

# MUCOACTIVE DRUGS AND AIRWAY HYGIENE

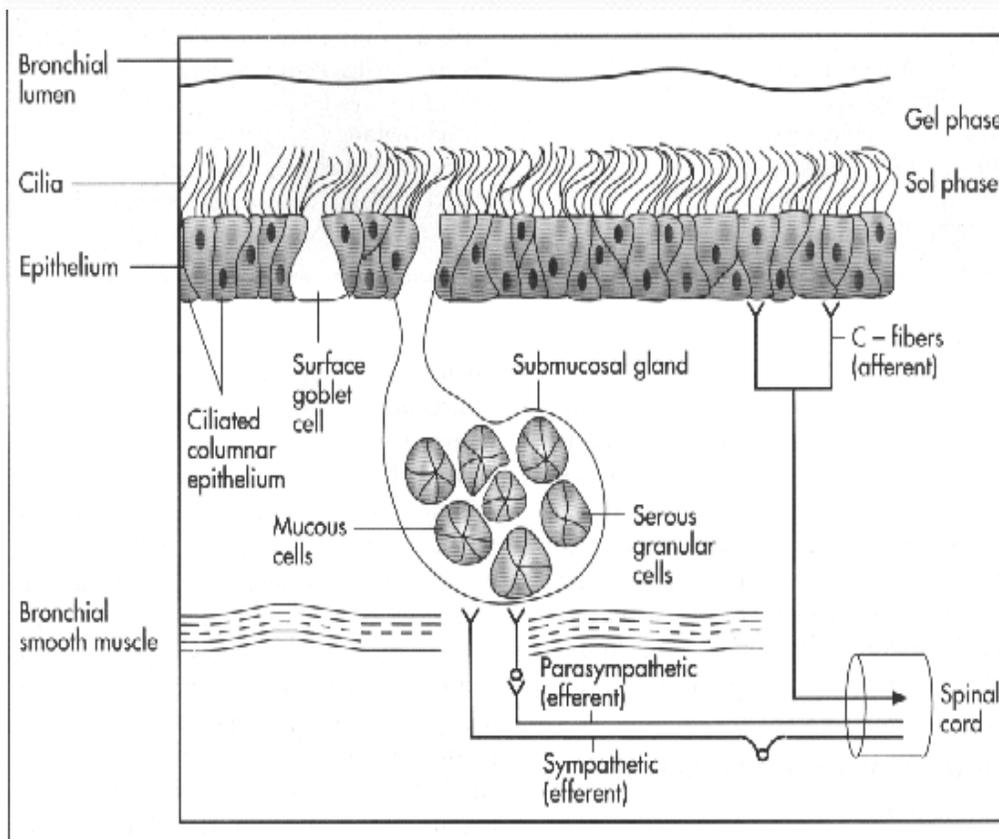
Dr. Trình Thị Ngà  
Respiratory Department

- 
- I. MUCOACTIVE DRUGS
  - II. THE STUDIES
  - III. AIRWAY HYGIENE



# **MUCOACTIVE DRUGS**

# Muco-ciliary Blanket



95% water, 2%  
glycoproteins

Gel layer-high viscosity  
from goblet cells

Sol layer – low viscosity  
from submucosal  
bronchial glands

- 
- neutrophil-derived DNA
  - filamentous actin (F-actin), dead/apoptotic cells,
  - bacteria and cell debris
- mucus purulence = sputum

**TABLE 1** Mucoactive drugs and their potential mechanisms of action

| Mucoactive drugs         | Potential mechanism of action                                                                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Expectorants</b>      |                                                                                                            |
| Hypertonic saline        | Increases secretion volume and/or hydration                                                                |
| Guaifenesin              | Stimulates secretion and reduces mucus viscosity                                                           |
| <b>Mucoregulators</b>    |                                                                                                            |
| Carbocysteine            | Metabolism of mucus producing cells, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects, modulates mucus production |
| Anticholinergic agents   | Decreases secretion volume                                                                                 |
| Glucocorticoids          | Reduces airway inflammation and mucin secretion                                                            |
| Macrolide antibiotics    | Reduces airway inflammation and mucin secretion                                                            |
| <b>Mucolytics</b>        |                                                                                                            |
| <i>N</i> -Acetylcysteine | Breaks disulphide bonds linking mucin polymers<br>Antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects                |
| <i>N</i> -Acetylcystein  | Increases chloride secretion and breaks disulphide bonds                                                   |
| Erdosteine               | Modulates mucus production and increases mucociliary transport                                             |
| Dornase alfa             | Hydrolyses the DNA in mucus and reduces viscosity in the lungs                                             |
| Gelsolin                 | Severs actin filament cross-links                                                                          |
| Thymosin $\beta_4$       | Severs actin filament cross-links                                                                          |
| Dextran                  | Breaks hydrogen bonds and increases secretion hydration                                                    |
| Heparin                  | Breaks both hydrogen and ionic bonds                                                                       |
| <b>Mucokinetics*</b>     |                                                                                                            |
| Bronchodilators          | Improves cough clearance by increasing expiratory flow                                                     |
| Surfactants              | Decreases sputum/mucus adhesiveness                                                                        |
| Ambroxol                 | Stimulates surfactant production and inhibits neuronal sodium channels                                     |

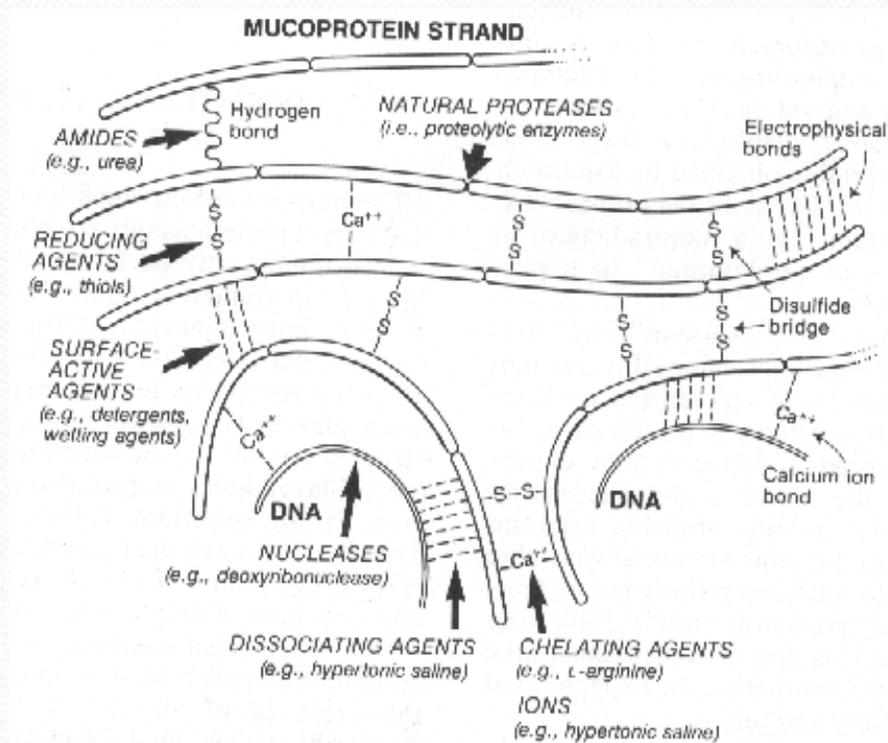
\*: also referred to as cough clearance promoters.



# *Mucolytics*

- Acetylcystein, bromhexin
- Recombinant human DNase (DNase, Pulmozyme)
- Endosteine
  
- Mucolytics: orally or parenterally.
- RhDNase: nebulisation and inhalation.

# Mucolytics: Mucomyst (N-Acetylcysteine)



- 10 or 20% solution (hypertonic and alkaline pH)
- Breaks disulfide bonds (most effective form of mucolysis)
- Also breaks mucoprotein bonds and hydrogen bonds
- Bronchorrhea

# Mucolytics:

## Pulmozyme (Dornase Alpha or DNase)

- Excellent aerosol mucolytic for cystic fibrosis patients
- Lyses the DNA bonds in the sputum of cystic fibrosis patients
  - These patients have a lot of these bonds!



# THE STUDIES



Available online <http://ccforum.com/content/9/4/R351>

Research

Open Access

## DNase and atelectasis in non-cystic fibrosis pediatric patients

Tom Hendriks<sup>1</sup>, Matthijs de Hoog<sup>2</sup>, Maarten H Lequin<sup>3</sup>, Annick S Devos<sup>3</sup> and Peter JFM Merkus<sup>4</sup>  
nebulised or endotracheally instilled DNase

<sup>1</sup>Pediatrician, Catharina Hospital, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

<sup>2</sup>Pediatric Intensivist, Division of Intensive Care, Department of Pediatrics, Erasmus University and Erasmus Medical Centre/Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

<sup>3</sup>Pediatric Radiologist, Division of Radiology, Department of Pediatrics, Erasmus University and Erasmus Medical Centre/Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

<sup>4</sup>Pediatric Pulmonologist, Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Erasmus University and Erasmus Medical Centre/Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Corresponding author: Peter JFM Merkus, [p.j.f.m.merkus@erasmusmc.nl](mailto:p.j.f.m.merkus@erasmusmc.nl)

Received: 26 Nov 2004 Revisions requested: 18 Jan 2005 Revisions received: 14 Apr 2005 Accepted: 20 Apr 2005 Published: 20 May 2005

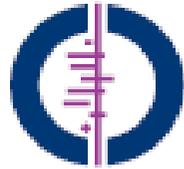
*Critical Care* 2005, **9**:R351-R356 (DOI 10.1186/cc3544)

- 
- a retrospective descriptive study.
  - n = 30
  - nebulised or endotracheally instilled DNase



## **Conclusion:**

- rapid clinical improvement was observed within 2 h and radiologic improvement was documented within 24h in the large majority of children.
- DNase may be an effective treatment for infectious atelectasis in non-cystic fibrosis pediatric patients.



**Cochrane  
Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

## Mucolytics for bronchiectasis (Review)

Wilkinson M, Sugumar K, Milan SJ, Hart A, Crockett A, Crossingham I

COCHRANE 2014

- 
- Bronchiectasis is a disease characterised by excessive mucus production and retention.
  - Retained sputum could potentially act as a culture medium for bacteria leading to recurrent or persistent chest infection.

- 
- 4 RCTs = 528 participants (adult)
  - Bromhexine (n= 88): 30mg orally three times per day,  
→ improving sputum expectoration after ten days' treatment, reduced sputum production at 7, 10 and 16 days.

- 
- Erdosteine + physiotherapy (n = 30) slightly improved sputum purulence and small but clinically useful changes in spirometry over a 15-day period.
  - Recombinant human Dnase (Rh DNase) (n = 460): 2,5 – 5mg aerosol → no important significant differences versus placebo.
- Randomised controlled trials are needed.

RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Mucolytic Effectiveness of Tyloxapol in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease - A Double-Blind, Randomized Controlled Trial

**Martin Koppitz<sup>1</sup>, Charlotte Eschenburg<sup>1</sup>, Emilia Salzmann<sup>2</sup>, Martin Rosewich<sup>1</sup>, Ralf Schubert<sup>1</sup>, Stefan Zielen<sup>1\*</sup>**

**1** Department for Children and Adolescents, Division for Allergology, Pneumology and Cystic Fibrosis, University Hospital Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, **2** Department for Children and Adolescents, Division for Stem Cell Transplantation and Immunology, University Hospital Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

\* [Stefan.Zielen@kgu.de](mailto:Stefan.Zielen@kgu.de)



CrossMark  
click for updates



## Design:

- A randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blinded crossover; n = 28.
- Patient: inhale 5 ml Tyloxapol 1% or saline 0.9% solution 3 times daily for 3 weeks.
- Tacholiquin(Germany): 1% Tyloxapol, 5% glycerine and 2% sodium hydrogen carbonate in a sterile aqueous solution and saline 0.9% solution.

## Conclusion:

- Our study demonstrated that inhalation of Tyloxapol by patients with COPD is safe and superior to saline and has some anti-inflammatory effects.

**STUDY PROTOCOL**

**Open Access**

# Preventive nebulization of mucolytic agents and bronchodilating drugs in invasively ventilated intensive care unit patients **(NEBULAE)**: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial



Sophia M. van der Hoeven<sup>1\*</sup>, Jan M. Binnekade<sup>1</sup>, Corianne A. J. M. de Borgie<sup>3</sup>, Frank H. Bosch<sup>4</sup>, Henrik Endeman<sup>5</sup>, Janneke Horn<sup>1,2</sup>, Nicole P. Juffermans<sup>1,2</sup>, Nardo J. M. van der Meer<sup>6,9</sup>, Maruschka P. Merkus<sup>3</sup>, Hazra S. Moeniralam<sup>7</sup>, Bart van Silfhout<sup>7</sup>, Mathilde Slabbekoorn<sup>8</sup>, Willemke Stilma<sup>5</sup>, Jan Willem Wijnhoven<sup>6</sup>, Marcus J. Schultz<sup>1,2</sup> and Frederique Paulus<sup>1</sup>

- 
- This RCT, multicenter, open-label, Netherlands.
  - n = 950 intubated and ventilated ICU patients
  - nebulization of acetylcysteine(300mg) and/or salbutamol(2.5mg)/6h
  - Outcome: the number of ventilator-free days, surviving on day 28; ICU and hospital length of stay, ICU and hospital mortality...

- 
- NEBULAE is the first randomized controlled trial *sufficiently powered* .(22/7/2014 → 1/6/2016)



# **AIRWAY HYGIENE**



Review

## **Clinical review: Airway hygiene in the intensive care unit**

Sanja Jelic, Jennifer A Cunningham and Phillip Factor

Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, 630 West 168th Street  
New York, NY 10032, USA

Corresponding author: Sanja Jelic, [sj366@columbia.edu](mailto:sj366@columbia.edu)

Published: 31 March 2008

This article is online at <http://ccforum.com/content/12/2/209>

© 2008 BioMed Central Ltd

*Critical Care* 2008, **12**:209 (doi:10.1186/cc6830)

**Table 1****Recommendations for airway hygiene in critically ill patients for reduction in health-care-associated pneumonia**

| Strategies                                                                      | Recommended for clinical use | Grade | Reduction in HCAP              | Reduction in mortality |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Effective strategies</b>                                                     |                              |       |                                |                        |
| Chlorhexidine gluconate oral rinse                                              | Yes                          | A     | Yes                            | No                     |
| Endotracheal suctioning on 'as needed' basis (compared with routine suctioning) | Yes                          | A     | No increased incidence of HCAP | No                     |
| Kinetic therapy                                                                 | Yes <sup>a</sup>             | A     | Inconclusive                   | No                     |
| <b>Ineffective strategies</b>                                                   |                              |       |                                |                        |
| Selective digestive decontamination                                             | No                           | A     | Inconclusive                   | No                     |
| Oral topical iseganan                                                           | No                           | B     | No                             | No                     |
| Aerosolized mucus-controlling agents                                            | No                           | U     | N/A                            | N/A                    |
| Endotracheal instillation of saline                                             | No                           | C     | N/A                            | N/A                    |
| Chest physiotherapy                                                             | No                           | A     | Inconclusive                   | No                     |
| <b>Strategies of equivocal or undetermined effectiveness</b>                    |                              |       |                                |                        |
| Continuous subglottic suctioning                                                | Yes <sup>b</sup>             | A     | Yes                            | No                     |
| Bronchoscopy                                                                    | Yes <sup>c</sup>             | B     | N/A                            | N/A                    |
| Closed (in-line) endotracheal suctioning (compared with open suctioning)        | Yes <sup>d</sup>             | A     | Inconclusive                   | No                     |

- 
- Bronchoscopy should be reserved primarily for patients with acute atelectasis involving more than a single lung segment in the absence of air bronchograms who remain symptomatic after 24 hours of chest physiotherapy.

# Thorax

AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RESPIRATORY MEDICINE

## Guideline for non-CF Bronchiectasis

British Thoracic Society  
Bronchiectasis (non-CF) Guideline Group

THORAX.2010

# Are adjuncts to airway clearance techniques useful?

- *Sterile water inhalation* may be used before airway clearance to facilitate clearance. [B]
- The use of *nebulised normal saline* prior to airway clearance could be considered to increase sputum yield, reduce sputum viscosity and improve ease of expectoration. [B]
- The use of *nebulised hypertonic saline* prior to airway clearance could be considered to increase sputum yield, reduce sputum viscosity and improve ease of expectoration. [B]
- Consider using *nebulised b2 agonists* prior to treatment to enhance sputum clearance. [B]

- 
- Recombinant human DNase should not be used in adults with bronchiectasis. [A]
  - Recombinant human DNase should not be used in children with bronchiectasis. [D]



# CONCLUSION





**THANK YOU FOR YOUR LISTENING!**