

## CLINICAL "SNIPPETS"

### **Noninvasive ventilation in acute care: Controversies and emerging concepts.**

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**Overview:** Conference discussion on noninvasive ventilation (NIV) and the advances in evidence and technology over the past decade.

**Conclusions:** NIV clearly improves outcomes for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and acute cardiogenic pulmonary edema when instituted as a first-line therapy. Although the evidence is less persuasive, initial intervention with NIV also might benefit a carefully selected subset of patients with acute lung injury, as well as those with acute respiratory failure who are immunocompromised.