

Low flow Anaesthesia: Revolutionising Patient Care

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Chefarzt

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IN & Out Hospital Anaesthesia:

6400 anaesthesia in ENT,
Gynaecology & Obstetrics,
General surgery, Emergency Surgery,
Dermatology

Oncologic surgery

1100 anaesthesia in
Breast Cancer Center
Pancreas Cancer Center
Colon Cancer Center
Ovarial Cancer Center

Paediatric anaesthesia

2800 in ENT, newborn and neonatal
paediatric anaesthesia, difficult airway
Management, patients with syndroms,
Anaesthesia for MRI scan

Critical Care Medicine & Pain Service

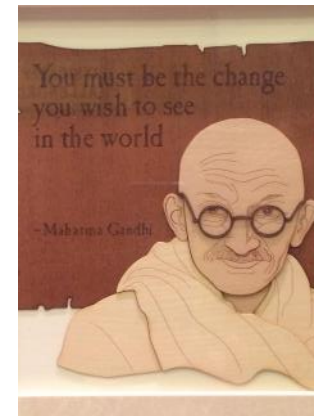
Conflict of interest:

Prof. Hönemann was paid in the last 3 years
salary for scientific and congress presentation from
following companies:

Draeger, GmbH&CoKG, Lübeck, Germany
Vifor Pharma GmbH, München, Germany
Sedana medical GmbH, Geretsried-Gelting, Germany
Ärztekammer Niedersachsen, Hannover, Germany
WIVIM e.V. , Bremen, Germany
DGAI e.V. Nürnberg, Germany
Sysmex Deutschland GmbH, Germany



New ENT Clinic + pediatric department, Central OR



Influenced by family, humans, professors, teachers, medical schools education

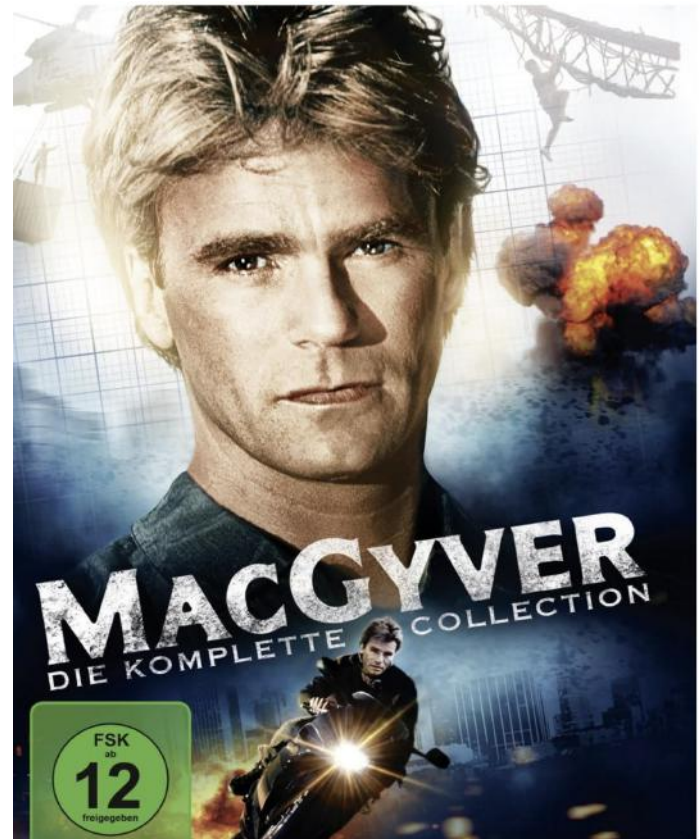


Malteser
...weil Nähe zählt.

Low Flow, Minimal and Metabolic Flow Anaesthesia

is not a rocket science

or Mac Gyver tale



“I could learn it”, so you can do it!

One fundamental part of green hospital or green anaesthesia is low flow anaesthesia

Many countries and their professional societies demand environmentally friendly implementation in the context of clinical anaesthesia.

❖ Great Britain

<https://anaesthetists.org/Home/Resources-publications/Environment/Guide-to-green-anaesthesia>

❖ United States of America

<https://www.asahq.org/education-and-career/asa-medical-student-component/green-anesthesia-initiative>

❖ Germany

<https://www.dgai.de/wissenschaft-expertengruppen/expertengruppen/foren/forum-nachhaltigkeit-in-der-anaesthesiologie.html>

❖ France

<https://sfar.org/comites/developpement-durable/>

❖ Canada, Austria,

Agenda

Green Anaesthesia and reduced fresh gas flow (minimal and metabolic flow)

I. Basics

II. Advantage for the patient

- Reduced fluid loss
- Increased Body temperature
due to better gas climatization

III. Ecological advantages

- Ozone depleting anaesthetic gases
- Greenhouse effect

IV. Economical Advantages

- Money
- Money
- money

V. Preoxygenation 6 L/min O₂

VI. Wash in period

O₂ Flow 0,7 L/min (until MAC 1.0)

VII. Steady State Period

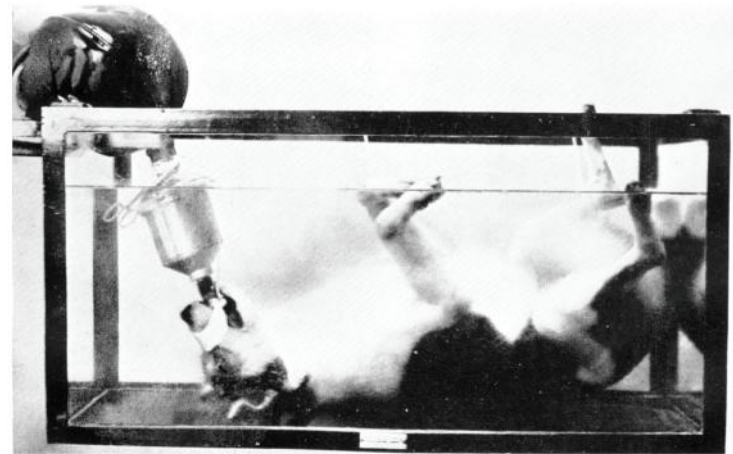
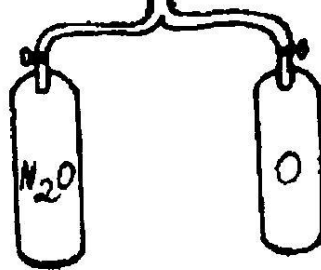
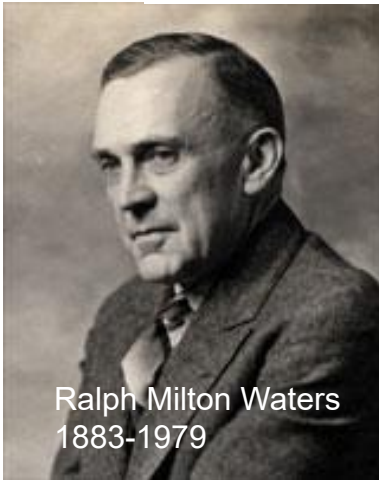
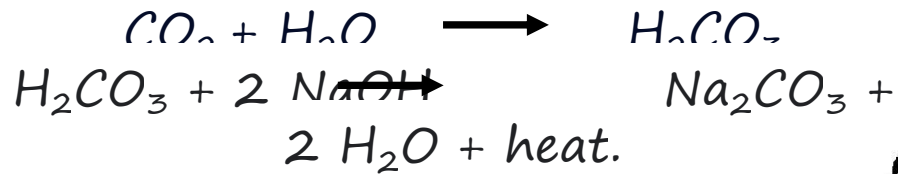
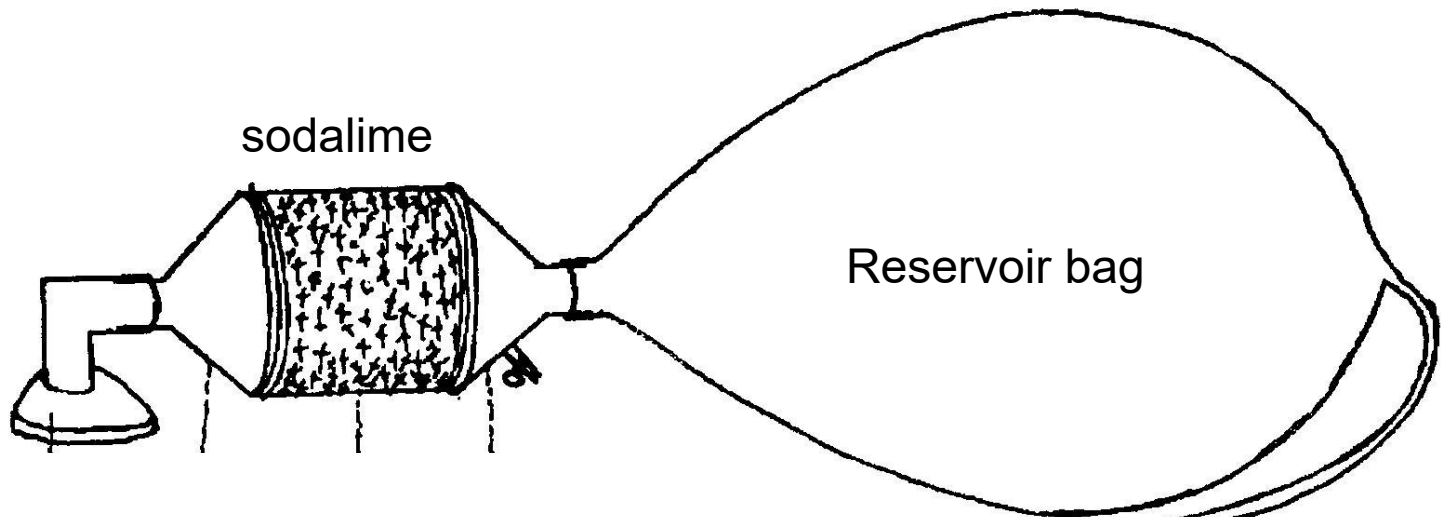
Metabolic Flow (0,35 L/min)

Closed Circuit Anesthesia

VIII. Wash out period (until extubation and transfer to the recovery)

IX. Professional technical helpers....

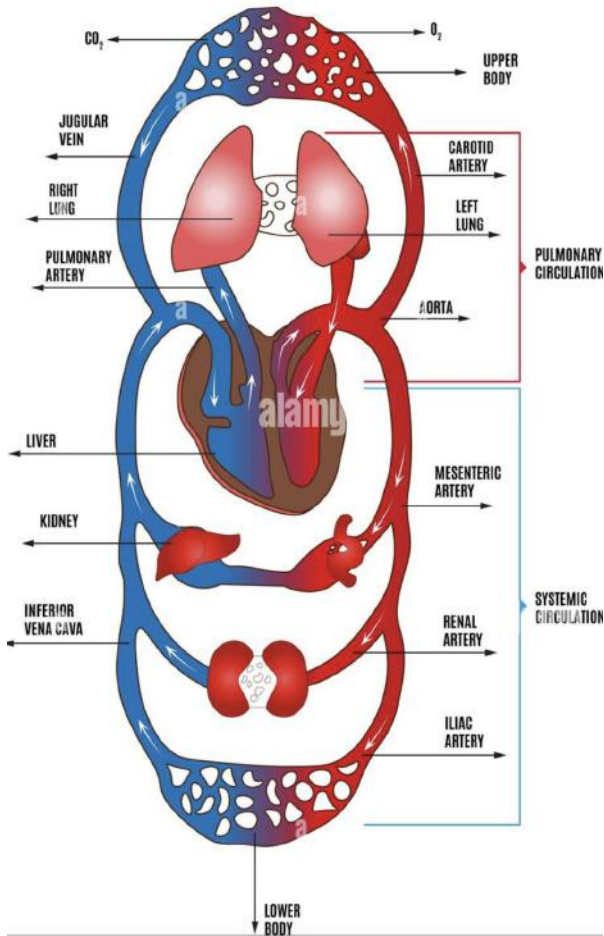
The beginning: Easy rebreathing system, presented ASA 1924



Ralph Waters' To-and-Fro System 1924

Where does CO₂ comes from? How many oxygen we need?

BLOOD CIRCULATION SYSTEM



Chemical Equation

C=Carbon, H=Hydrogen, O=Oxygen



Reactants → Products

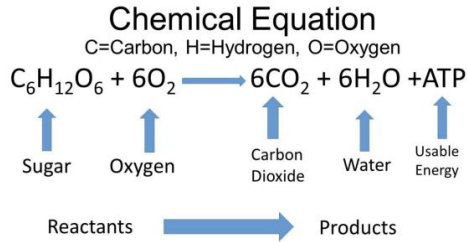
Oxygen consumption estimated by formulation by Brody

Adults	children	per kg (bodyweight)
3-4 ml / min	5-7 ml /min	

CO₂ production

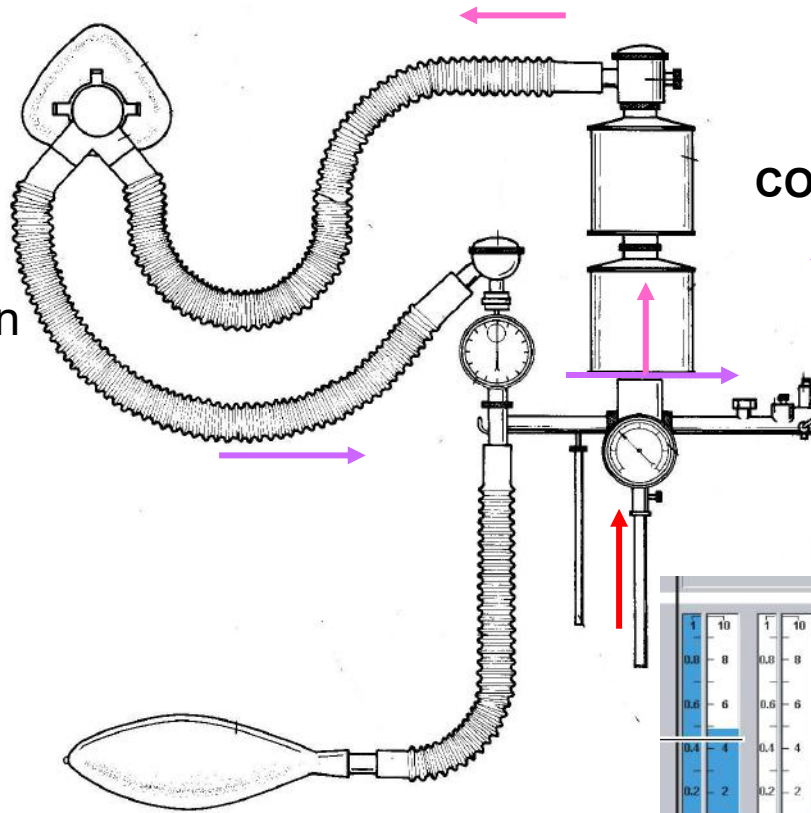
Adults	children	per kg (bodyweight)
2-4 ml / min	4-7 ml /min	

Before rebreathing the anesthetic gas, CO₂ must first be eliminated and O₂ added.



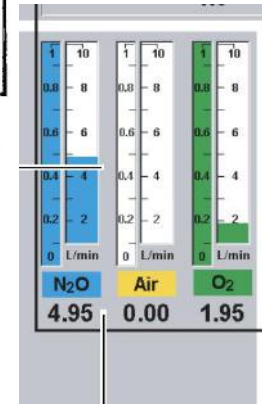
160 ml O₂ Consumption
 (e.g. 40 kg body weight)

Circle System,
 a valve controlled rebreathing system



CO₂ absorber

carbon dioxide + calcium hydroxide (limewater)
 → calcium carbonate + water

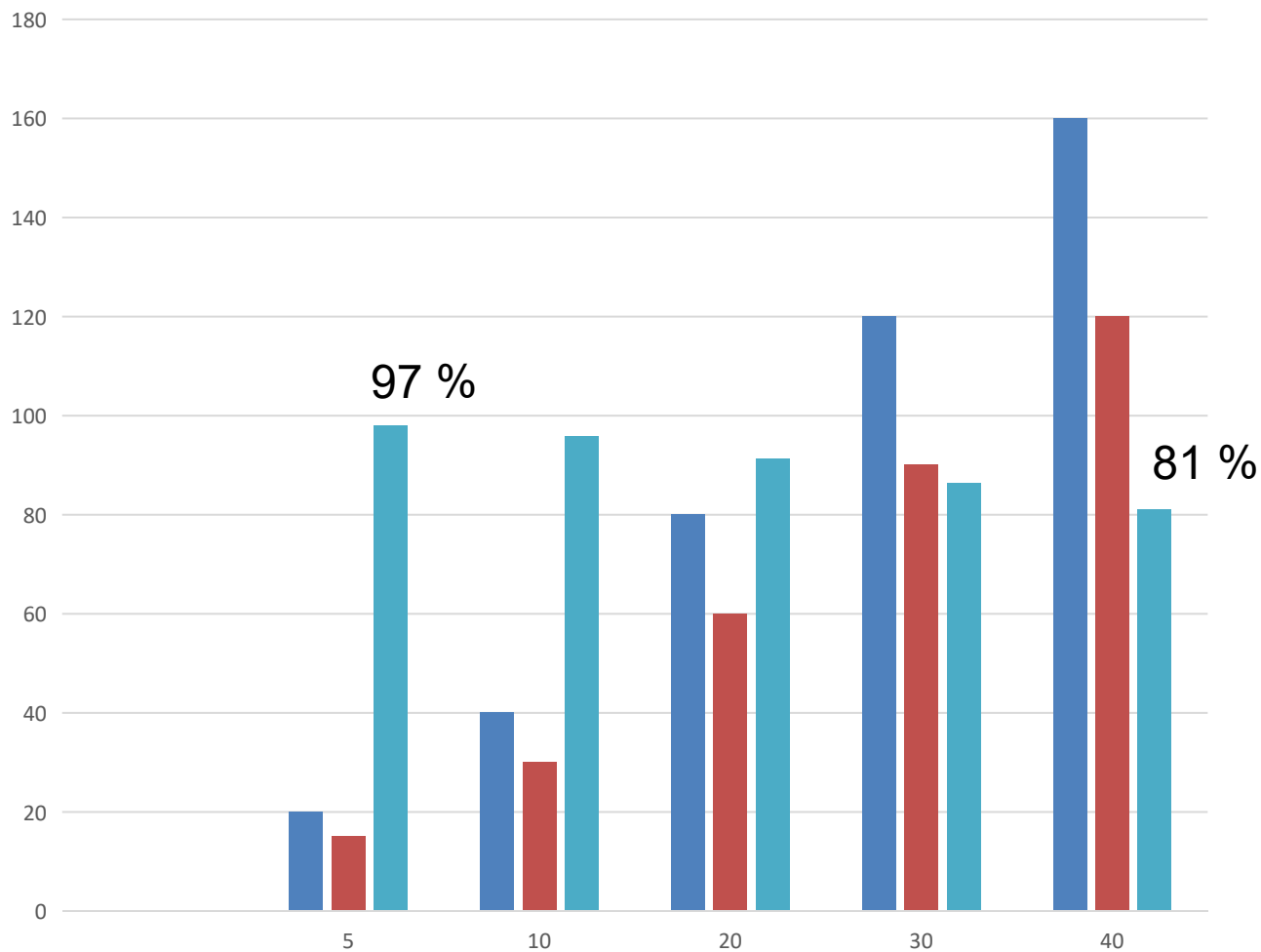


Fresh gas flow

1000 ml FLOW
 (500 ml O₂, 500 ml N₂)

Gauss und Wieland 1925
 Narcylennarkoseapparat

Efficacy of low flow anaesthesia (1 L/min)

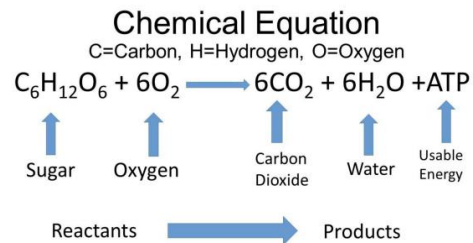


■ O₂ = consumption in ml/min

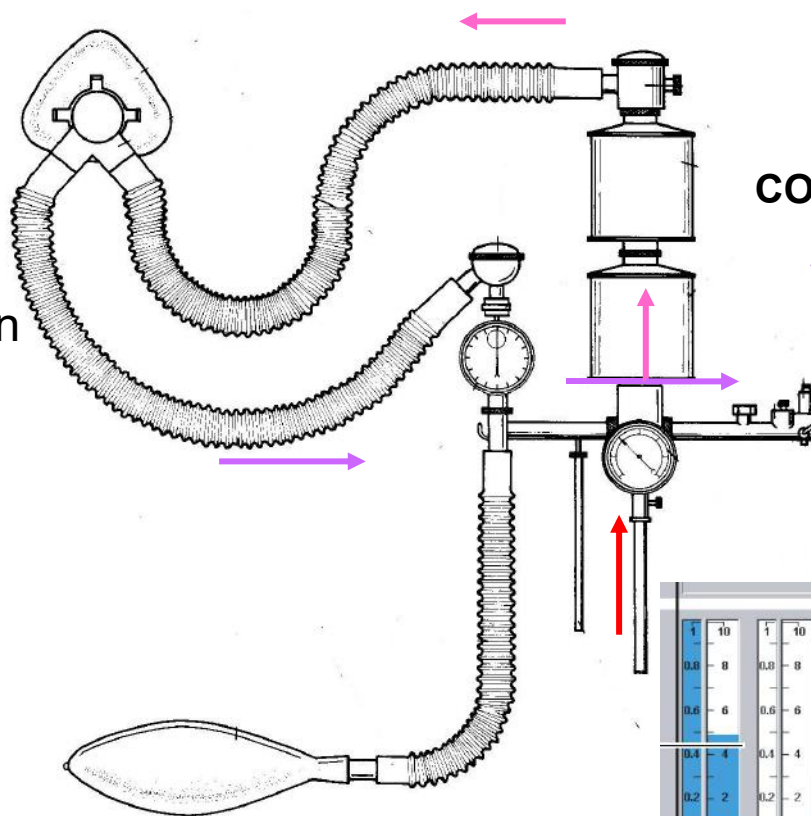
■ CO₂ = production in ml/min

e.g. children 5 - 40 kg Bodyweight (kg)

Efficacy of metabolic flow anaesthesia



160 ml O₂ Consumption

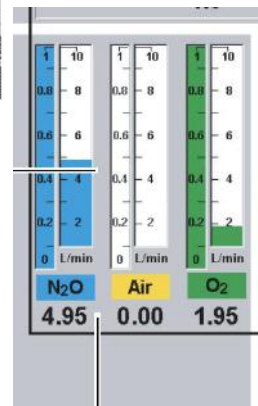


CO₂ absorber

carbon dioxide + calcium hydroxide (limewater)
→ calcium carbonate + water



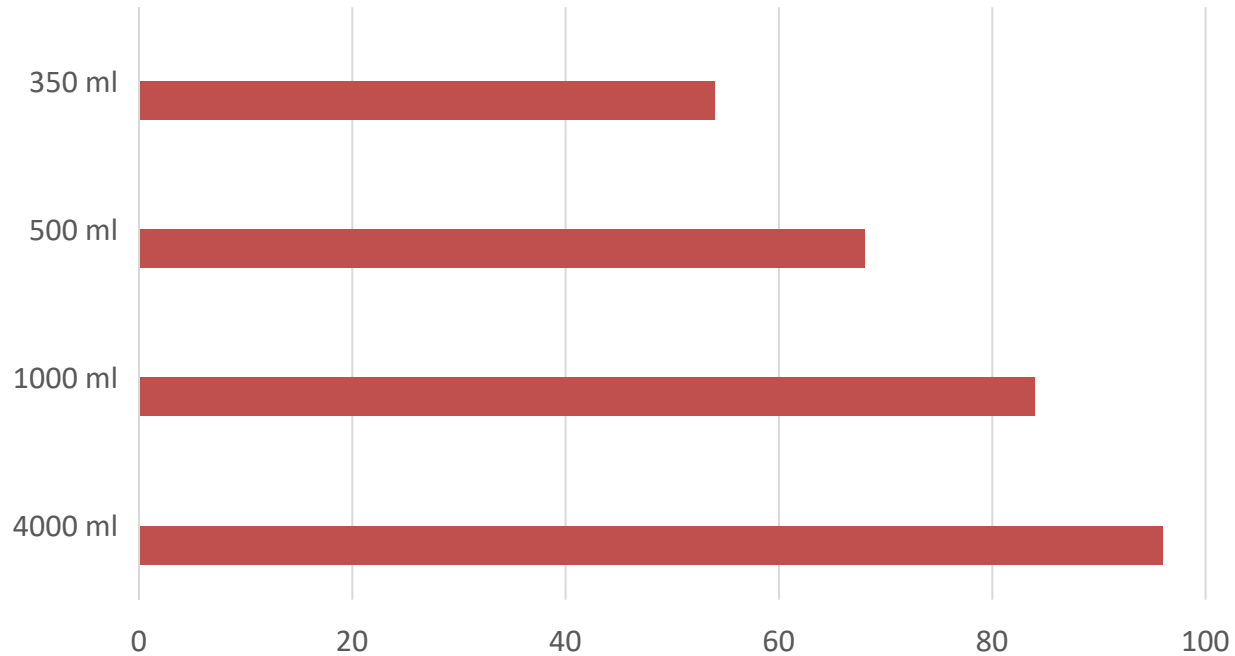
Circle System,
a valve controlled rebreathing system



Fresh gas inlet,
Fresh gas flow

350 ml O₂ FLOW

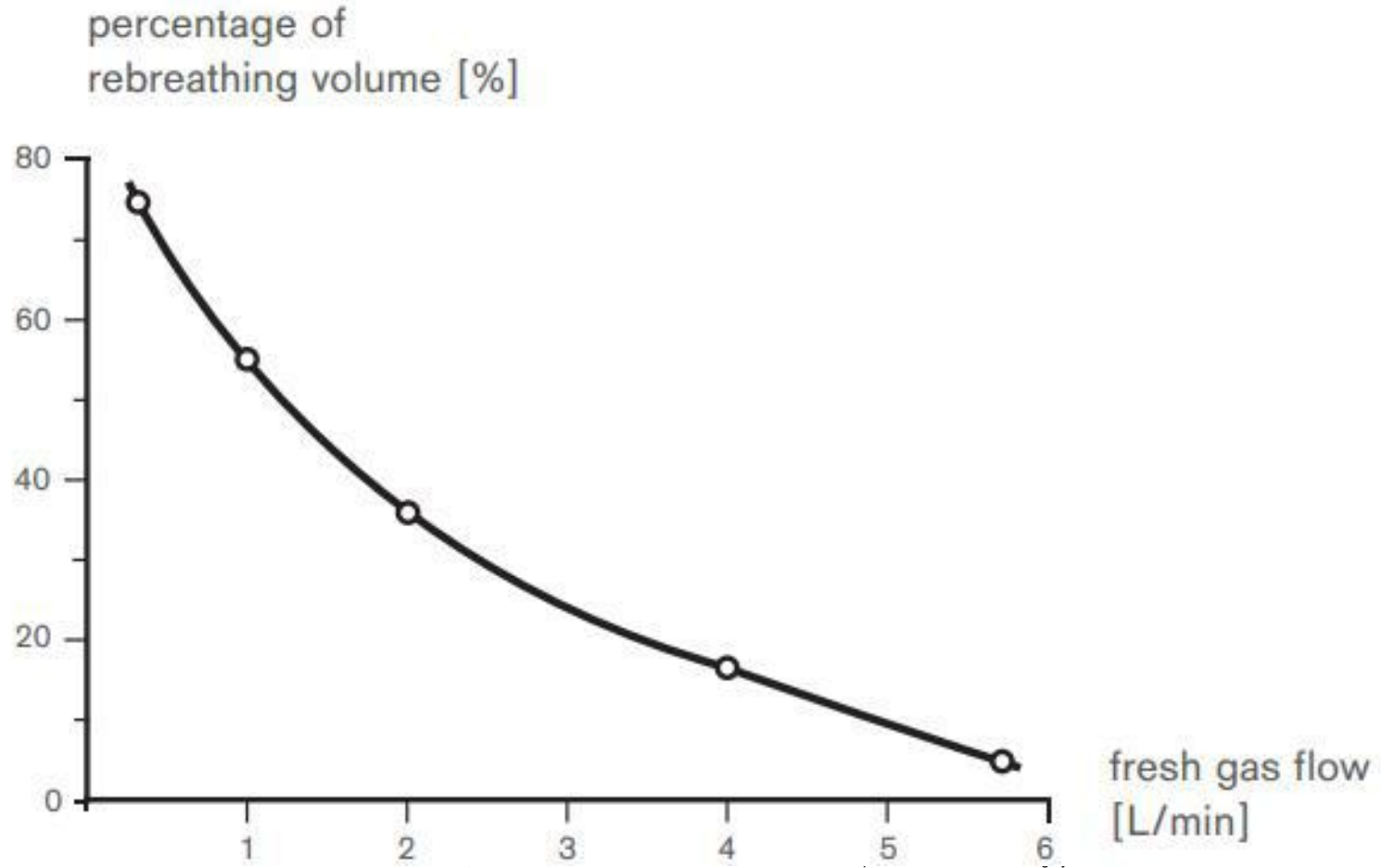
Fresh gas flow



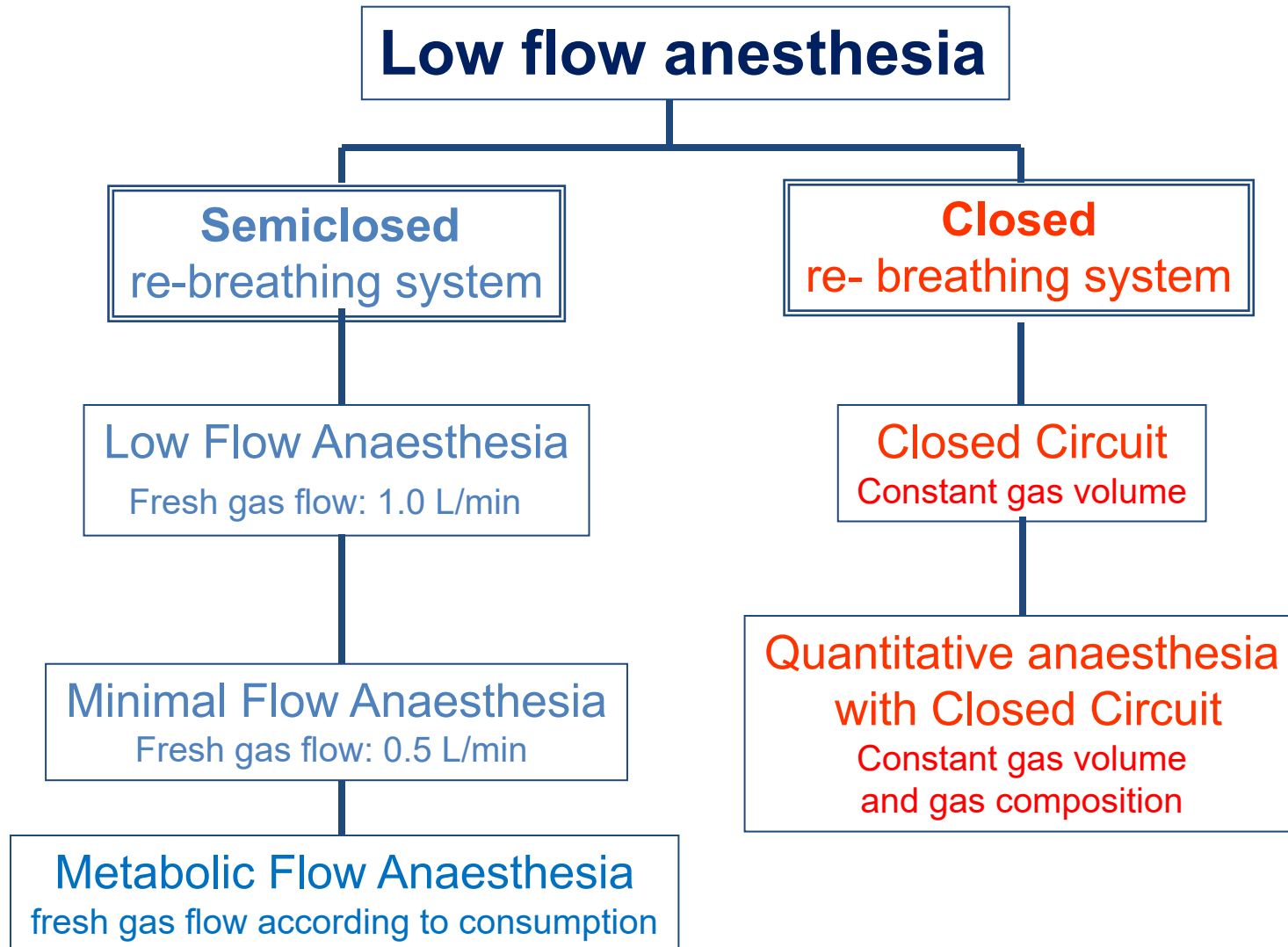
$O_2 = \text{mL/min}$
 $CO_2 = \text{mL/min}$

40 kg bodyweight (kg)

Efficacy of reduced fresh gas flow anaesthesia,
as lower the fresh gas flow, as higher the rebreathing and more efficacy



Definition:



II. Advantage for the patient

- **clinical:**
 - Better breathing gas climate (warm and humid gases)
 - Keeps body temperature constant
 - By this reduced postoperative respiratory complications

Some data from our group

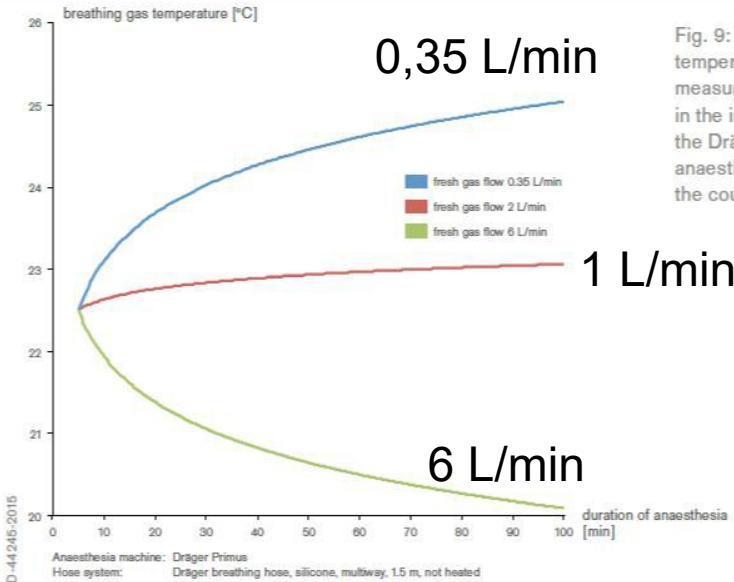


Fig. 9: Breathing gas temperature in °C measured at the Y-piece in the inspiratory arm of the Dräger Primus anaesthesia machine over the course of anaesthesia

Anesthesia

Fresh Gas Flow 0,35 L/min:

Increased circle gas temperature up to 35 °C

Increased circle gas humidity up to 100 % humidity

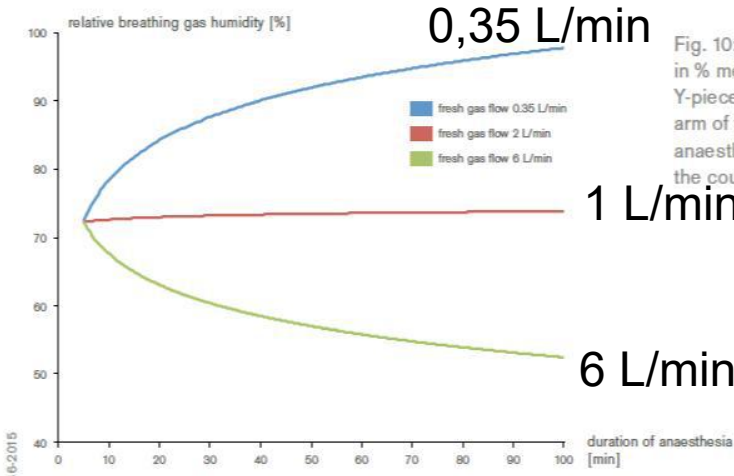


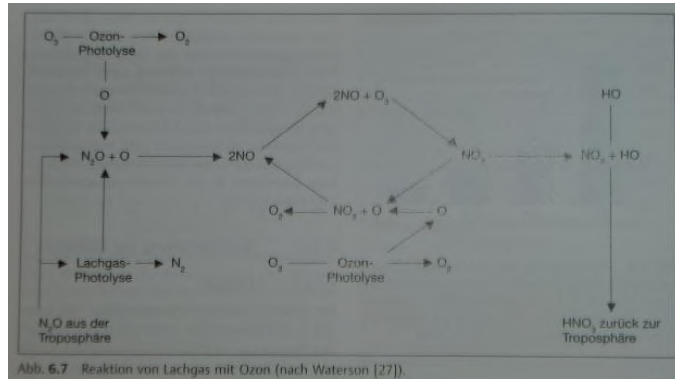
Fig. 10: Relative humidity in % measured at the Y-piece in the inspiratory arm of the Dräger Primus anaesthesia machine over the course of anaesthesia

III. Ecological advantages

- avoid unnecessary pollution with greenhous gases
- avoid nitrous oxide
- avoid desflurane

III. Ecological reasons

Reaction of Nitrous oxide with ozone (Waterson)

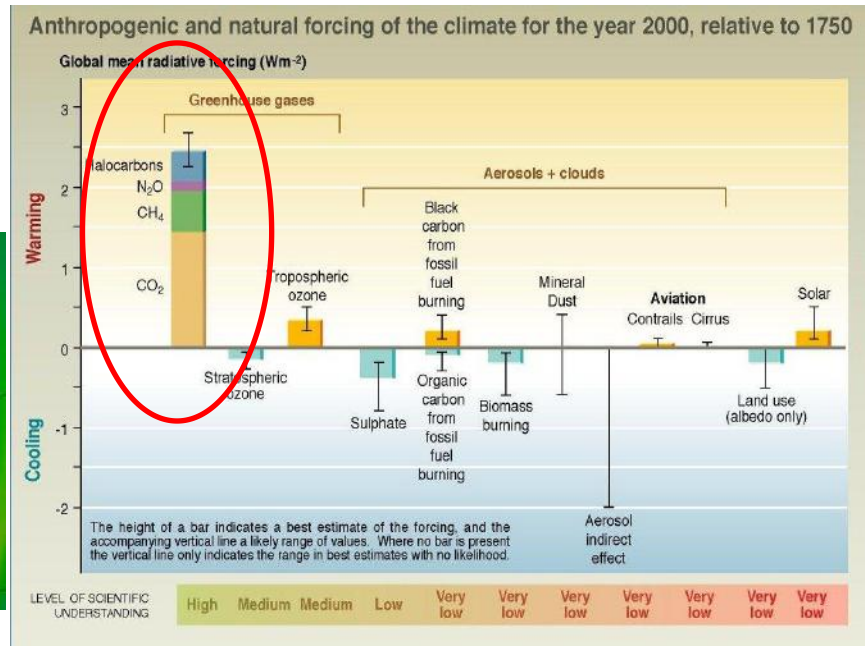


Hole in the ozone layer



Hole in the ozone layer over the Antarktis (July 2005): nitrous oxide, the new danger for the ozone layer? (Spiegel online)

Nitrous oxide is the most important ozone-depleting and heat-trapping greenhouse gas.



http://theresilientearth.com/files/images/Anthro+Natural_Forcing-ippc.jpg

Volatile Anesthetics are ozone depleting and green house gases

Table. One Hour of Anesthetic Is Like Driving a Car (How Many) Miles?				
1-MAC-h	Sevoflurane 2.2%; Global Warming Potential = 130	Isoflurane 1.2%; Global Warming Potential = 510	Desflurane 6.7%; Global Warming Potential = 2540	N₂O^a (0.6 MAC h); Global Warming Potential = 298
0.5 L/min	...	4	93	29
1.0 L/min	4	7	189	57
2.0 L/min	8	15	378	112
5.0 L/min	19	38	939	282
10.0 L/min	38	74	1876	564

Adapted from Ryan SM, Nielsen CJ. Global warming potential of inhaled anesthetics: application to clinical use. *Anesth Analg.* 2010;111:92–98.²

Results assume Environmental Protection Agency 2012 fuel efficiency average of 23.9 miles per gallon.

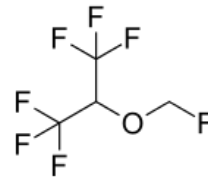
Abbreviations: MAC, minimum alveolar concentration; N₂O, nitrous oxide.

^aBecause N₂O cannot be delivered at 100%, the more typical percentage of 60% is used. In combination, 0.6 MAC hour of N₂O would be added to 0.4 MAC hour of volatile.

Volatile Anesthetics ecological aspects

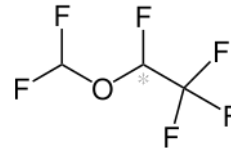
- Volatile anesthetics are halogenated carbons or ether.

- Sevoflurane $C_4H_3F_7O$



GWP₁₀₀
130

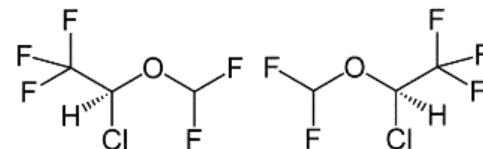
- Desflurane $C_3H_2F_6O$



GWP₁₀₀
2.540

GWP₁₀₀
510

- Isoflurane $C_3H_2ClF_5O$



A&A, June 2019 – Sherman et al

IV. Economical reasons

Saving volatile anesthetics

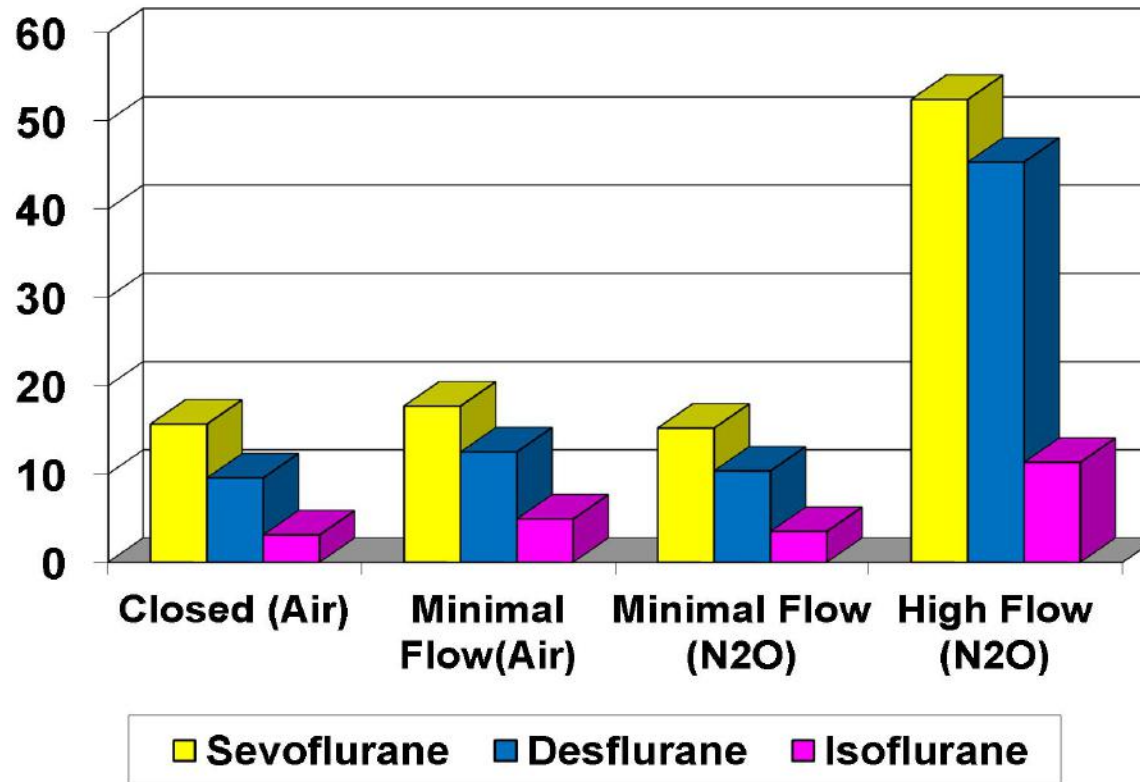


Increase in efficacy of the volatile anesthetic

Decrease cost, saves up to 90%

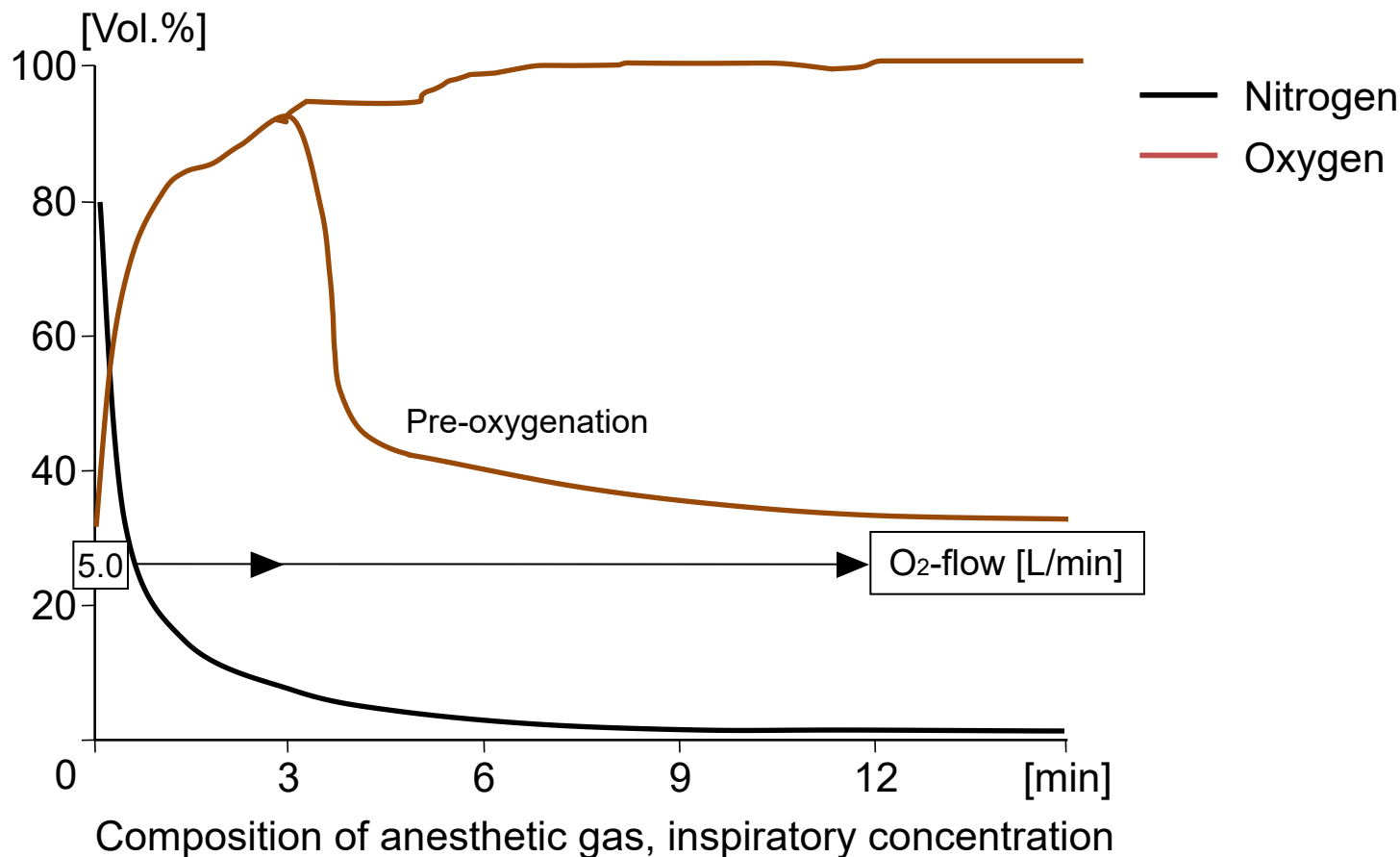
Economical reasons

Costs for inhalational anaesthetics in €



0,35 L/min closed vs. 0,5 L/min minimal flow vs. 4.4 L/min fresh gas flow high flow

V. The induction Period - Preoxygenation



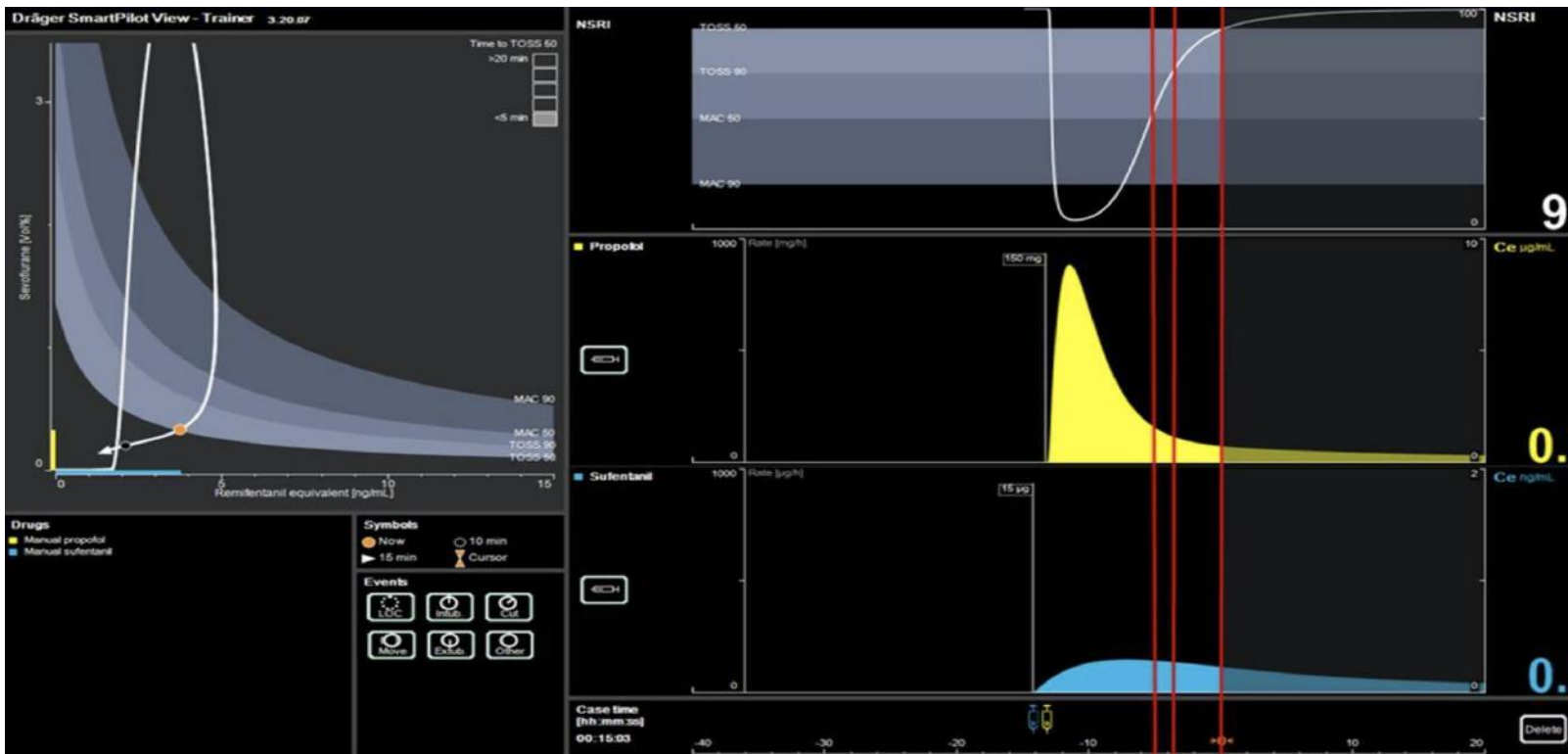
2 – 3 min preoxygenation with 6 L / min, FiO₂ 0.8 – 1.0

VI. Wash in period - our practice

- EMLA topical creme for local anaesthesia of the skin (45 min – 1 h)
- i.v. propofol 1,5 – 2 – (4) mg/kg or inhalational induction – sevoflurane
(Fresh gas flow 2 L/min)
- analgesic 0.1 – 0,25- (0,5) µg/kg KG sufentanile
- Rocuroniumbromide 0,4-0,6 mg/kg KG
- dial in sevoflurane vapor to 8 Vol/% and reduce FGF 0.7L/min with
FiO₂ 1,0 until you reach 0.7 – 1.3 MAC

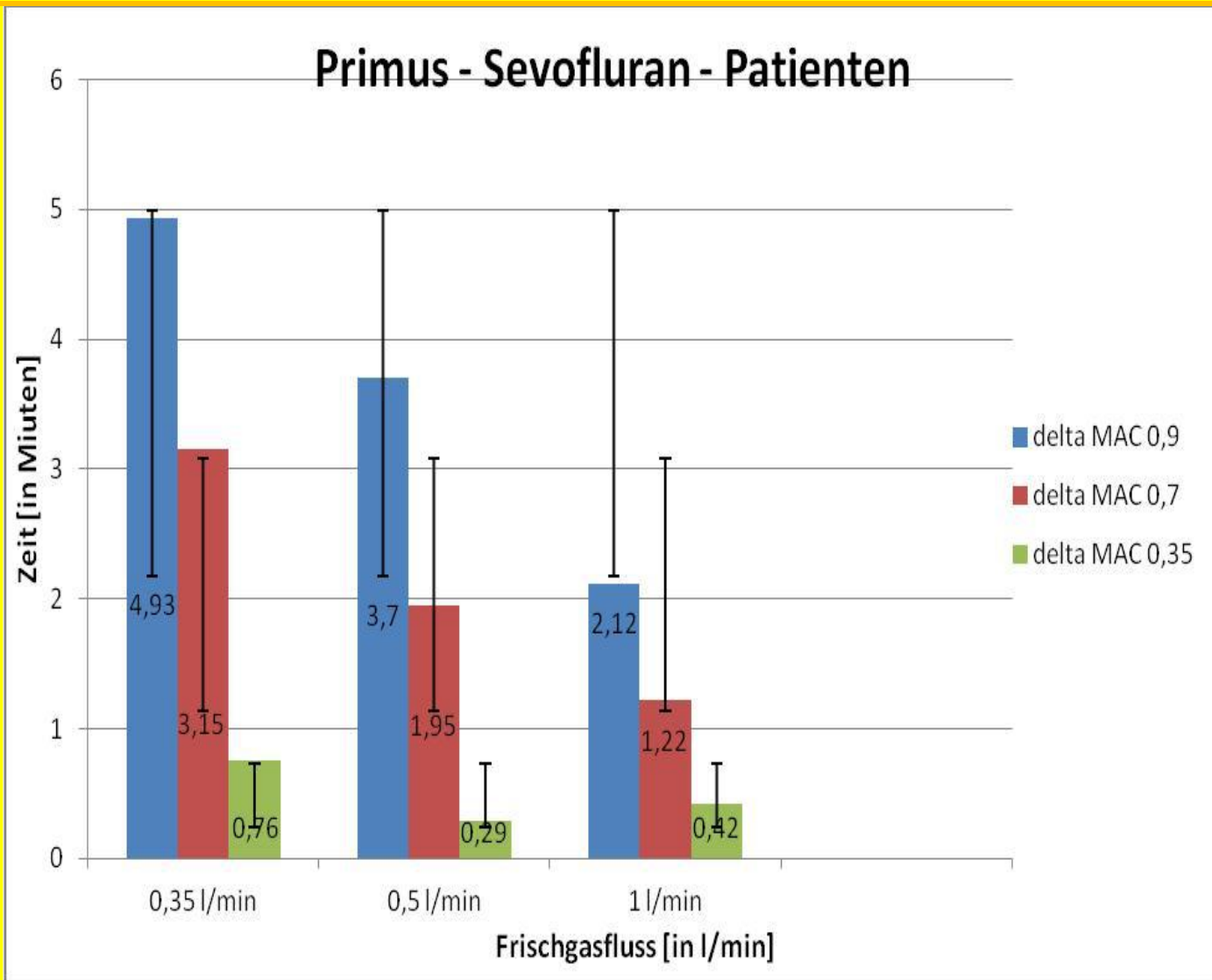
After 2-4 min concentration of sevoflurane increases
To 0.9 – 1.2 MAC

Duration of effective anaesthesia is 7-8 min after single bolus administration of Propofol 2 mg/kg and sufentanil 0,1µg/kg

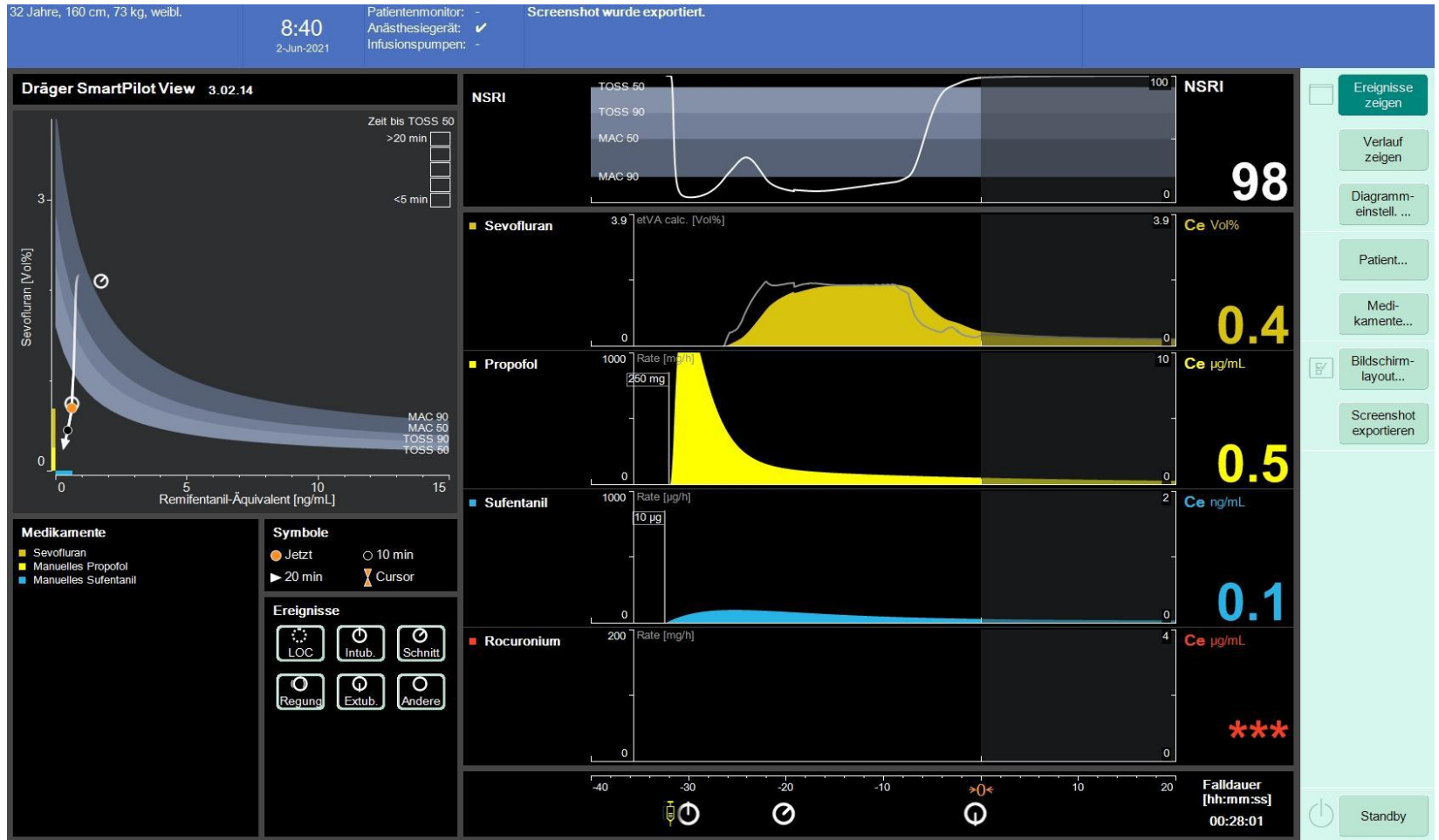


Smart Pilot View® Draeger

Wash in volatile anesthetics with low fresh gas flows, Primus, Dräger®



Wash in period, 0,7 L Fresh gasflow sevofluran vapor dialed in to 8 Vol%



Smart Pilot View® Draeger

VII. Steady state period - our practice

- dial in sevoflurane vapor to 3 - 5 Vol% and reduce FGF 0.35 L/min with FiO_2 between 1.0 and 0.5 (0.4). Measure expired sevoflurane and inspired FiO_2 . Use alarm monitoring for low inspired oxygen and high concentration of sevoflurane.

Sevoflurane concentration will be stable at 0.9 - 1.3 MAC.

Inspired FiO_2 Depending of FiO_2 in steady state Period



FGF 0,35 L/min, FiO_2 1.0
350 ml O_2



FGF 0,35 L/min, FiO_2 0,9
315 ml O_2



FGF 0,35 L/min, FiO_2 0.8
280 ml O_2



FGF 0,35 L/min, FiO_2 0.7
245 ml O_2

FGF 0,35 L/min, FiO_2 0.6
210 ml O_2

FGF 0,35 L/min, FiO_2 0.5
175 ml O_2

FGF 0,35 L/min, FiO_2 0.4
140 ml O_2

FGF 0,35 L/min, FiO_2 0.3
105 ml O_2



80 kg, 40 years (221 ml O_2)

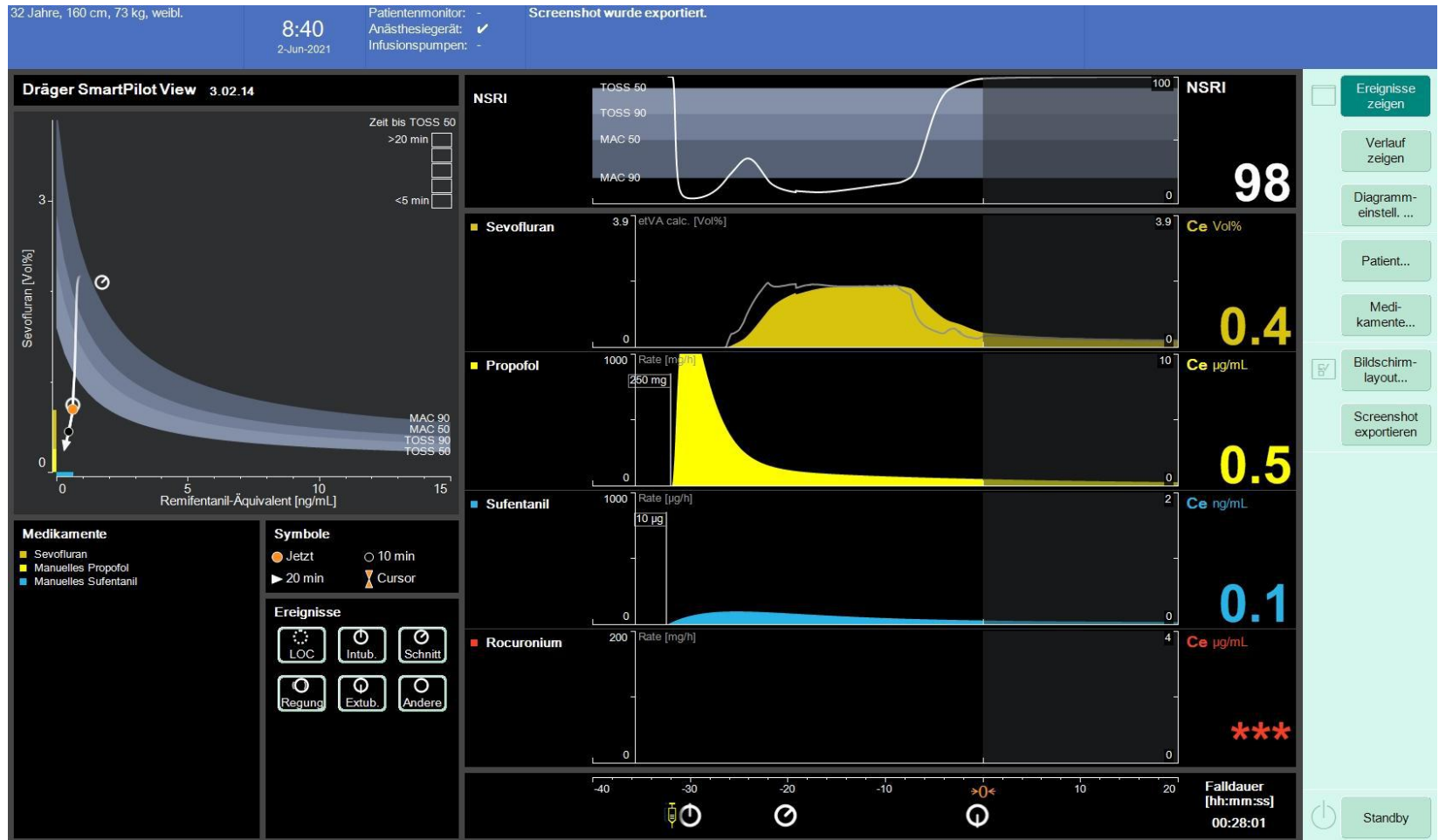
In paediatrics this will be no problem

Metabolic flow (withdrawal)

Anesthesia withdrawal

- Vaporizer can be closed 10 min before end of surgery.
- In the recovery room what ever is needed.

Wash out 6 L/min FIO₂



Smart Pilot View® Draeger

*But:
Green anaesthesia is
more
than just anesthetic
gas.*



Circular economy thanks to device returns and the recycling of consumables (e.g. soda lime)

Reduction of anesthetic gas consumption through low-flow anesthesia with the help of technologically leading anesthesia machines, assistance systems, training and data analytics applications

Agent capturing and energy consumption of anesthetic gas scavenging systems



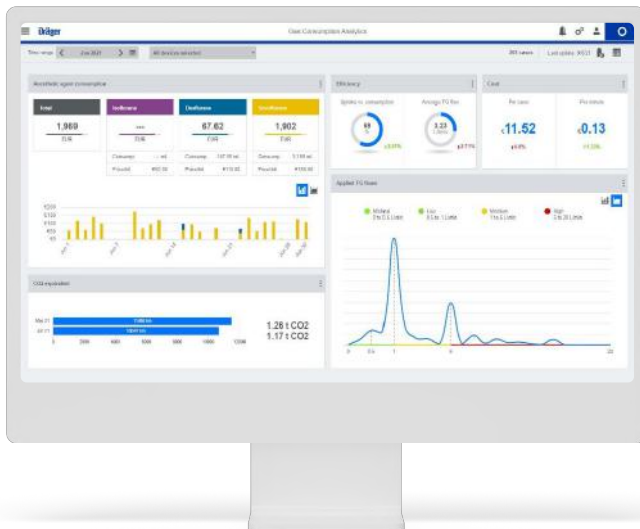
Around 2 % of a hospital's greenhouse gas emissions are attributable to anesthetic gases.



Low flow Anaesthesia: Revolutionising Patient Care

Reduction of anesthetic gas consumption

The efficient use of anesthetic gases is crucial.



Economical low flow anesthesia

- Reduction of anesthetic gas consumption
- Ecological and economic advantages
- More lung-protective ventilation

Pioneering technology

- Advanced anesthesia equipment and assistance systems
- Further education, webinars, training and information material

Innovative analysis dashboard

- Transparency regarding consumption and efficiency of volatile agent use
- Hospital-wide optimization of anaesthetic gas consumption

Drugs and anesthetic gases can cause significant climate-damaging effects

It is estimated that the climate-damaging effect of anesthetic gases is equivalent to the CO₂ emissions of 1,000,000 cars worldwide every year.



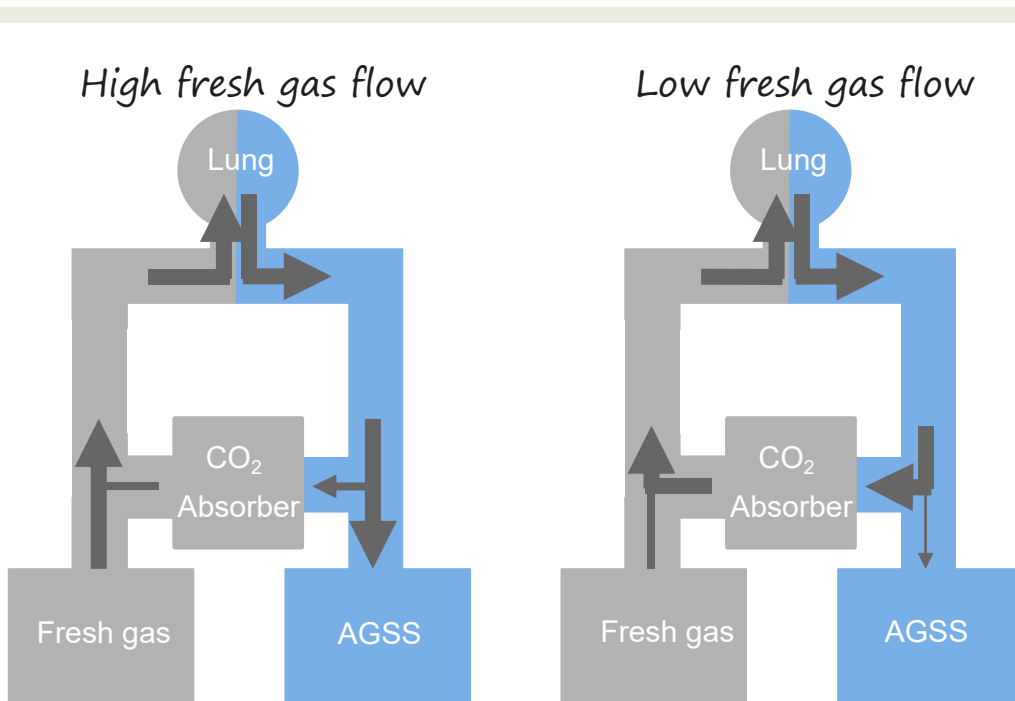
Reduction in anesthetic gas consumption

Anesthesia with volatile anesthetics and/or nitrous oxide should be administered in such a way that as few anesthetics as possible are released into the environment. This means the consistent use of minimal flow anesthesia.

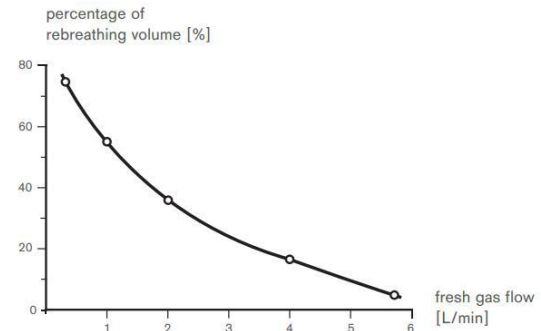
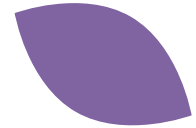
REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE
RETHINK
RESEARCH

Source: A&A, April 2012 - Nielsen et al.; DGAI/BDA position paper.

Rebreathing and fresh gas flow



Reduction in
anesthetic gas
consumption

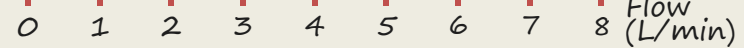


Source: Hönemann & Mierke;
Low-flow, minimal-flow and metabolic-flow anesthesia Clinical techniques for use with rebreathing systems

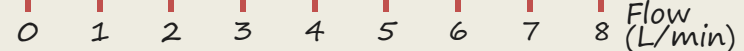
Classification of low flow anesthesia



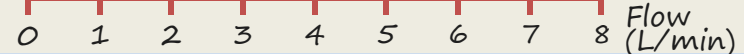
High Flow: Approx. 3-6 L/min



Low flow: approx. 1 L/min



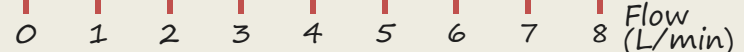
Minimum flow: approx. 0.5 L/min



Metabolic flow: approx. 0.35 L/min



Non-quantitative anesthesia:

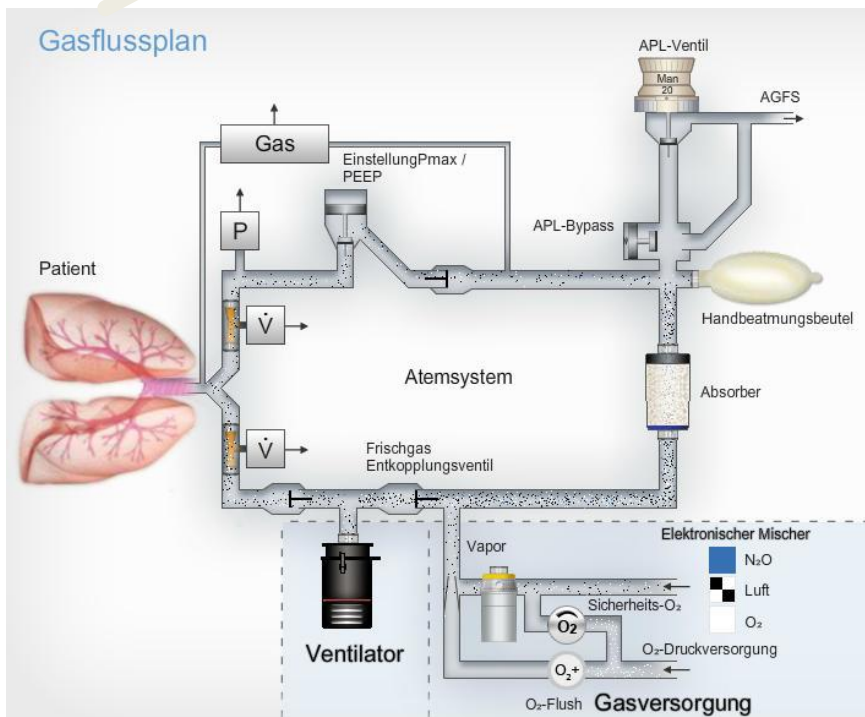


Quantitative anesthesia:



Low flow anesthesia

Technical requirements



- Precise fresh gas dosing
- Precise anesthetic gas dosing
- Modern compact re-breathing system
- High permanent tightness of the breathing system
- Integrated breathing system heater
- Air conditioning of the breathing gas right from the start
- Adequate moisture management
- Quick and easy hygienic preparation
- CO_2 -absorption by soda lime
- Precise gas measurement (inp. /exp.)
- Sample gas return
- Patient-specific alarm limits

Save twice and protect patients - advantages of low flow anesthesia

Reduction in anesthetic gas consumption

Clinical advantages

- Breathing gas conditioning (warm and humid breathing gas)
 - Maintaining the core body temperature
 - Prevention of damage to the airway epithelium
- Estimation of the O_2 patient uptake

Economic advantages

- Saving on volatile anesthetics
- Saving of fresh gas (oxygen, compressed air, nitrous oxide)

Monetary advantages of low flow anesthesia



Assumption

120 min. operation, sevoflurane price 81 € per 250 ml, 10 operating theaters, 250 operating days with 3 cases and 10 years of use



Scenario

Fresh gas flow 0.5 instead of 2 l/min in steady state



Savings

approx. 7.31 € per anesthesia* over 10 years approx. € 528,525

Reduction of volatile anesthetics through technologically advanced anesthesia machines

- Support in the efficient control of anesthesia and in particular the fresh gas flow with various assistance systems
- High permanent tightness of the breathing systems, humidity management, adequate gas and ventilation monitoring and sample gas return
- Clinic-wide optimization of consumption through intelligent dashboards

Reduction in anesthetic gas consumption



Preoxygenation: 6 L Oxygen (FiO_2 0.8 – 1.0)
i.v. Induction or inhalational induction

Wash in period: FGF 0.7 L sevoflurane volatile vaporizer open completely
(2-4 min MAC 0.9-1.3)

Steady state, surgery period: FGF 0.35 L/min + Vaporizer 3-5 Vol%
(MAC 0.9 – 1.3)

End of surgery / Wash out: 6L O₂, close vaporizer

Low Flow Booklet – published June 2014 (German)

Low flow poket card – published Nov. 13 2014 (German)

English version – November 2015

New booklet is comming this year

Minimal-Flow-Anästhesie mit Sauerstoff-Luft-Gemisch als Trägergas Schematische Vorgehensweise

Prämedikation
Prämedikation nach gewohntem Schema

Einleitung

- Präoxygenierung mit 100 % Sauerstoff mit 6 l/min für 1 bis 3 Minuten unter Vorhalten einer Gesichtsmaske
- Intravenöse Gabe des Hypnotikums oder Inhalationseinleitung
- Analgesie und Relaxation (Achtung: Einleitungsopioid eventuell bis 20 % höher dosieren)
- Endotracheale Intubation oder Einlegen einer Larynxmaske
- Anschluss des Patienten an das Kreisystem

Initialphase

- Dauer 6 bis 10 Minuten – Einstellungen Frischgasflow

Sauerstoff	1 l/min	Air	3 l/min
------------	---------	-----	---------

Vapor-Einstellungen

Isotufuran	2,5 Vol.-%
Sewofuran	3,5 Vol.-%
Desfluran	6 Vol.-%

Die inspiratorische Sauerstoffkonzentration wird sich zwischen 35 und 40 Vol.-% einpendeln.

sch 10 bis 15 Minuten

Verminderung Frischgasflow für Sauerstoff auf 0,3 l/min, für Air auf 0,2 l/min
Erhöhung der Vapor-Einstellung für

Isotufuran auf	5 Vol.-%
Sewofuran auf	5 Vol.-%
Desfluran auf	8 Vol.-%

Monitoring

Inspiratorische Sauerstoffkonzentration mit einer unteren Alarmgrenze von mindestens 28 Vol.-%
Atemminutenvolumen: untere Alarmgrenze auf 0,5 l/min unter dem angestrebten Sollwert einstellen.
Überwachung der Narkosemittelkonzentration im Atemsystem: Obergrenzen für Isofluran auf 2 bis 2,5 Vol.-% setzen, für Sevofluran auf 3 bis 3,5 Vol.-% und für Desfluran auf 8 bis 10 Vol.-%.
Der Einsatz des Dräger SmartPlot View kann Minimal-Flow-Techniken sinnvoll unterstützen.

Ausleitung

Reduzierung der Vapor-Einstellung auf 0 % etwa 10 Minuten vor OP-Ende.
Beibehalten des niedrigen Flusses von 0,35 l/min.
Überführen des Patienten zur Spontanatmung.
Nach Ende der Naht, vor Extubation: Spülen des Systems mit 100 % Sauerstoff mit 6 l/min.
Postoperative Betreuung des Patienten entsprechend den üblichen abteilungsinternen Verfahrensweisen.



Low-flow, minimal-flow and metabolic-flow anaesthesia
Clinical techniques for use with rebreathing systems

Christian Hönemann
Bert Mierke

Dräger. Technology for Life®

Luft/Luft, DIN/Lung DC.ind. 1

11.07



Minimal-Flow-Anästhesie mit Sauerstoff als Trägergas Schematische Vorgehensweise (ab einem Patientenalter > 6 Monate)

Prämedikation
Prämedikation nach gewohntem Schema

Einleitung

- Präoxygenierung mit 100 % Sauerstoff mit 6 l/min für 1 bis 3 Minuten unter Vorhalten einer Gesichtsmaske
- Intravenöse Gabe des Hypnotikums oder Inhalationseinleitung
- Analgesie und Relaxation (Achtung: Einleitungsopioid eventuell bis 20 % höher dosieren)
- Endotracheale Intubation oder Einlegen einer Larynxmaske
- Anschluss des Patienten an das Kreisystem

Initialphase

- Dauer 1 bis 8 Minuten – Einstellungen Frischgasflow

100 % Sauerstoff	1 l/min
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Vapor-Einstellungen

Isotufuran	5 bis 6 Vol.-%
Sewofuran	5 bis 6 Vol.-%
Desfluran	12 Vol.-%

Die inspiratorische Sauerstoffkonzentration wird sich in Abhängigkeit von Alter und Gewicht zwischen 60 und 80 Vol.-% einpendeln.

Nach Erreichen des Ziel-MAC-Wertes von 0,8 bis 1

- Verminderung Frischgasflow für 100 % Sauerstoff auf 0,25 bis 0,35 l/min
- Keine Änderung der Vapor-Einstellungen

Monitoring

- Inspiratorische Sauerstoffkonzentration mit einer unteren Alarmgrenze von mindestens 28 Vol.-%
- Atemminutenvolumen: untere Alarmgrenze auf 0,5 l/min unter dem angestrebten Sollwert einstellen.
- Überwachung der Narkosemittelkonzentration im Atemsystem: Obergrenzen für Isofluran auf 2 bis 2,5 Vol.-% setzen, für Sevofluran auf 3 bis 3,5 Vol.-% und für Desfluran auf 8 bis 10 Vol.-%.
- Der Einsatz des Dräger SmartPlot View kann Minimal-Flow-Techniken sinnvoll unterstützen.

Ausleitung

- Reduzierung der Vapor-Einstellung auf 0 % etwa 10 bis 15 Minuten vor OP-Ende.
- Beibehalten des niedrigen Flusses von 0,35 l/min.
- Überführen des Patienten zur Spontanatmung.
- Nach Ende der Naht, vor Extubation: Spülen des Systems mit 100 % Sauerstoff mit 6 l/min.
- Postoperative Betreuung des Patienten entsprechend den üblichen abteilungsinternen Verfahrensweisen.

Erhöhung der Narkosemittelkonzentration unter Ausnutzung der langen Zellkonstante

- Der Frischgasflow bleibt unverändert auf 0,35 l/min.
- Die Vapor-Einstellungen auf maximale Abgabeleistung erhöhen. Besonderheit Isofluran: Eine Vorleistung der Narkose allein mit Isofluran ist nur mit maximaler Abgabeleistung des Isofluran-Vapors bei gleichzeitiger Erhöhung des Frischgasflows zu etablieren.

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Minimal-Flow-Anästhesie mit Sauerstoff-Lachgas-Gemisch als Trägergas Schematische Vorgehensweise

Prämedikation
Prämedikation nach gewohntem Schema

Einleitung

- Präoxygenierung mit 100 % Sauerstoff mit 6 l/min für 1 bis 3 Minuten unter Vorhalten einer Gesichtsmaske
- Intravenöse Gabe des Hypnotikums oder Inhalationseinleitung
- Analgesie und Relaxation
- Endotracheale Intubation oder Einlegen einer Larynxmaske
- Anschluss des Patienten an das Kreisystem

Initialphase

- Dauer 15 bis 20 Minuten – Einstellungen Frischgasflow

Sauerstoff	1,4 l/min	Lachgas	3 l/min
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Vapor-Einstellungen

Isotufuran	1 bis 2 Vol.-%
Sewofuran	2 bis 2,5 Vol.-%
Desfluran	4 bis 5 Vol.-%

Die inspiratorische Sauerstoffkonzentration wird sich zwischen 30 und 40 Vol.-% einpendeln.

Nach 15 Minuten

- Verminderung Frischgasflow auf insgesamt 0,3 l/min (Sauerstoff 0,3 l/min, Lachgas 0,2 l/min)
- Erhöhung der Vapor-Einstellung

Isotufuran auf	2,0 Vol.-%
Sewofuran auf	3 bis 3,5 Vol.-%
Desfluran auf	6 bis 7,5 Vol.-%

Monitoring

- Inspiratorische Sauerstoffkonzentration mit einer unteren Alarmgrenze von mindestens 28 Vol.-%
- Atemminutenvolumen: untere Alarmgrenze auf 0,5 l/min unter dem angestrebten Sollwert einstellen.
- Überwachung der Narkosemittelkonzentration im Atemsystem: Obergrenzen für Isofluran auf 2 bis 2,5 Vol.-%, für Sevofluran auf 3 bis 3,5 Vol.-% und für Desfluran auf 8 bis 10 Vol.-% setzen.
- Der Einsatz des Dräger SmartPlot View kann Minimal-Flow-Techniken sinnvoll unterstützen.

Ausleitung

- Reduzierung der Vapor-Einstellung auf 0 % etwa 10 bis 15 Minuten vor OP-Ende.
- Beibehalten des niedrigen Flusses von 0,35 l/min.
- Überführen des Patienten zur Spontanatmung.
- Nach Ende der Naht, vor Extubation: Spülen des Systems mit 100 % Sauerstoff mit 6 l/min.
- Postoperative Betreuung des Patienten entsprechend den üblichen abteilungsinternen Verfahrensweisen.

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<https://www.draeger.com/Library/Content/low-minimal-flow-anaesthesia-bk-9067990.pdf>

A call for immediate climate action in anesthesiology: routine use of minimal or metabolic fresh gas flow reduces our ecological footprint

Appel à une action climatique immédiate en anesthésiologie : le recours systématique à un débit minimal ou métabolique de gaz frais réduit notre empreinte écologique

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SPECIAL ARTICLE

A call for immediate climate action in anesthesiology: routine use of minimal or metabolic fresh gas flow reduces our ecological footprint

Appel à une action climatique immédiate en anesthésiologie : le recours systématique à un débit minimal ou métabolique de gaz frais réduit notre empreinte écologique

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Abstract
Purpose Climate change is a global threat, and inhalational anesthetics contribute to global warming by altering the photophysical properties of the atmosphere. On a global perspective, there is a fundamental need to reduce peroperative morbidity and mortality and to provide safe anesthesia. Thus, inhalational anesthetics will remain a significant source of emissions in the

foreseeable future. It is, therefore, necessary to develop and implement strategies to minimize the consumption of inhalational anesthetics to reduce the ecological footprint of inhalational anesthesia.

Source We have integrated recent findings concerning climate change, characteristics of established inhalational anesthetics, complex simulation calculations, and clinical expertise to propose a practical and safe strategy to practice ecologically responsible anesthesia using inhalational anesthetics.

Principal findings Comparing the global warming potential of inhalational anesthetics, desflurane is about 20 times more potent than sevoflurane and five times more potent than isoflurane. Balanced anesthesia using low or minimal fresh gas flow ($\leq 1 \text{ L}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$) during the wash-in period and metabolic fresh gas flow ($0.35 \text{ L}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$) during steady-state maintenance reduces CO_2 emissions and costs by approximately 50%. Total intravenous anesthesia and locoregional anesthesia represent further options for lowering greenhouse gas emissions.

Conclusion Responsible anesthetic management choices should prioritize patient safety and consider all available options. If inhalational anesthesia is chosen, the use of minimal or metabolic fresh gas flow reduces the consumption of inhalational anesthetics significantly. Nitrous oxide should be avoided entirely as it contributes to depletion of the ozone layer, and desflurane should only be used in justified exceptional cases.

Résumé

Objetif Les changements climatiques constituent une menace mondiale et les anesthésiques volatils contribuent

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Conclusion: Responsible anesthetic management choices should prioritize patient safety and consider all available options. If inhalational anesthesia is chosen, the use of minimal or metabolic fresh gas flow reduces the consumption of inhalational anesthetics significantly. Nitrous oxide should be avoided entirely as it contributes to depletion of the ozone layer, and desflurane should only be used in justified exceptional cases.



My wife and I feel beyond honored and proud to be members of the ASPA Faculty.

Thank you so much to all participants, to the faculty and to



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