

Care of the Critically Unwell
Patient...

Critical care



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Definition

- care given to patients with serious (life threatening) and reversible diseases



History CC in Europe

- 1543 ventilation of an animal
- 1904-15 mechanical ventilation
- 1854-56 Florence Nightingale
 - *the first to have used an intensive care unit.*
- 1930 first post op
- 1950s poliomyelitis
- 1960 training program in cc



Increasing need

Europe heading towards >10%
of beds for CC



Which patients

- those who could most benefit from the critical care, i.e. those who have life threatening conditions and have a *reasonable* chance of recovery within reasonable time



Organ dysfunction

- The main purpose with CC is to support failing organs and to prevent further organ dysfunction
 - gas exchange failure
 - pump failure



Organ dysfunctions will present as a – ABCD problem

A – airway

B – breathing

C – circulation

D – disability



Patient unable to look after himself

- observe, observe, observe !!!
- evaluate all bodily functions repeatedly 24/7



Remember

- first ICU was introduced by a nurse
- nurses remain very important
- essential for continuous intensive care of the critically ill



How do we achieve our goals?

Goal directed therapy



Define goals for each patient

- specific goals during the day

Define acceptable values

- where there are no specific goals

Define reaction values

- what not to accept and what to do if it happens



Tabell från TIM



Head to toe

- Head
- Respiration
- Circulation
- Infection
- Kidney
- Gastrointestinal
- Koagulation



What to focus on

- Optimise basic treatments for
 - ABCD
- Continuous Supportive care and nutrition
- Goal directed care



Karolinska

- 1 nurse / patient
- Always at the patient
- Hourly checks of all parameters
- Treats according to goals
- Contacts doctor when concerned or when outside goals



- Observe
- Document
- React

