

CLINICAL "SNIPPETS"

Prehospital noninvasive pressure support ventilation for acute cardiogenic pulmonary edema

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Overview: Severe acute cardiogenic pulmonary edema (ACPE) can successfully be treated with noninvasive pressure support ventilation (NIPSV) in a clinical setting. Whether prehospital NIPSV starting early at patients' home and being continued until hospital arrival is feasible and improves ACPE emergency care is examined in this study.

Conclusions: The need for intensive care treatment did not differ, and one patient of each treatment group died in hospital. No complications were noted during the treatment with NIPSV. Prehospital NIPSV is feasible and able to improve emergency management of ACPE.