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# Nutrition Support Practices Across the Care Continuum in a Single Centre Critical Care

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### **Abstract**

Critically unwell patients with COVID-19 ar at high nutrition risk. This study aimed to explain the nutrition support practices in a very single centre crucial care unit throughout the initial surge of the COVID-19 pandemic. Practices were explored from intensive care unit admission to post-ICU follow-up clinic and patients WHO received veno-venous extra-corporeal membrane natural action (VV-ECMO) were compared to those that failed to. Results show it's doable to achieve nutritionary adequacy for many patients which neither VV-ECMO nor proning were barriers to nutritionary adequacy. Nutritionary problems for patients WHO were critically unwell with COVID-19 persist following step down to ward level and into the community and methods to manage this need any investigation.

**Keywords:** Nutrition; Critical care; COVID-19; ARDS; Enteral feeding; ECMO

### Introduction

The Coronavirus unwellness 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic semiconductor diode to worldwide surge enlargement of crucial care demand and capability. This enclosed the supply of crucial care outside of ancient medical care units (ICUs) resulting in challenges within the provision of care - together with nutrition assessment and delivery to those patients. Nutrition could be a mainstay of supportive take care of critically unwell patients. Multiple tips were quickly revealed in relevance the nutrition care of COVID-19 patients in crucial care and non-COVID-19 metabolism failure aetiologies. The prevalence of deficiency disease in critically unwell COVID-19 positive patients at intensive care unit admission ranges. Victimization world Leadership Initiative on deficiency disease (GLIM) criteria and a proportion of those patients have a hypermetabolic makeup. Moreover, nutritionary standing declines during this patient cluster throughout the hospital keep. This is often related to each enhanced length of keep and mortality. Given the prognostic importance of nutritionary standing in patients with severe COVID-19, the interference of nutritionary decline ought to be a prioritized [1]. Initial experimental studies on nutrition connected problems and care patients received throughout the primary surge of the COVID-19 pandemic in crucial care have recently been revealed. Findings recommend feeding intolerance is common, tho' might not considerably have an effect on nutritionary adequacy early in intensive care unit admission. Associate in Nursing association between early caloric adequacy and decreased intensive care unit mortality has additionally been reported [2]. With the rise in severe metabolism failure related to COVID-19, there was a parallel increase within the use of veno-venous extra-corporeal membrane natural action (VV-ECMO). Whilst ECMO is reserved for the foremost severely unwell patients, thus far over thirteen,000 COVID-19 patients world-wide have received ECMO [3]. Patients receiving each VV and VA (veno-arterial) ECMO are reported to own specific nutritionary problems together with high rates of enteral feeding intolerance and poor nutrition provision throughout intensive care unit keep, just one study (in abstract form) examination provision of nutrition to VV-ECMO compared with non-ECMO exists with slightly higher prescribed versus delivered feeds within the VV-ECMO patients being reported, tho' the explanations behind this distinction don't seem to be examined. There is a growing interest in nutrition within the post-ICU amount, with a move towards considering mechanical phenomenon of take care of patients who are critically unwell, given this could be a pertinent amount for nutrition intervention once patients move towards katabolism and rehabilitation. nutritionary intake during this cluster following change of magnitude to the ward is poor, and rates of upset are high [4-5]. There are variety of studies revealed concerning nutrition in patients with COVID-19 but there remains several nonreciprocal queries. There ar only a few studies that scrutinize vital numbers of patients WHO received VV-ECMO compared to those that failed to, the nutritionary problems tough in these patient teams not solely throughout intensive care unit admission, however following intensive care unit and hospital discharge. the power to supply adequate nutrition care to those patients throughout a time of huge pressure to attention systems internationally has been a singular challenge from that there's abundant to be told. The aim of this study was to explain the nutrition care, adequacy and barriers to the supply of nutrition support to COVID-19 patients in crucial care throughout the initial surge in a very single centre within the kingdom and to match this in patients WHO received VV-ECMO compared to those that failed to. in addition, the nutrition care and nutrition-related problems following change of magnitude to the ward and following hospital discharge ar delineated [6].

### **Nutrition Support**

Enteral nutrition was commenced as per native hospital policy with enteral feed target rate set looking on weight and followed for the primary 48-72 h. Following dietetical assessment (aim inside 48-72 h of admission), enteral formula and target rate were personalized by the specialist. Associate in Nursing enteral standard macromolecule supplement was used once enteral nutrition formulas were inadequate to fulfill macromolecule targets. Enteral and channel nutrition support were prescribed unceasingly over 24-h as per native policy. Daily energy

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and macromolecule delivered were compared with the calculable target that day. If targets were expressed as a spread, the point of the vary was used. For the primary and Doomsday of intensive care unit admission, nutritionary targets were calculated as a proportion of a 24-h amount supported the time of admission, and therefore the time of crucial care discharge or death. To our information, this is often the biggest dataset describing nutrition adequacy and nutrition connected problems in critically unwell COVID-19 positive patients that compares a cohort receiving VV-ECMO to a non-ECMO cohort. this is often additionally the foremost comprehensive experimental study to follow these patients through their mechanical phenomenon of care, mapping nutritionary problems up till a post-ICU clinic appointment once patients were back within the community [7-9].

# Route of feeding, time to feeding and adequacy of nutrition support

The use of PN during this cohort was low with but five-hitter of patients receiving PN throughout their intensive care unit admission. this is often in distinction to many others WHO have reported PN use of 16-51% in COVID-19 positive cohorts. this could be associated with higher supplemental PN usage in these different studies which can mirror variations in native practices, or additional conservative thresholds for GI intolerance. Our results ar additional kind of like those revealed by Terblanche and colleagues, whose population and native practices seem nearer to our own given each centres ar London-based NHS tertiary referral hospitals with massive pre-existing ICUs before the COVID-19 pandemic [10].

### Enteral feeding intolerance and interruptions

This study reports high GRVs in nearly half the patient cohort, that is in distinction to others [11] WHO found solely on quarter of COVID-19 patients tough high GRVs. apparently, their GRV threshold was additionally set at three hundred mil, and each the APACHE II and lounge scores ar higher, thus this distinction is unlikely to be associated with severity of health problem. Their study will but solely endure the first seven days, and it's unclear however oftentimes GRVs were measured throughout the study amount. it's going to be that rates of high GRVs increase because the crucial care keep progresses, or that in our population GRVs may are recorded additional oftentimes, thereby capturing a better variety of instances. Remarkably, the patients within the Osuna-padilla et al. study received enteral feeding over Associate in Nursing 18-h amount, as critical over twenty four h during this study. Given cyclic feeding is assumed to extend the speed of feeding intolerance and GRVs, this once more suggests another distinction between these to check teams that result in a two-fold distinction in high aspirates. The prevalence of high GRVs reported during this study ar kind of like those reported by Liu and colleagues [12], Definition of a high GRV was considerably totally different, as in their study a volume threshold wasn't used, however instead any aspirate that semiconductor diode to enteral nutrition being withheld was thought of high. Despite high levels of GRVs, high use of prokinetics and probably, high levels of dietetical input seemingly prevented this from leading to poor nutritionary adequacy.

### Post-ICU Nutrition Management (Hospital Discharge)

There have been high rates of nutrition connected symptoms even many months following hospital discharge. Despite these high rates of symptoms that ar seemingly to impact nutritionary intake (such as dyspnoea, fatigue, style changes, poor craving, and dysphagia) loss of weight was recorded as a problem in but one in ten patients. this might indicate that patients had with success enforced methods to maximise caloric intake despite these challenges [13], or or else it's going to indicate that weight-loss was an indication that was less enquired concerning by clinicians within the post-ICU clinic, significantly given clinics were happening nearly as critical in-person wherever patients will be weighed at the clinic appointment. any analysis into the particular weight-loss of this patient cluster following discharge to the community, yet as clinicians' attitudes concerning the importance of unintentional weight loss in a very post-ICU clinic setting is bonded [14-15].

## Conclusion

Despite the pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic on medical care services, it had been doable to confirm a major variety of patients reached nutritionary adequacy by utilising the enhanced dietetical capability. Neither VV-ECMO nor proning were barriers to nutritionary adequacy during this critically unwell COVID-19 cohort. nutritionary problems for patients WHO were critically unwell with COVID-19 persist following stepdown to ward level and into the community for a few of those patients, however the impact of this on nutritionary standing needs any exploration.

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