UNDERSTANDING ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME (ARDS)

A common and devastating condition in the ICU

Prevalence

~300,000+ people develop ARDS in the US and EU each year

Up to 55% of patients with ARDS will die in hospital

Most common ARDS causes

All ARDS cases have a compromised endothelial barrier. Fluid leaks into the lungs, leading to impaired oxygen absorption and hypoxemia

Impact on hospital resources

At one year:

- 47 days in hospital
- 25 days in ICU
- ~$82k per patient

References


Consequences for patients

- 70–100% have cognitive impairment at hospital discharge
- Only 48% are able to return to work within a year

Higher rates of:

- Acute kidney injury
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Anxiety

Impact on hospital resources

At one year:

- 47 days in hospital
- 25 days in ICU
- ~$82k per patient

There is currently no approved treatment for ARDS

Current care focuses on symptom management, not the underlying cause

Mechanical ventilation is currently used to keep patients alive

*Calculated from the original Canadian dollar amount to US dollars based on the 2002 average exchange rate of 1.57 CAD to 1 USD