

## **FIVE-YEAR EXPERIENCE OF THE RESPIRATORY CARE CENTER**

C-H Huang, W-B Wu, M-P Day , C-J Ou

Department of Internal medicine, Chest medicine section , St. Martin De Porres Hospital , Taiwan

**BACKGROUND/AIMS** : “Trial Plan for the National Public Health Insurance Ventilator Dependent Patients Comprehensive Care System” was promoted in Taiwan since July 2000 . A retrospective 5 years’ data collection was performed with patients( prolong ventilator support more than 21 days ) who were admitted to STM hospital respiratory care center ( RCC ). This study presents our 5-year experience and analyzed clinical features and outcomes.

**METHODS** : We studied the medical records retrospectively of 712 patients who were admitted to the RCC of STM hospital from January 2001 to December 2005. These data included age, gender, causes of respiratory failure, RCC discharge status etc. Patients who showed ventilator-dependent were transferred to respiratory care wards ( RCWs ) for long-term ventilator support. The long-term outcome was analyzed for those ventilator-dependent patients.

**RESULT** : A total of 712 patients were admitted to the RCC during the 5 year period. 621 patients (87.3%) were older than 65-year-old. The most common causes of prolonged ventilator support were pneumonia (41.7%). 290 patients (40.7%) were successfully weaned from the ventilator. 258 patients (36.2%) were unsuccessfully weaned from the ventilator and were transferred to RCWs. 164 patients (23.0%) died during RCC hospitalization. We gathered follow-up data on 177 patients (68.6%) in RCWs, post-discharge survival rates were 31.6% at 1 year .

**DISSCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS:** “ National Public Health Insurance Ventilator Dependent Patients Comprehensive Care System” is a good comprehensive care system for ventilator-dependent patients, but the outcomes of long-term ventilator support patients were remain to be poor.(?) so good ba o bad??

**key words:** respiratory care center, respiratory care ward, ventilator-dependent