

Use of the Anesthetic Conserving Device (AnaConDa) in the ICU: The TWH RT Experience

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Session Abstract

Inhalational anesthetic agents have traditionally been used in the Operating Room (OR) setting, however their utility in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) as an alternative to intravenous sedatives has been recently recognized in the literature. Specifically, inhaled anesthetics have potential to be used to manage mechanically ventilated patients with refractory bronchospasm and refractory status epilepticus and this is typically accomplished through the use of an anesthetic gas machine (AGM) taken from the operating room (OR). A number of challenges arise from this including firstly, physical relocation of an AGM from the OR for use in ICU, and secondly operational challenges resulting from a lack of familiarity of ICU staff with use of AGM and scavenging inhaled anesthetics. Recently, novel devices have been designed to reliably and accurately deliver inhalational anesthetics through an ICU ventilator. One such device is the Anesthetic Conserving Device (AnaConDa), which can be used in-line with a ventilator circuit and is used to deliver Isoflurane or Sevoflurane on an invasively mechanically ventilated patient. The AnaConDa was introduced at Toronto Western Hospital (TWH) in 2018 to primarily manage patients with refractory status epilepticus in order to achieve burst suppression on EEG. The TWH RTs are the primary group operating the AnaConDa. This session will provide a technical overview of the device, discussion about the TWH RT department's experience in the implementation and usability of this device and a case review.

Session Objectives

- 1. Explain the operational principles, indications, contraindications of the AnaConDa in an Intensive Care setting.
- 2. Identify the benefits, challenges and usability of the AnaConDa by Respiratory Therapists in the ICU.

Speaker Biography

Fatima Nathoo is currently a Charge Therapist at Toronto Western Hospital, providing operational oversight for RT in MSNICU, the OR and is also the TWH Clinical Coordinator for RT students at the Michener Institute of Education at UHN. Fatima studied Respiratory Therapy at The Michener Institute and completed her Masters of Public Health at the University of Toronto in 2017. Fatima has a variety of clinical experience with both adult and pediatric populations, clinical informatics and was an ECMO specialist. Her professional interests include professional development, quality improvement and clinical education.