

CLINICAL "SNIPPETS"

"Advanced life support for out-of-hospital respiratory distress."

Stiell IG, Spaite DW, Field B, et al

New England Journal of Medicine.
356(21):2156-64, 2007.

Overview: This study was extracted from data collected during the Ontario Prehospital Advanced Life Support (OPALS) study and compared the mortality of patients with respiratory distress in the BLS phase to that in the ALS phase.

Conclusion: The addition of ALS interventions to an existing BLS Emergency Medical System was associated with a decrease in the rate of death of 1.9 percentage points among patients with respiratory distress.