

# **CRITICAL KIDS IN THE FIELD: Initial Assessment and Stabilization**

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# CRITICAL KIDS IN THE FIELD: Initial Assessment and Stabilization

- Scene vs Interfacility
- Respiratory Distress
- Trauma
- Shock
- Drowning
- Infections
- Non Accidental Trauma

# Transport of the Critically Ill Infant or Child

- “Scoop and Run” or “Stay and Play”?  
Approach to Pediatric Stabilization and Transport
- Different Considerations: Scene vs Interfacility, Often from Facilities with Limited Pediatric Capabilities

# Trauma Transports: Hazards





# Work Philosophy



Stay and Play

Scoop and Run



# Communication Center Call

- Patient arrived to ED with CPR in progress
- Intubated with 3.0 ETT and being bagged
- Epinephrine given X 2
- Atropine given X 2
- Heart rate resumed
- Sodium Bicarb given X 2
- Current vitals: HR-140 RR-40 BP-52/11 Temp- 90F
- Vent settings: FiO2 1.0, Rate 40, PIP 20 PEEP 3
- Pupils 3mm and sluggish
- Cap refill 5 seconds
- ABG 6.93/74.4/259/14.8/-16.9

# Case Study

- 2 month old infant found in full cardiac arrest at home
- Paramedics initiated CPR and continued CPR for 10 minutes until arrival in ED



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# Family Presence

- On transport, the family is almost always present either at the OSH or in the ambulance
- The literature shows that most clinicians are concerned that parents will interfere with care if allowed to be present during resuscitation
- However, this is rarely the case
- In fact, some studies show that care is improved when a parent is present
- There is no evidence to suggest that the legal risk increases with parental presence
- What would you want if it were your child?

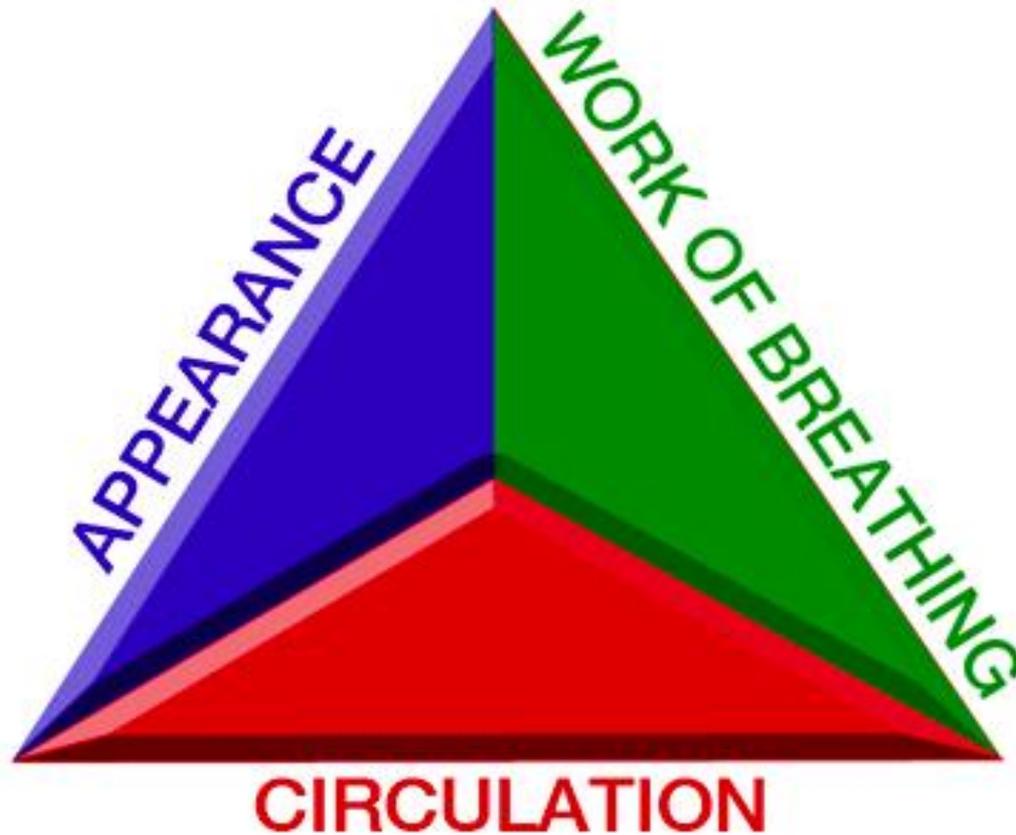
Dingeman et al. (2007)

# Exposure/Environment

- Remember a naked child is a cold child!
  - Check child's temperature
  - Warm IV fluids if possible: room temperature fluids are about 20 degrees colder than normal body temperature
  - Warm blankets for transport
  - Portawarmer mattress: Can use more than one for an older child
  - Place under blanket to avoid burns to skin
- Hypothermia exacerbates acidosis!

# CRITICAL KIDS IN THE FIELD

## Pediatric Assessment Triangle





# INFANT WITH INCREASED RESPIRATORY EFFORT

Note use of  
intercostal and  
accessory muscles

# Infant Airway

**Narrow Nares**

**Small Pharynx**

**Large Tongue**

**Larynx**

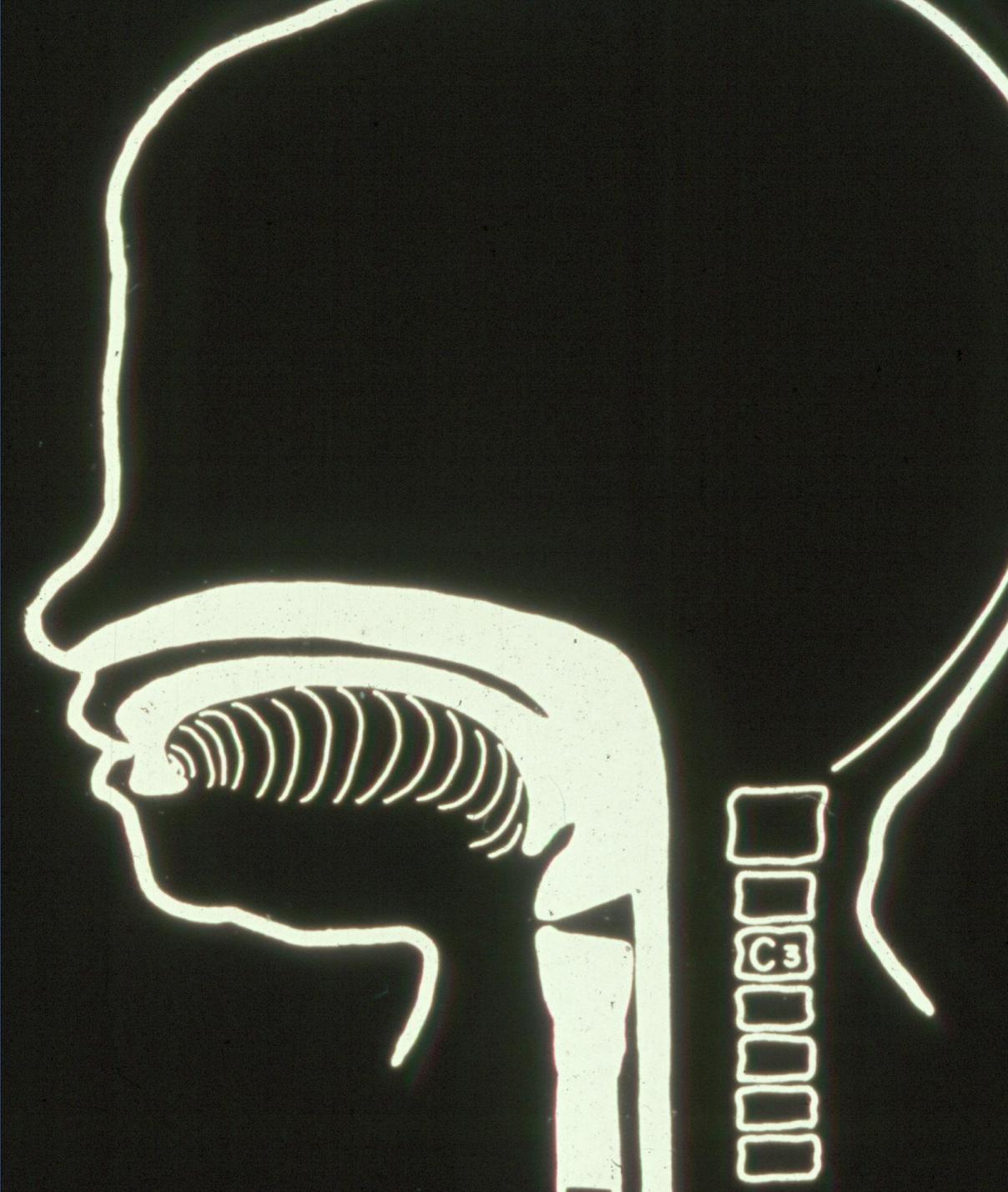
**High (C3)**

**Anterior**

**Tapered**

**Narrowest Part is**

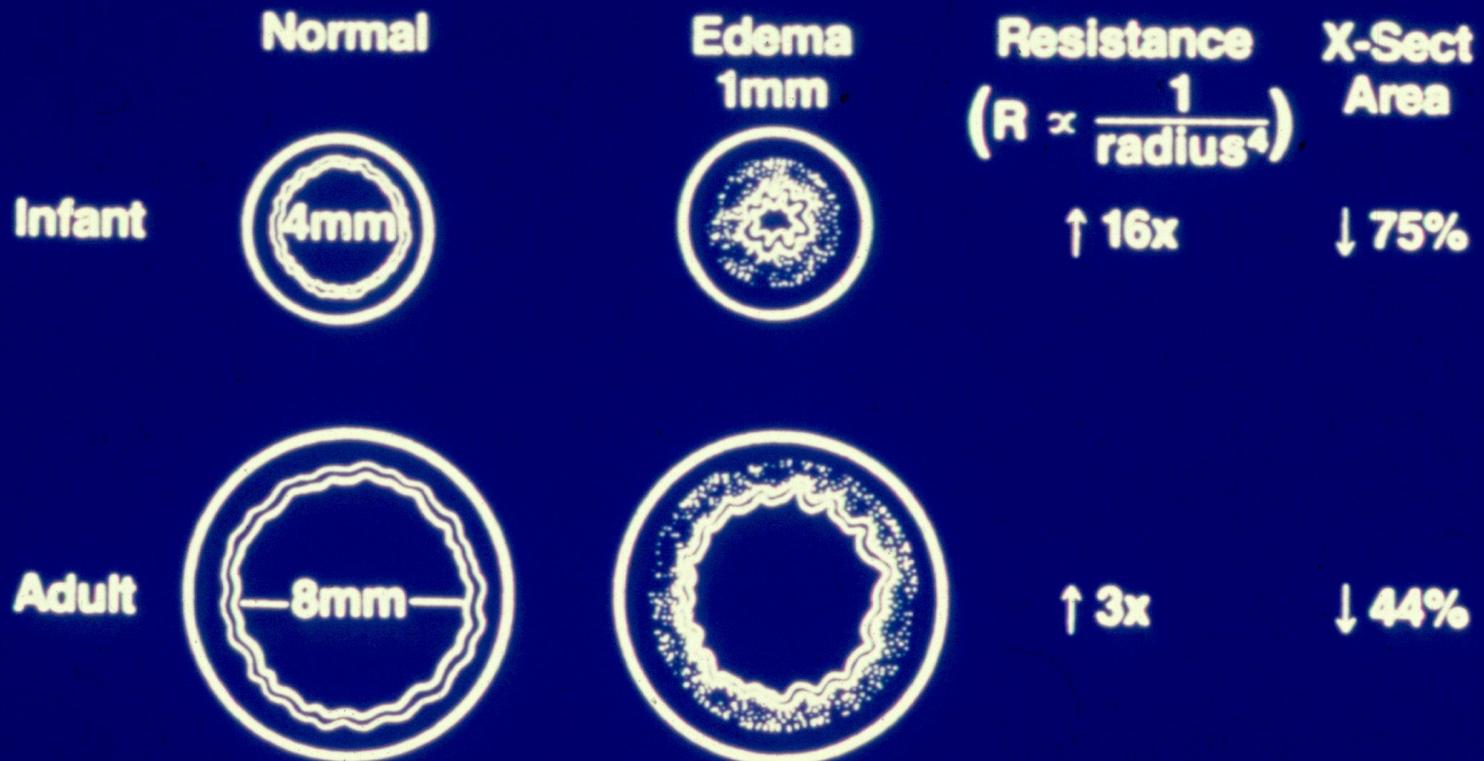
**Subglottic Area**



# EFFECTS OF AIRWAY EDEMA ON RESISTANCE

## 1MM CIRCUMFERENTIAL EDEMA

### INFANT VS. ADULT

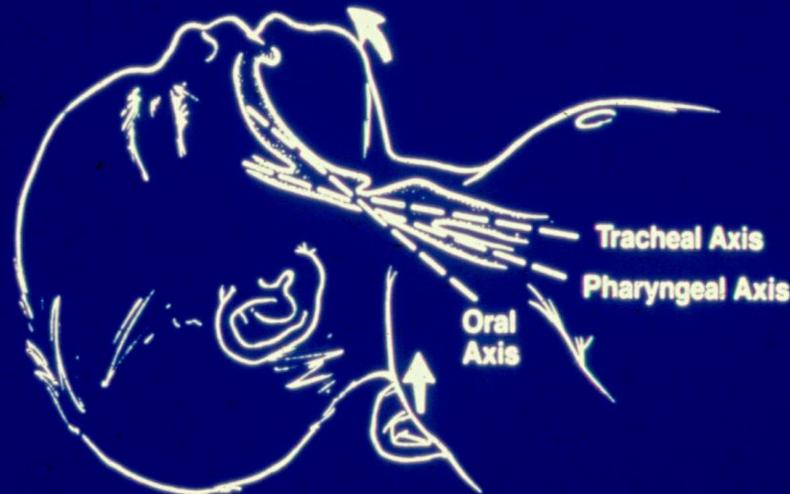
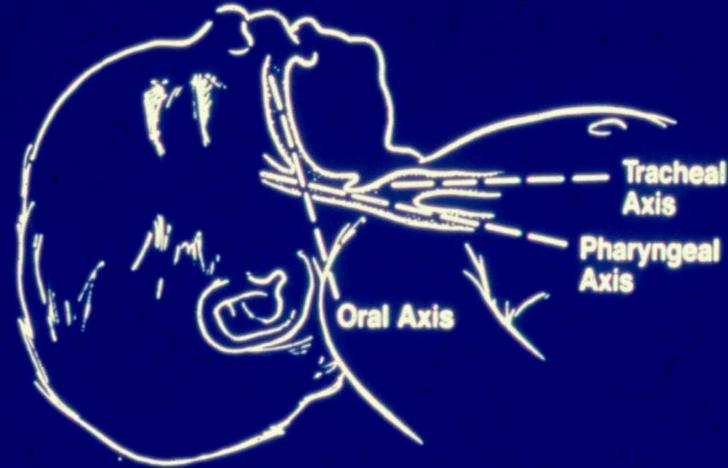


# Respiratory assessment and management on transport

- 100% oxygen via NRB mask
  - Wean O<sub>2</sub> as patient stabilizes using face mask or nasal cannula
- Provide bag valve mask ventilation for children who are not breathing effectively
  - Unable to maintain O<sub>2</sub> sats on oxygen
  - Cyanosis
  - Unable to protect airway
  - Bag with enough force to make chest rise
  - 1 breath every 3 seconds
- CE hand position
  - Do not occlude airway with your fingers!



# ENDOTRACHEAL INTUBATION: INFLUENCE OF NECK POSITIONING



# Endotracheal Tubes

- Length of tube estimated by the following:
  - Children > 1 year of age:
    - 13 plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  patient's age
  - Infants < 1 year of age:
    - Estimated 3x ETT size

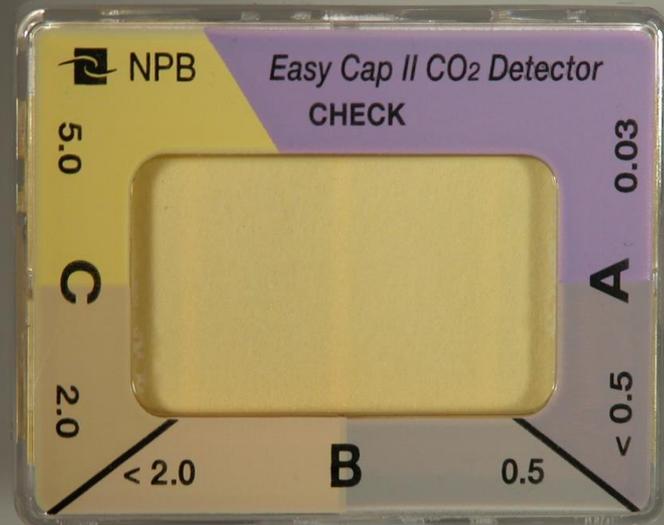
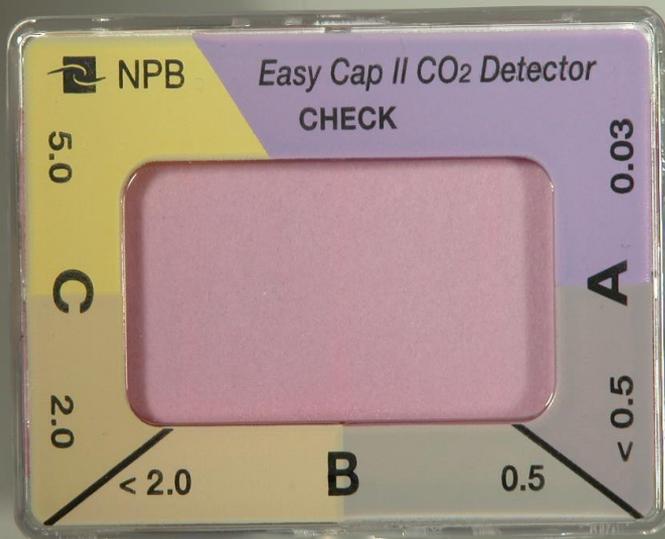


# Rapid Sequence Intubation

- Procedure
  - Oxygenate with FiO<sub>2</sub> of 1.0
  - Administer atropine
    - Prevents vagally induced bradycardia
    - Minimizes secretions
  - Administer an opiate and benzodiazepine
    - Sedation
  - Administer paralytic
    - Relaxes all muscles allowing ease of opening airway and controlling breathing
  - Proceed with intubation

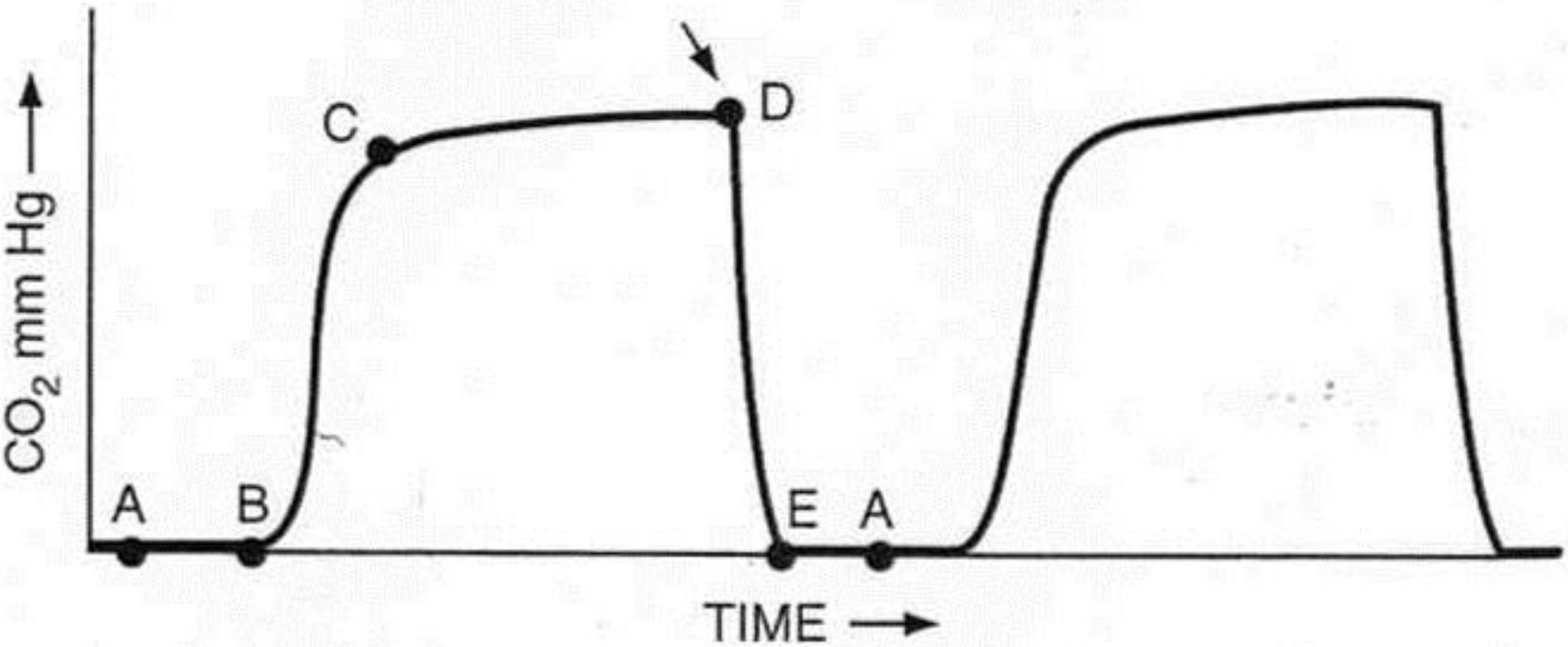
# End Tidal CO<sub>2</sub> Detection Disposable Device

Baseline      CO<sub>2</sub> Present



# End Tidal CO<sub>2</sub> Tracing

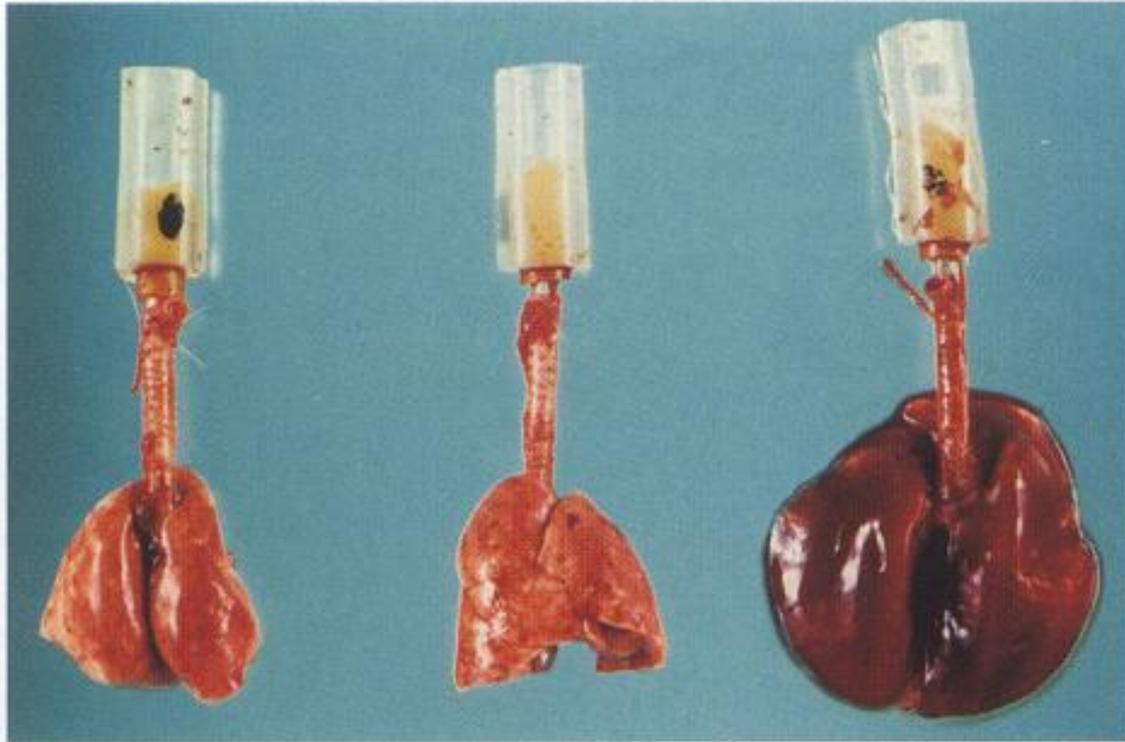
NORMAL CAPNOGRAM



# Mechanical Ventilation in Infants and Children

- Introduction: Lung Protection/Injury
- Lung Disorders: ARDS, Pneumonia, Bronchiolitis, Asthma
- Goals of Ventilation: Minimize Injury of Lungs, Brain, Organs
- Strategies: Permissive Hypercapnia, Hypoxemia
- Modes of Ventilation: Pressure Control, Volume Control (Pressure Limited), Pressure Support, Volume Support, HFOV

# Mechanical Ventilation Induced Injury



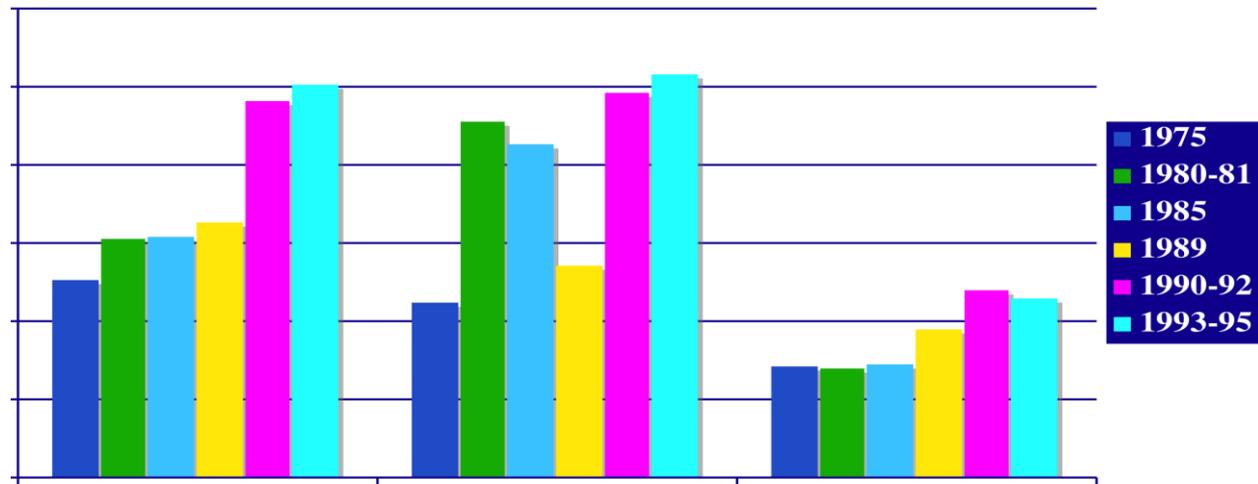
**Figure 5.** Macroscopic aspect of rat lungs after mechanical ventilation at 45 cm H<sub>2</sub>O peak airway pressure. *Left:* normal lungs; *middle:* after 5 min of high airway pressure mechanical ventilation. Note the focal zones of atelectasis (in particular at the left lung apex); *right:* after 20 min, the lungs were markedly enlarged and congestive; edema fluid fills the tracheal cannula.

# CNS Effects of Hypercapnia: Cerebral Blood Flow

- Acute changes in  $p_a\text{CO}_2$  has profound effects on CBF
  - CBF increases 6% per 1 mmHg change in  $p_a\text{CO}_2$
  - No additional increase in CBF with  $p_a\text{CO}_2 > 80\text{-}120$  mmHg
- Increased CBF mediated by both systemic hypertension and cerebral vasodilatation

# Prevalence

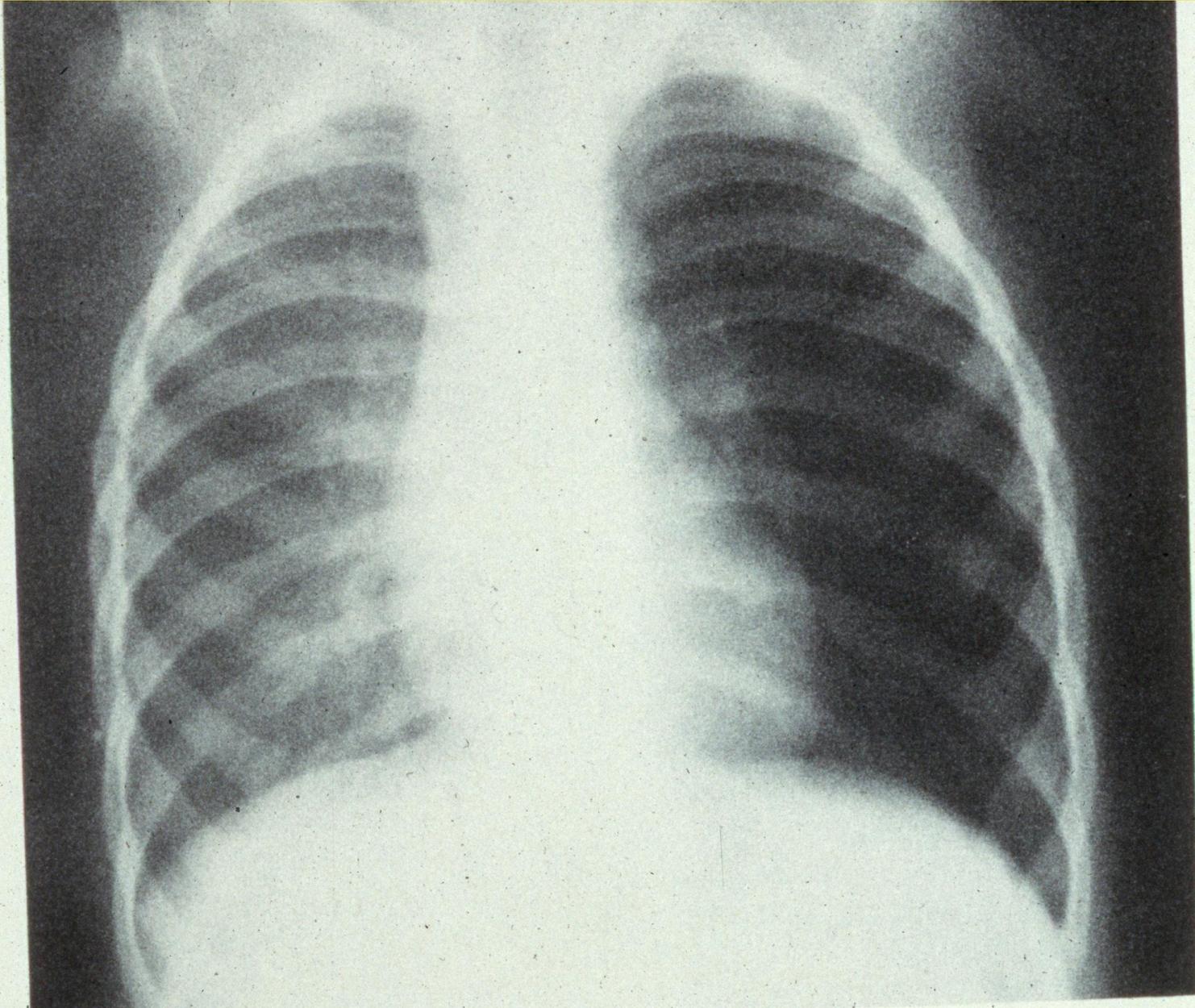
- The prevalence of pediatric asthma in the US is increasing



Rate of self-reported asthma/1,000 population

Mannino DM. MMWR 1998;47(1):1-27

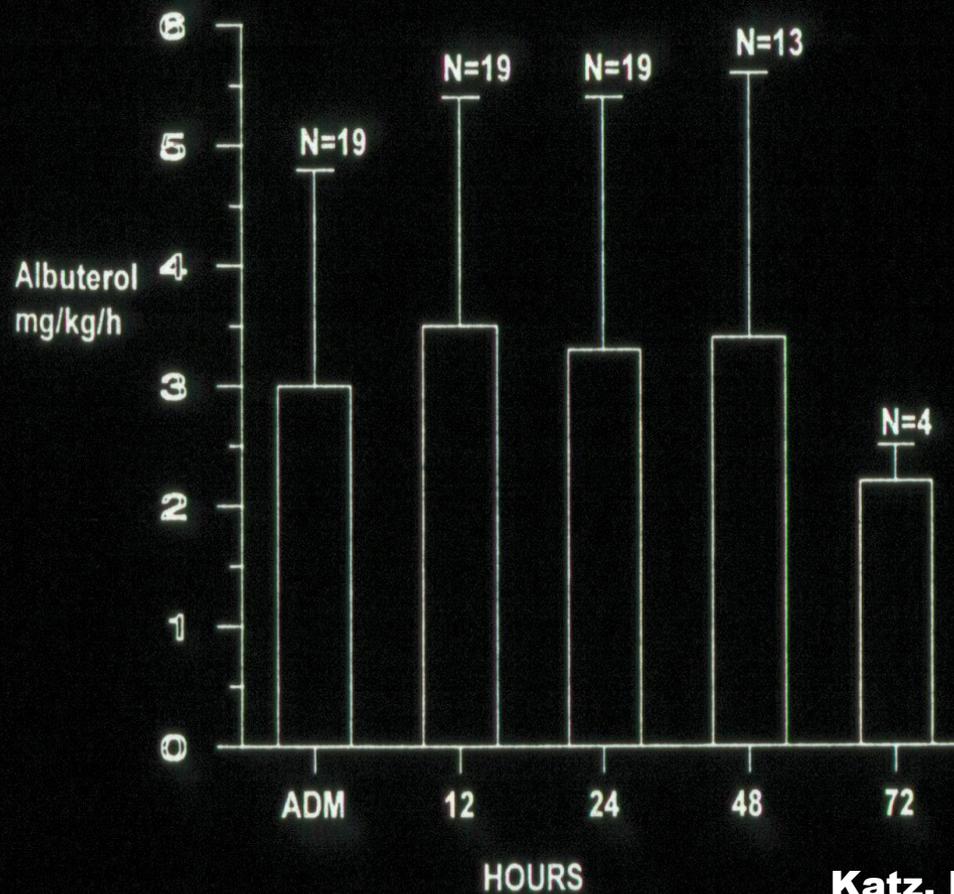
# FOREIGN BODY IN MAINSTEM BRONCHUS



# HIGH DOSE BRONCHODILATORS PEDIATRICS: SAFETY ISSUES

- Pediatric Myocardium Not Oxygen Limited
- Tolerance of Tachycardia
- Lack of Arrhythmogenicity
- Tolerance of Hypokalemia

# SAFETY OF CONTINUOUS HIGH DOSE ALBUTEROL IN CHILDREN



Katz, Pediatrics, 1993

: Treatment

# $\beta$ -Agonists

- Delivery of nebulized drug
  - Only particles between 0.8 – 3  $\mu\text{m}$  are deposited in alveoli
  - Correct gas flow rate is crucial
  - Most devices require 10-12 L/min gas flow to generate correct particle size



# INTUBATION IN STATUS ASTHMATICUS IN CHILDREN

- To Be Avoided if Possible, Only for SEVERE Respiratory Failure
- Asthma a Disease of Exhalation, Neuromuscular Blockade, Positive Pressure Worsen Expiratory Flow/Function
- Ketamine May Reverse Hypoxic, Hypercarbic Hysteria
- If Necessary, Slow Rates, Watch for Air Leak, CO<sub>2</sub> Likely To Go Up

# Back to the case study

- Current vitals: HR-140 RR-40 BP-52/11 Temp- 90F
- Vent settings: FiO2 1.0, Rate 40, PIP 20 PEEP 3
- Cap refill 5 seconds
- ABG 6.93/74.4/259/14.8/-16.9
- 2 tibial IO' s in place bilaterally and one PIV with maintenance and dopamine infusing at 5 mcg/kg/min
- Glucose-47, K-7.0 non-hemolyzed
- Succinylcholine given by ED staff but patient with gasping respiratory effort

# What happened?

- Patient sedated and paralyzed appropriately
- CaCl and bicarb given as ordered
- Recheck of accucheck after dextrose =112
- Insulin given as ordered
- Accucheck dropped to 42 so D10W repeated
- One IO was infiltrated so new PIV started
- Repeat ABG 6.94/92.1/233/18.8/-13.1
- BP dropped after pavulon, so dopamine titrated up-to 20mcg/kg/min
- Pt diagnosed with Influenza A

# Interventions

- Re-tape and pull back ETT 1 cm
- Increase PEEP to +5
- Sedation with Fentanyl 1-2 mcg/kg
- Treat hypoglycemia-2ml/kg of D10W
- Provide adequate paralysis with NMB
- Give Calcium Chloride-Why?
- Give dextrose to increase accucheck to 100, then give regular insulin 0.1u/kg-Why?

# Types of shock

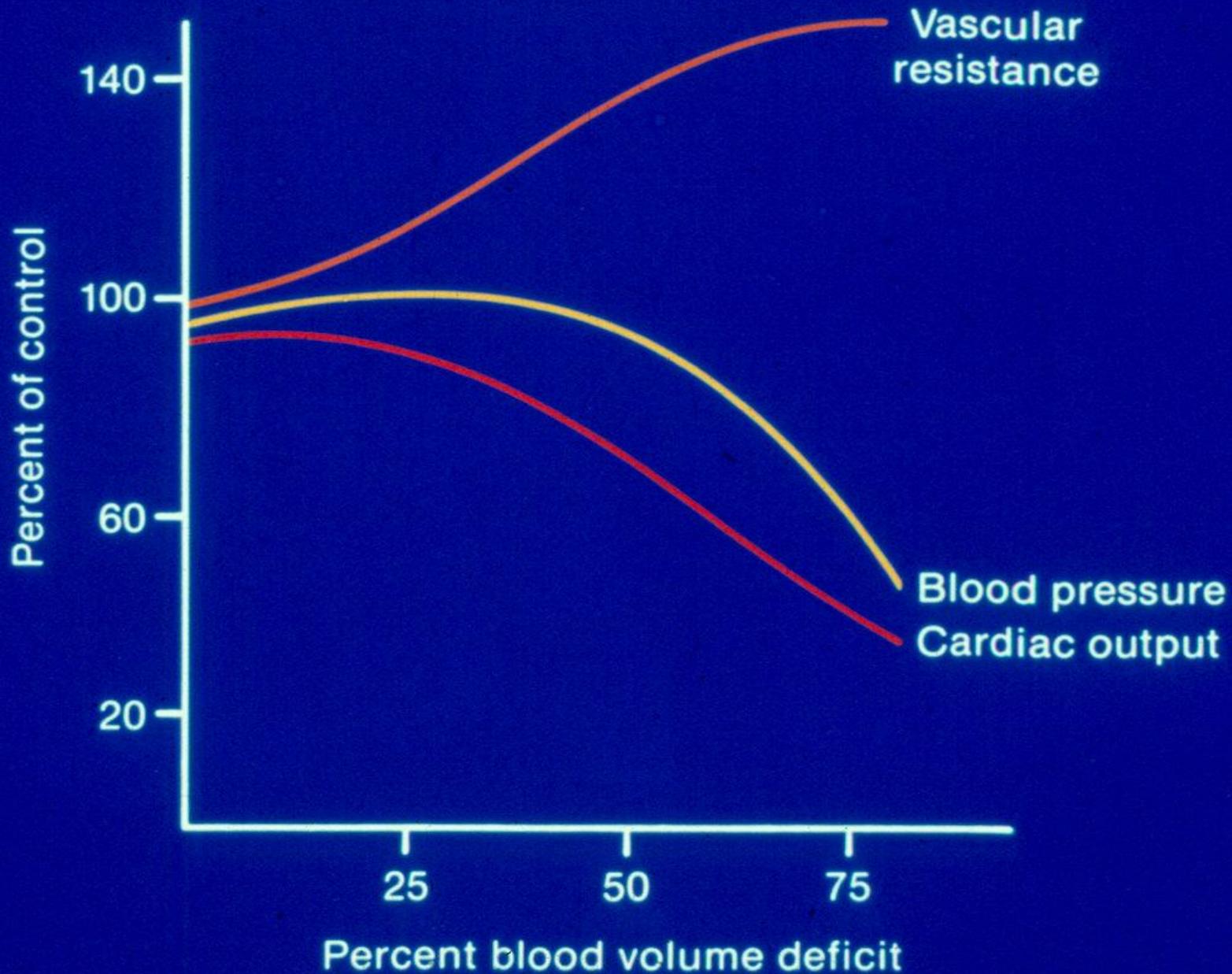
- Hypovolemic Shock
  - Occurs from loss of blood or body fluid volume from the intravascular space
  - Causes can be injury, vomiting or diarrhea
- Cardiogenic Shock
  - Pump Failure
    - Inability of the heart to maintain adequate cardiac output
    - SVT, arrhythmias, cardiomyopathy, heart block
    - Support ABC's
    - Treat the cause



# DEFINITION OF SHOCK IN INFANTS AND CHILDREN

- Clinical State Characterized by Inadequate Delivery and Uptake of Blood Flow to Meet Metabolic Demands. May Involve Metabolic Uncoupling (Sepsis). In Children may be Independent of Blood Pressure

# HEMODYNAMIC RESPONSE TO HEMMORHAGE

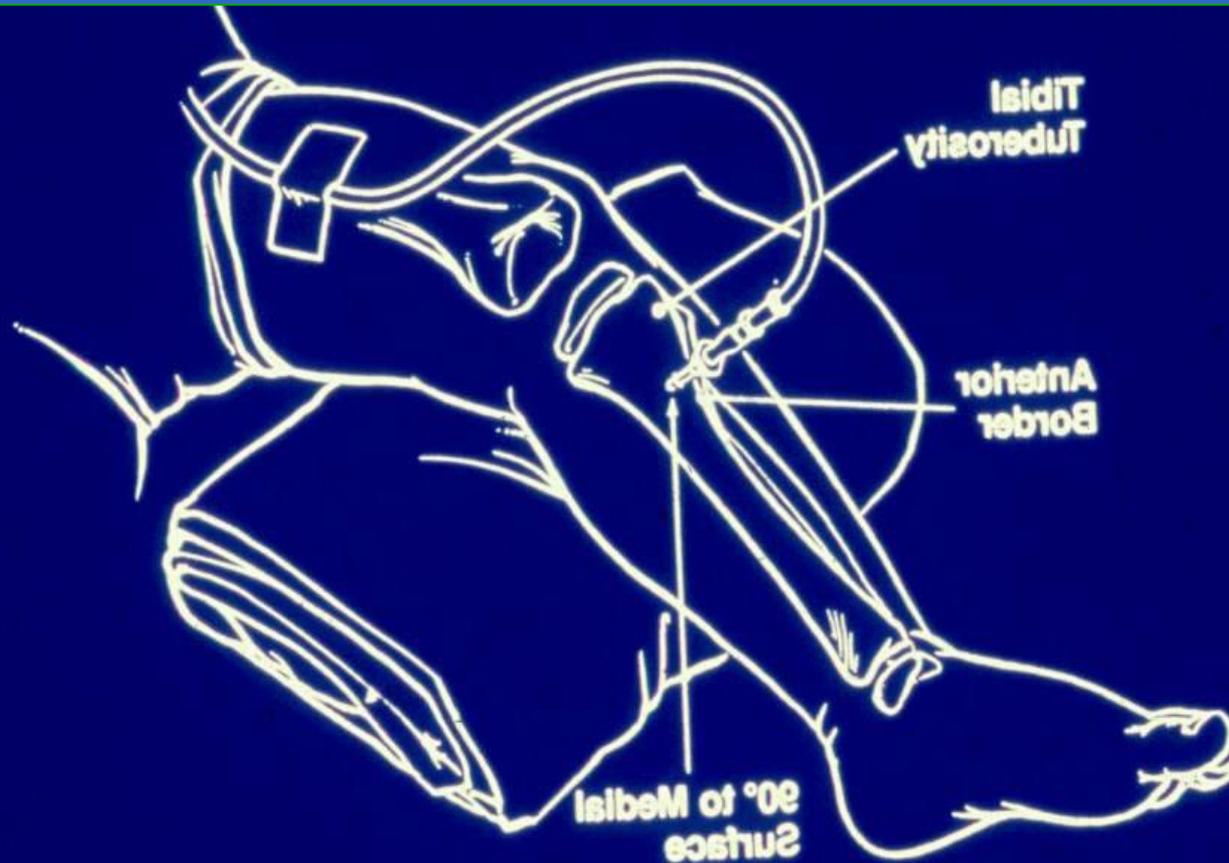


# CAPILLARY REFILL - NORMAL < 2 SECONDS



# INTRAOSSSEUS CATHETER PLACEMENT

## CRITICALLY ILL INFANT OR CHILD



**Will feel a “pop” when entering bone marrow space. Fluid will flow freely. Essential not to manipulate catheter, no tape to put tension on catheter, will loosen bone seal**

# Vascular Access in PICU Patients

## Venous

- Femoral - Usually Most Common, Easiest, Least Risky
- Internal Jugular - Ultrasound Facilitates, Experience
- Subclavian - Apex of Lung, Perforation

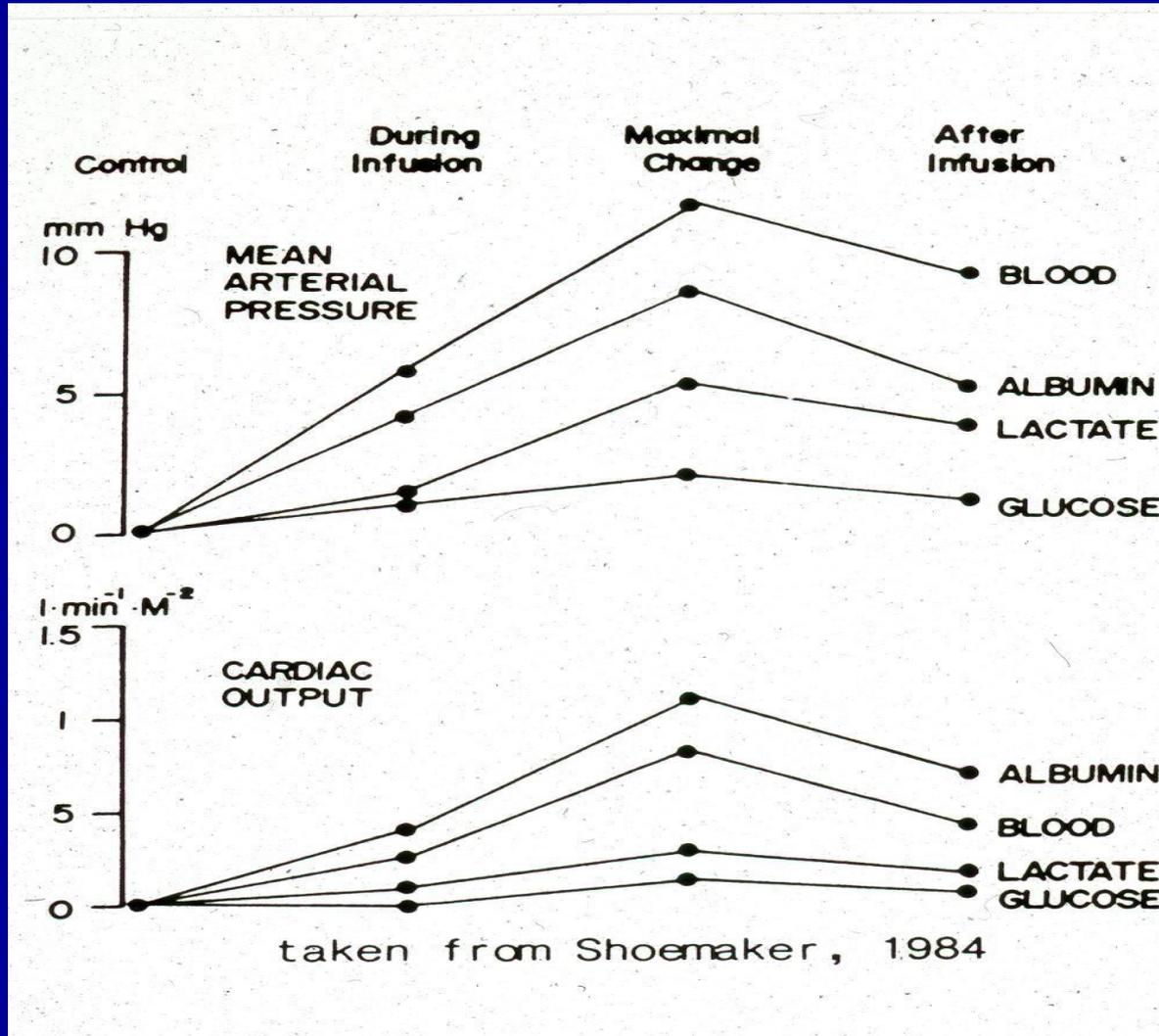
## Arterial

- Radial
- Femoral
- Posterior Tibial
- Axillary

# DEFINITION OF PRELOAD

- Gold Standard: Left Ventricular End Diastolic Volume. Stretch on Myocardial Fibers. Starling Curve
- CVP – Central Venous Pressure, Right Atrial Pressure. ? Effect of Airway Pressure?
- LVEDP – “Wedge” Left Ventricular End Diastolic Pressure. Occluded PA Balloon, Pressure Column from LV to PA via Mitral Valve. ? Effect of Airway Pressure?
- Echocardiogram: LV Diastolic Volume

# EFFECT OF VARIOUS FLUIDS ON BLOOD PRESSURE AND CARDIAC OUTPUT



**Comparison of 500 ml Blood, 5% Albumen; 1000 ml Lactated Ringer's, 5% Dextrose**

# DRUGS USED IN SHOCK IN CHILDREN

DRUG	Dose mcg/kg/min	Mech	Use
Dopamine	2-20	D,B,A	Mild Shock
Dobutamine	5-20	B	Cardiogen.
Epinephrine	.05-3	B>A	Shock
Norepineph.	.05-3	A>B	Shock
Milrinone	.25-1	PDE	Ino, Vasodil
Nitropruss.	.2-5	Dil	Vasodil
Fenoldapam	.2-.8	RBF	Renal Perf
Vasopressin	.5mU	Const	Synergy

# Treatment:

## Hemodynamic Support

### Early septic shock:

- Impaired distribution of  $O_2$  to tissues
- Low SVR
- Often high  $Q_T$
- Hypotension
- Warm extremities
- “Flushed” appearance
- Treatment
  - Volume administration (lots)
  - Epinephrine
  - Norepinephrine

### Late septic shock:

- High SVR
- Low  $Q_T$
- Delayed capillary refill
- Cool extremities
- Treatment
  - Optimize preload
  - Inotropic support & afterload reduction
    - Dobutamine
    - NTP or Fenoldapam
    - Milrinone or Amrinone
    - Epi. & NTP
    - NE & phentolamine

# Pediatric Trauma

- **Stabilization - Resuscitation**
- **Chest Trauma**
- **Abdominal Trauma**
- **Closed Head Injuries**
- **Cervical Spine Injuries**
- **Trauma Systems**
- **Injury Prevention!!!!!!**

# Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Infants, Children, Adolescents

## PREHOSPITAL MANAGEMENT

- Hypoxia
- Hypotension
- Mannitol/Osmotherapy: Herniation
- Hyperventilation: Unclear – More Harm than Good

# GLASCOW COMA SCALE MODIFIED FOR CHILDREN

## Glascow Coma Scale    Modified Infant Score

Eye Open.	Spont.	Spont	4
	Voice	Voice	3
	Pain	Pain	2
	None	None	1
Verbal    Resp.	Oriented	Coos	5
	Confused	Irrat, Cons.	4
	Inappropriate	Cries to Pain	3
	Garbled	Moans to Pain	2
	None	None	1

# GLASCOW COMA SCALE MODIFIED FOR CHILDREN

Localize Pain	Withdraw to Touch	5
Withdraw to Pain	Withdraw to Pain	4
Flexion Posture	Flexion Posture	3
Extension Post.	Extension Post.	2
None	None	1

**The Motor Response is the Most Reliable, Least Subjective. Best for Communication of Severity**

# Pediatric Trauma

## Closed Head Injuries

- Major Cause of Pediatric Morbidity and Mortality
- A Preventable Cause of M & M
- Heterogeneous Disease Process
- ICP (Intracranial Pressure) Management has Evolved over Years, Hyperventilation Not First Line
- Surgical Approach More Aggressive: Ventriculostomy, Decompressive Craniectomy

# Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Infants, Children, Adolescents

Subdural  
Hematoma  
MRI

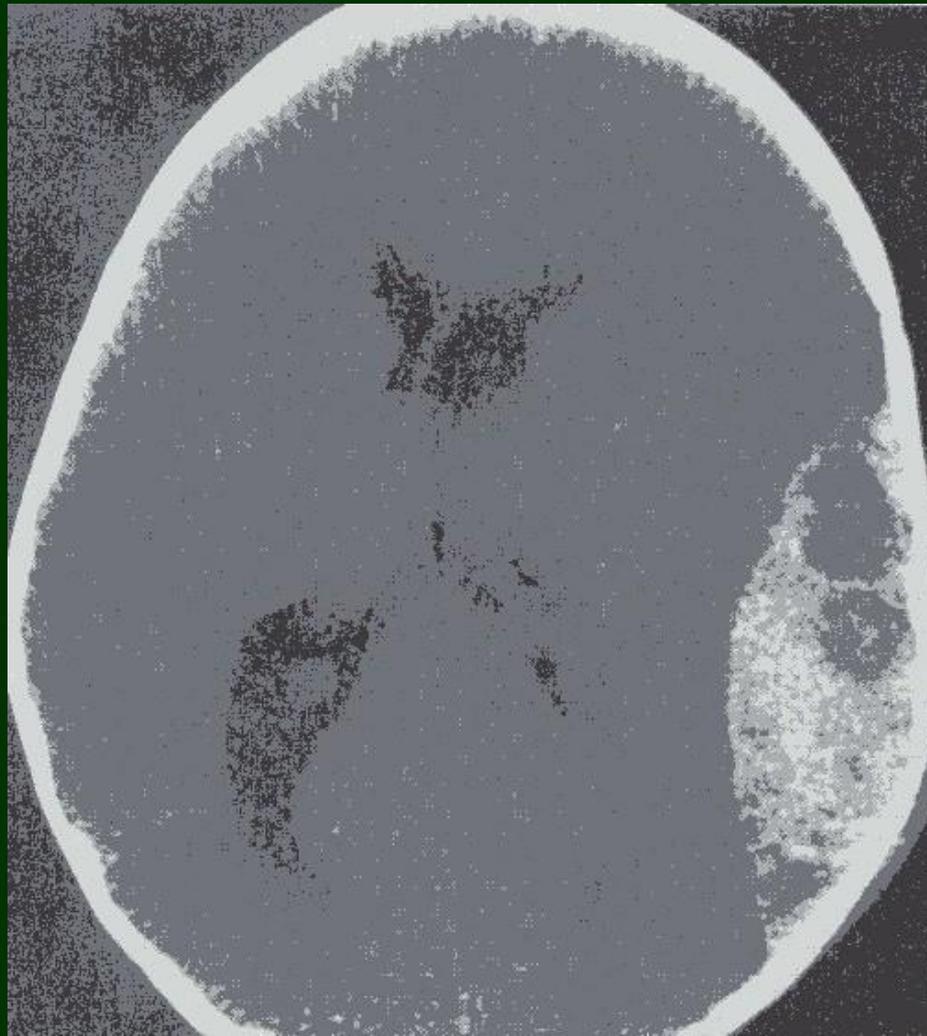
Immediate  
Loss of  
Consciousness  
Venous Oozing  
Damaged Brain



# Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Infants, Children, Adolescents

Epidural  
Hematoma

Lucid Interval  
Arterial Blood  
High Press.  
Compresses  
Normal Brain



# Severe Traumatic Brain Injury

## Infants, Children, Adolescents

- 9 Studies, 518 Pedi Demonstrated Association ICP and Poor Neuro Outcome &/or Mortality
- 3 Different Strategies Similar Improvements: Decomp. Craniectomy, Hyperosmolar, Hyperventilation
- 2 Prospective Trials Decompression: NAT, P/R Trauma
- 3% Saline 68 Inf/Child, ICP  $\leq 20$ : 15% Mort vs Hist 40% (Peterson, Kanna CCM 2000)
- 85 Children Hypervent, Barbs, ICP  $\leq 20$ : 9% Mort, 87.5% Good Outcome (Bruce Childs Brain 1979)
- Risk Population: 86% Child. GCS  $\leq 8$ , ICP  $> 20$ .

# Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Infants, Children, Adolescents

## **HYPERVENTILATION CONTROVERSIES**

- Decreased ICP at Expense of Cerebral Blood Flow, Hyperemia May Be Desired
- Skippen, 1997 CCM, Demonstrated Regional Ischemia 3x with PaCO<sub>2</sub> <25
- Stringer, 1993 AJNR, Hypoventilation Decreases CBF to both Injured and Non-Injured Brain
- Muizelaar, 1991 J Neurosurg, Prophylactic Hyperventilation (PaCO<sub>2</sub>=25) Worse Clinical Outcome in Pts. GCS 4-5.

**SCIWORA: Spinal Cord Injury  
WithOut Radiographic  
Abnormality**

# RELATIVE HEAD SIZE, ANGULATION

## ADULT VS CHILD



# SCIWORA Syndrome

- **Originally Described by Pang and Wilberger in 1982.**
- **Closed Spinal Trauma with Significant Neurologic Injury, Normal Spine Xrays**
- **Children at High Risk Due to Ligamentous Elasticity and Laxity, Mass of Cranium**
- **Common in Series of Children with Spinal Cord Injury**
- **Secondary Injury, or Recurrent Injury a Significant Risk, Preventable by Immobilization, Diagnosis**

# SCIWORA Syndrome: Ligamentous Injury



# SCIWORA: Incidence In Series Of Pediatric Spinal Cord Injury

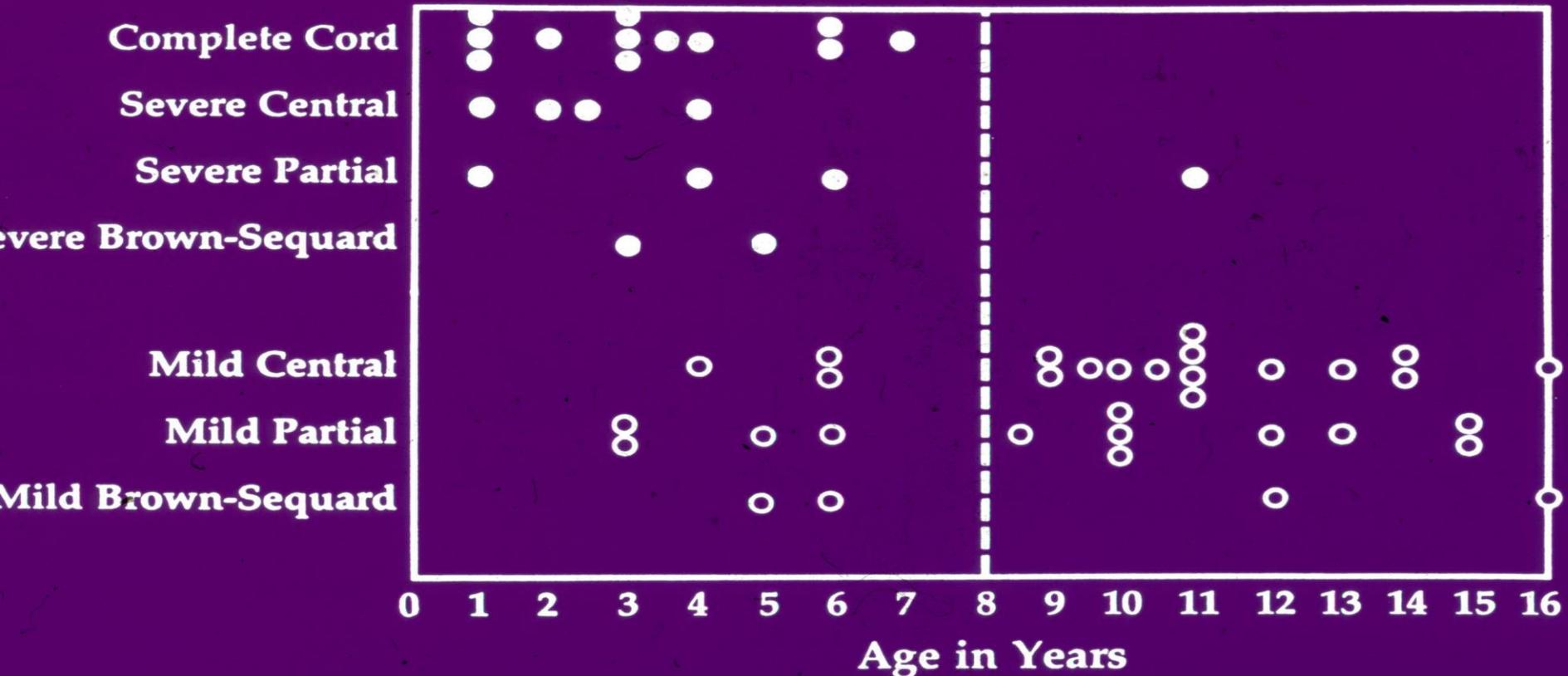
<b>Melzak (1969)(33)</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>Burke (1971)(38)</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Pang (1982) (36)</b>	<b>67%</b>
<b>Baker (1999) (72)</b>	<b>56%</b>

# Comparison of Children With Radiographic Evident Spine Injury and SCIWORA

- 72 Children, Ages 1 Month to 15 Years, Primary Children's Hospital, 1989 – 1994
- 40 RESI, 32 SCIWORA
- Sports, MVA and Falls Most Common
- Midline Cervical Tenderness Common, in Absence of **Distracting Injury**

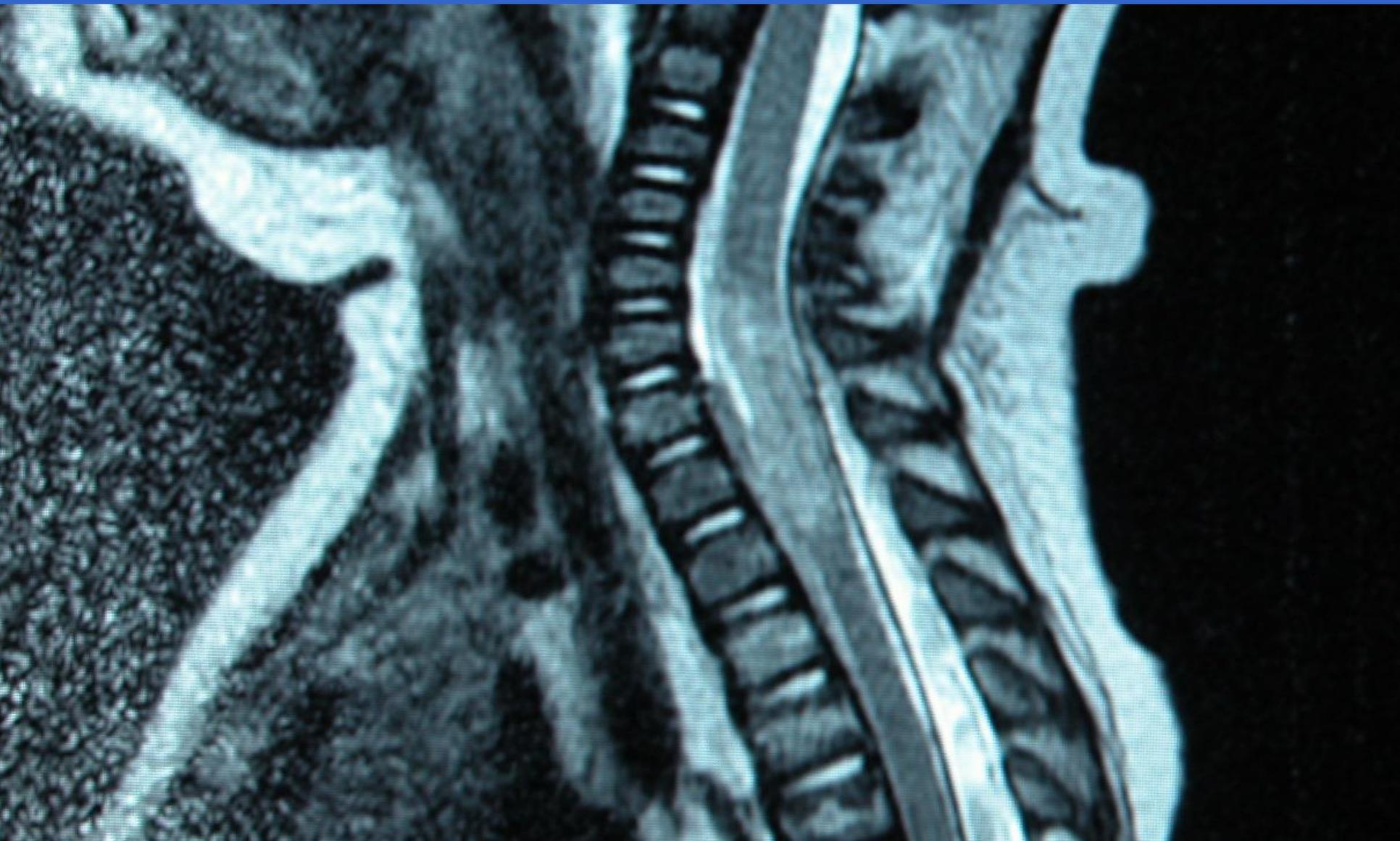
**Baker C, et al, Am J Emerg Med. 1999**

# SCIWORA: Extent of Injury vs. Age



SCIWORA: 1 YEAR OLD, CORD CONTUSION

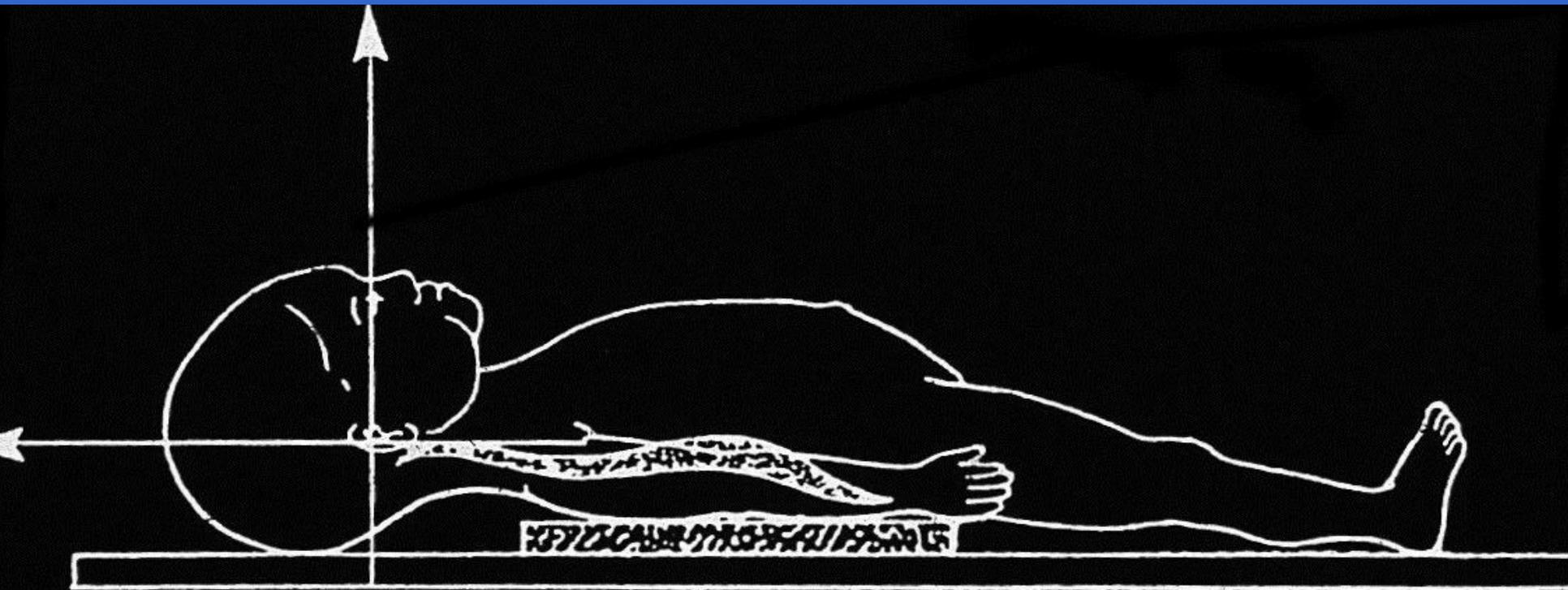
MRI , C-COLLAR IN PLACE



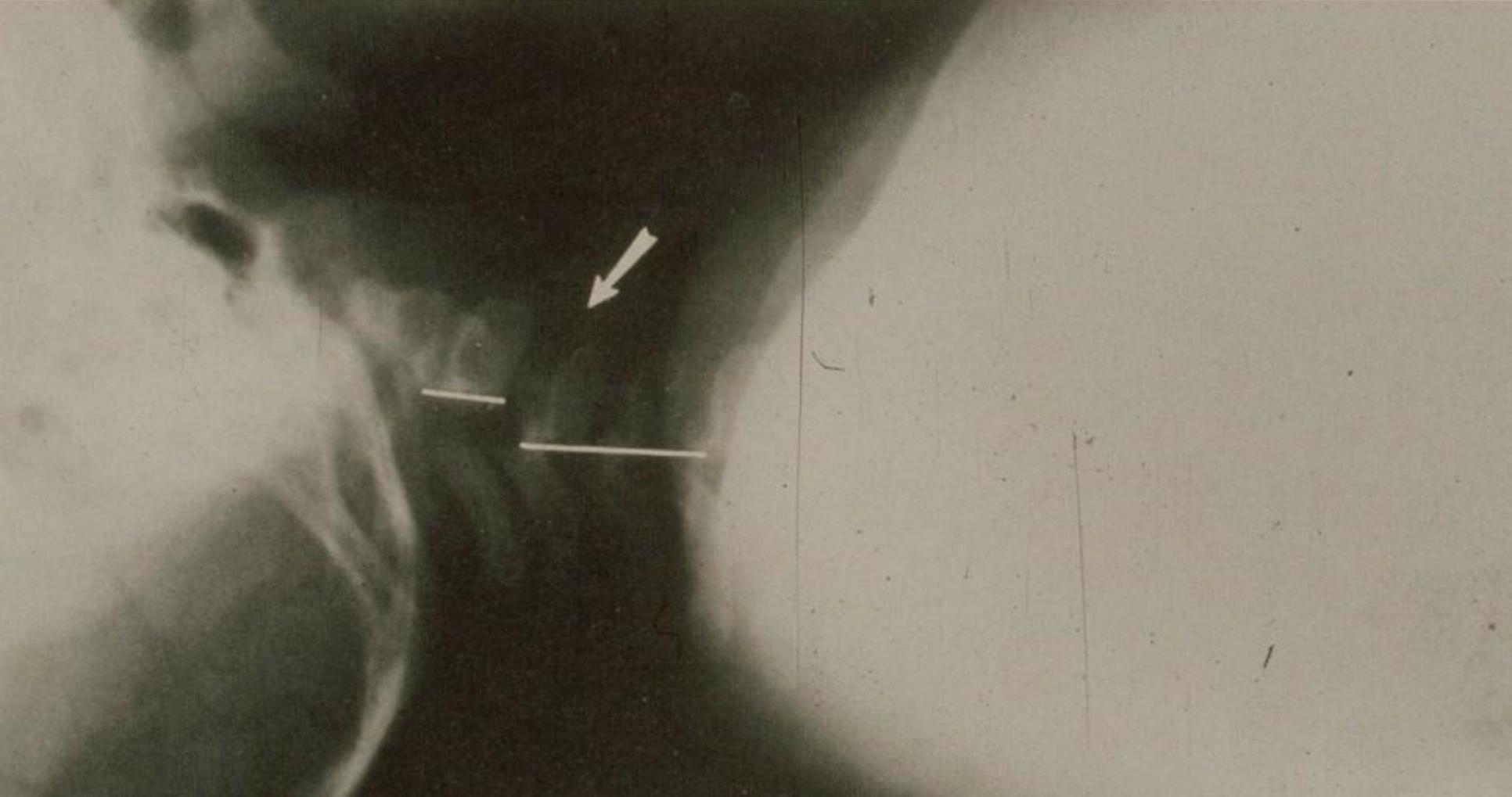
# SCIWORA: Delayed Deterioration

- Series of Pang and Pollack, *J. Trauma*, 1989
- 55 Children, 15 with Delayed Deterioration
- 8 Children Suffered “Second” SCIWORA: 3 Days to 10 Weeks After Initial Injury (5 Within 1 Week)

C-SPINE STABILIZATION IN CHILDREN  
PROPER ALIGNMENT, BACK ELEVATION  
HAVE CHILD GAZE PERPENDICULAR TO  
BOARD/SPINE AXIS



C-SPINE FILMS IN CHILDREN  
IMPROPER ALIGNMENT  
RISK OF SECONDARY INJURY



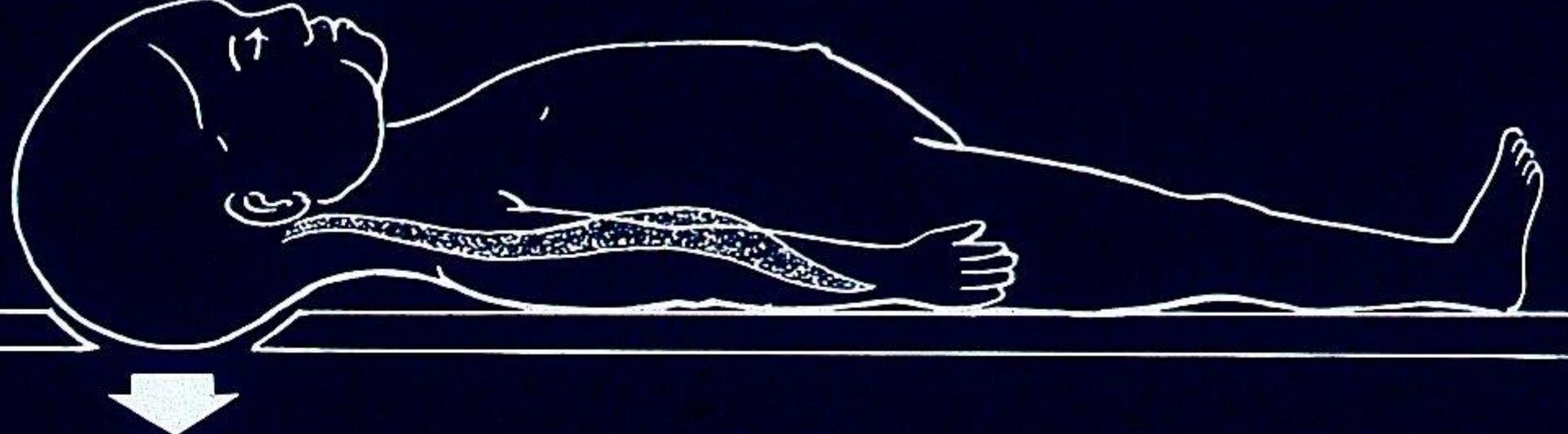


FIG. 6-A

a modified backboard that has a cut-out to recess the occiput, obtaining safe supine cer

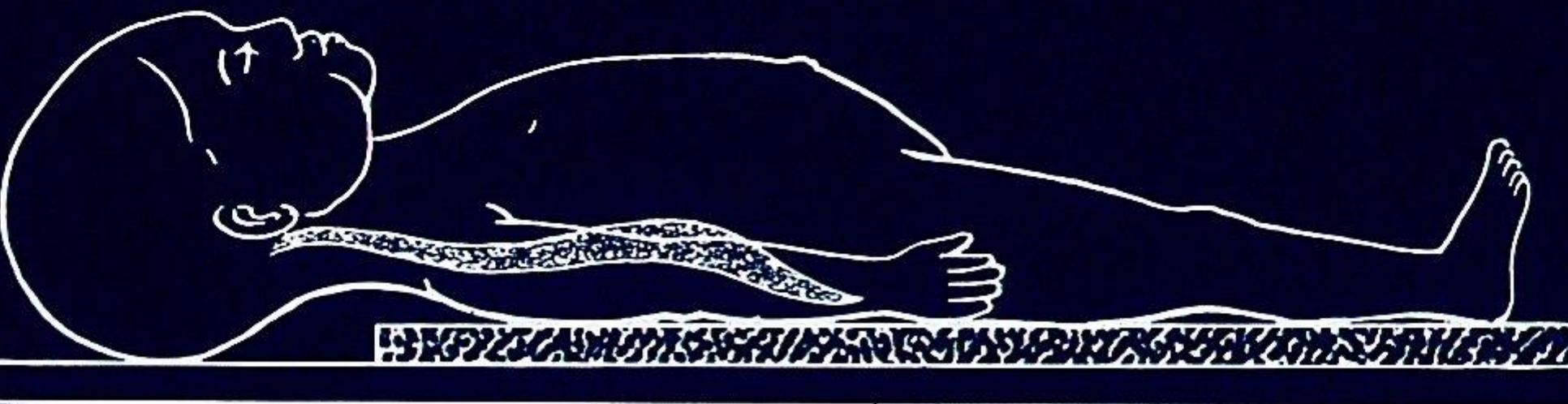
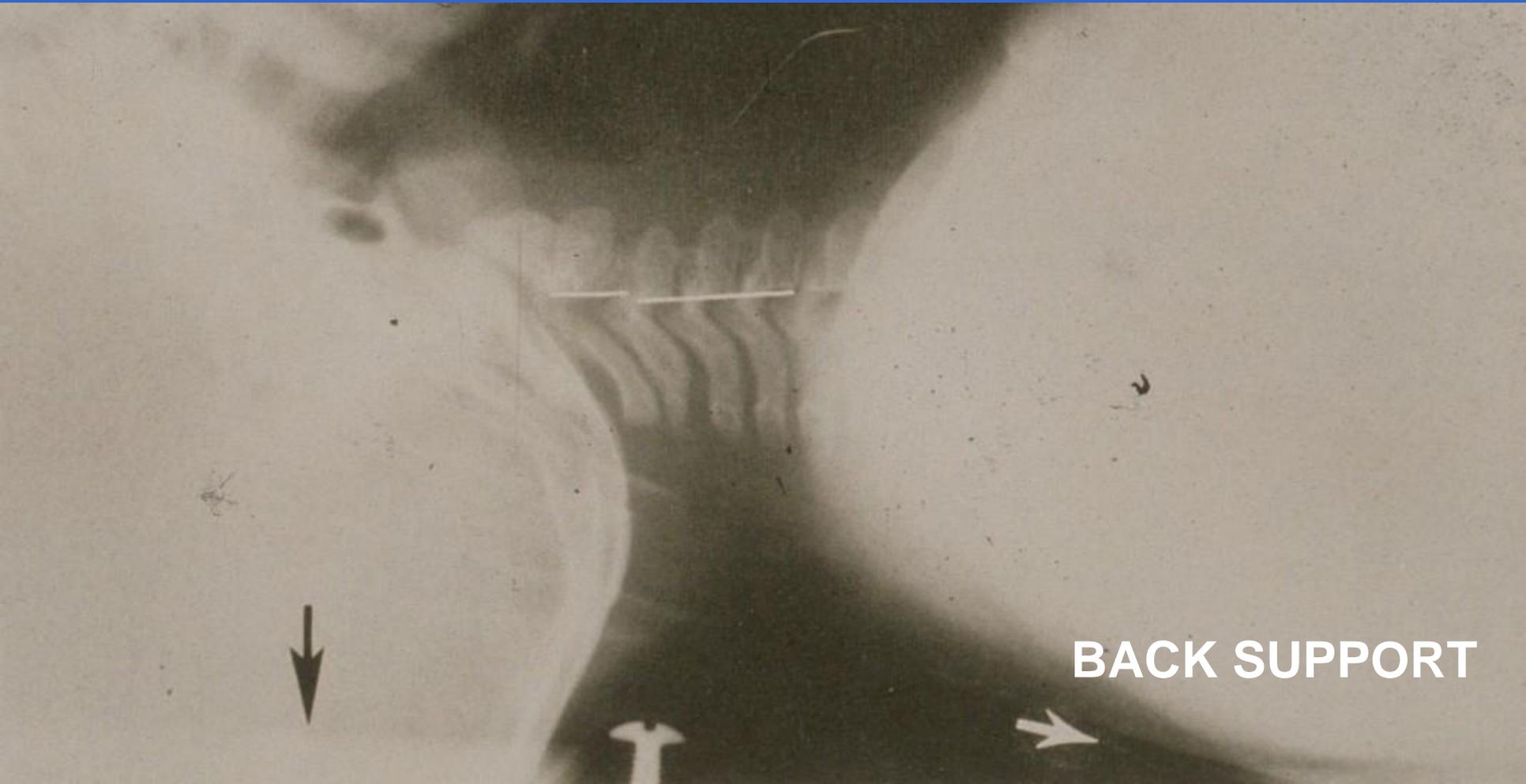


FIG. 6-B

# C-SPINE FILMS IN CHILDREN PROPER ALIGNMENT, LESS RISK OF SECONDARY INJURY



# SCIWORA: Approach

- Key to Diagnosis is Suspicion
- Immobilize All Children at Risk
- Can Not Clear C-Spine Under 8 Years with a Lateral Neck Xray
- Maintain C-Spine Immobilization Until Cleared: Either Clinically, MRI, Flex-Ext Films
- Distracting Injuries Prevent the Clearance Based on Absence of Cervical Tenderness (CLINICAL), or Presence of Pain Meds

# PEDIATRIC TRAUMA

## ABDOMINAL INJURIES

- Approach to Pediatric Abdominal Trauma Based More on Clinical Status than Radiology/DPL
- Free Air
- Specific Patterns: Belt Injury, Handlebars
- CT usually Initial Exam
- Ultrasound

# PEDIATRIC TRAUMA

## CHEST TRAUMA

- Mechanism: Blunt vs Penetrating
- Hemothorax
- Pneumothorax
- Pulmonary Contusion
- Pericardial Tamponade
- Myocardial Contusion
- Vascular Injuries

# Summary

- Transporting critically ill children requires a systematic approach
- Attention to details will help to avoid adverse events
- Be prepared before you move
- Minimize major interventions in ambulance or helicopter
- It's all about the ABC's

