OUR EXPERIENCE WITH NON-INVASIVE VENTILATION (NIV) IN PATIENTS WITH COVID-19

C. N. Pashaev, R. Sh. Polukhov, E. M. Nasibova, M. M. Abasov, R. B. Yelchiev, E.R. Guliev, F.M. Mustafayev, J. Nabiev, A.M. Gurbanova, A.F. Elchizade, I.T. Aliev, F.M. Gazieva

Non-invasive ventilation (NIV) is a method of respiratory support, using different regimens of assisted ventilation administered through the mask as a major interface, which can easily be applied on or detached from patient's respiratory tract. Proper selection of patients is a key factor of NIV clinical success. It is worth noting that a preserved consciousness, patient's consent, and stable hemodynamics are the obligate criteria to be considered in NIV candidates.

NIV is associated with much less complications than invasive ventilation (IV). Mask ventilation allows to minimize the rate of infectious and mechanical complications. Nosocomial pneumonia is one of the most frequent IV complications, being a leading factor, determining the patient's prognosis. In NIV there is no direct contact with trachea (tracheal tube, aspiration catheter). The patient can clean his airways from the sputum by himself upon removal of mask. Unlike of IV in NIV the vocal cords keep their natural mobility, preventing the risk of aspiration, which is a leading cause of ventilator-associated pneumonia.

The authors present the experience of NIV use at intensive care department of Azerbaijan medical university hospital, proving high effectiveness and safety of this method of respiratory support in severe pneumonia patients, associated with COVID-19. A clinical case presented illustrates the use of NIV in pneumonia patients.

Key words: COVID-19, non-invasive ventilation, effectiveness, safety.

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Nasibova Esmira Mirsa kysy Azerbaijan medical university Associate professor

Tel.: +994503366077, doc.nasibova.esmira@gmail.com