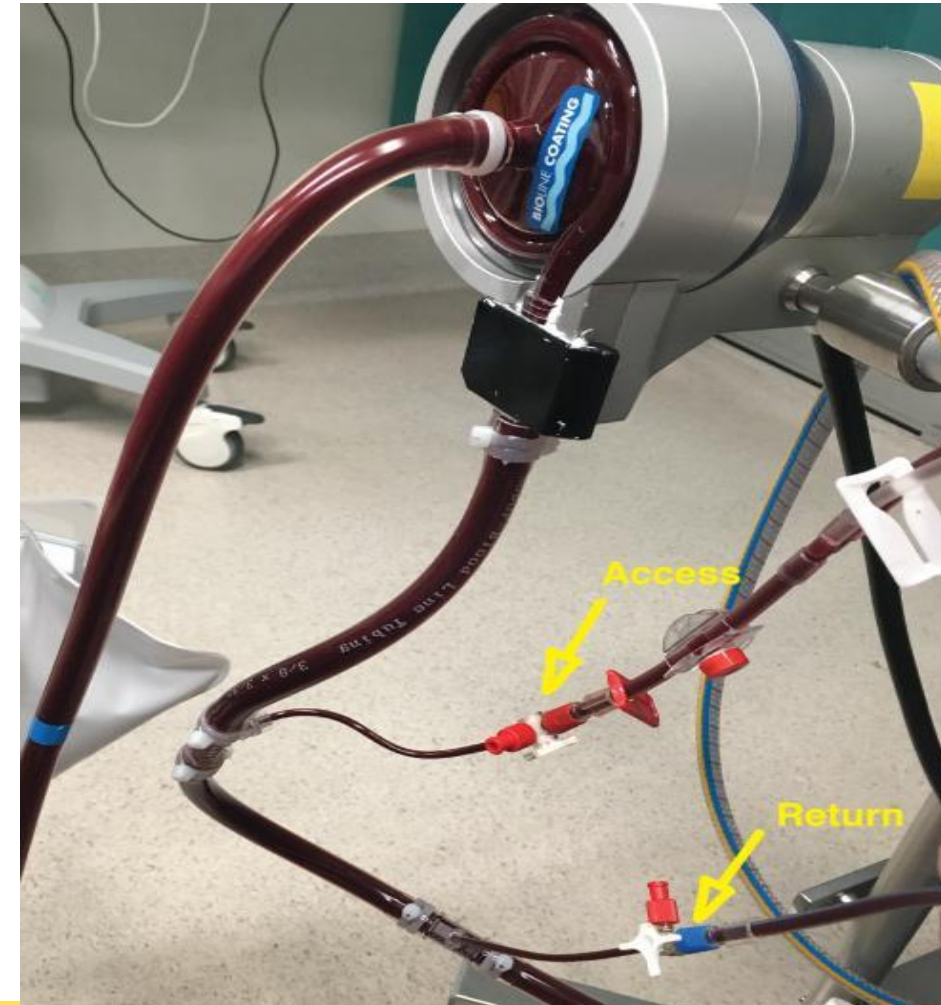


- This warms the blood before it is returned to the heart, thus allowing patient temperature regulation through the ECMO circuit.
- Most adult oxygenators have an integral heat exchanger.



BRIDGE

- This is a connecting channel between the arterial and venous limbs of the circuit.
- It is used as a bypass when it is necessary to isolate the patient from the circuit, i.e., blood can be re-circulated within the ECMO circuit in order to prevent stagnation and coagulation.





MONITORING AND SAFETY DEVICES



- **Ultrasonic flow** measurement devices are placed around the ECMO circuit tubing and **alarm limits** are set to warn of low or high flows.
- Drainage **line pressure monitors** are used to measure pressure in the venous draining cannula, which is usually negative. When the line pressure becomes very negative (i.e., more than -70 mmHg in an adult), it can cause a non-wire wound cannula to collapse and cause hemolysis.
- **Blood gas analysis** may be performed either by in-line monitoring or by intermittent sampling





Thank you



References:

ECMO Manual – Narayana Institute of Medical Sciences

<https://ecmo.icu/daily-care-nursing-routine-crrt-and-plasmapheresis-connection/>

[http://icuecmo.ca/icuECMO_content/icuECMO ECMO circuit.html](http://icuecmo.ca/icuECMO_content/icuECMO_ECMO_circuit.html)