

Changing trends in the management of end-stage neuromuscular respiratory muscle failure: Recommendations of an international consensus

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Objective: Respiratory management of patients with end-stage respiratory muscle failure of neuromuscular disease has evolved from no treatment and inevitable respiratory failure to the use of up to continuous noninvasive intermittent positive pressure ventilatory support (CNVS) to avert respiratory failure and to permit the extubation of "unweanable" patients without tracheostomy. An international panel experienced in CNVS was charged by the 69th Congress of the Mexican Society of Pulmonologists and Thoracic Surgeons to analyze changing respiratory management trends and to make recommendations. **Design:** Neuromuscular disease respiratory consensus and reviews were identified from PubMed. Individual respiratory interventions were identified; their importance was established by assessing the quality of evidence-based literature for each one and their patterns of use over time. The panel then determined the evidence-based strength for the efficacy of each intervention and made recommendat