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Infectious Diseases Related to Patients with COPD in Emergency and Critical Care

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COPD is a general term used to cover a variety of abnormalities that often coexist: chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and peripheral airway disease. Acute exacerbations of COPD (AECOPD) are common, particularly during the winter months, increasing the admissions in Hospitals. When patients worsening the lung function on a dramatic respiratory failure they are admitted in the intensive Care Unit (ICU) for ventilatory support. It is important to know every acute exacerbation it leads to an increasing deterioration of the respiratory function.

In the ICU the patients they are admitted requiring invasive and non-invasive ventilatory support. The role of respiratory infections associated with AECOPD is very heterogeneous involving not only those infections that patients present in the exacerbations but also those infections that are acquired in the ICU as community acquired-pneumonia (CAP) or ventilator associate-pneumonia (VAP) in those patients who are ventilated invasively for more than 5 days. Some tests can from the beginning help us to make a potential differential diagnosis between bacterial and viral infections. The diagnosis and treatment of bacterial pneumonia in patients who are receiving mechanical ventilation remain a difficult challenge. Some biomarkers could be an advance in the diagnosis and monitoring of this type of patients with pneumonia. The presence of soluble sTREM-1 in bronchoalveolar-lavage fluid from patients receiving mechanical ventilation may be an indicator of bacterial or fungal pneumonia. The union of different disciplines, such as intensivist, pneumologist, internist, microbiologist and bacteriologist can be fundamental for get an early diagnosis and treatment.

Biography:

Dr. Santiago Herrero is Clinical Director of Postoperative Cardiac Surgical ICU at The Jilin Heart Hospital, Changchun, Jilin Province, China. Dr. Santiago Herrero is board certified critical care physician of the Spanish Society of Critical Care Medicine since 1989. Dr. Santiago Herrero received your Research Proficiency in 2008 by the University of Oviedo (2008). He is Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians since 2004. Associate editor of Current Respiratory Medicine Reviews and of the journal Critical Care and Shock. Recently he was awarded with The Mountain Changbai Friendship Award in September 2017 by the Changchun and Jilin Government, China.