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*Artículo:*

Obstructive sleep apnea: anatomy,  
physiology and perioperative  
considerations

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## David J. Cook, M.D.\*

\* Associate Professor of Anesthesiology. Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, MN, USA.

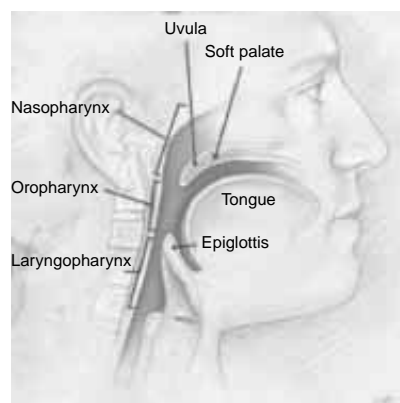
- About 1 in 15 middle aged adults have moderate OSA
- Incidence in men twice that of women
- 60-90% of adult OSA patients are obese
- Incidence increases with age
- Probably 90% of sufferers are undiagnosed
- Generally obesity and older age are concentrated in the surgical population
- Incidence of OSA in surgical patients probably significantly higher than in the general population
- Given U.S. demographics, diagnosis of OSA is predicted to increase 5-10 fold in the next decade



- OSA is defined as cessation of airflow for  $> 10$ s, occurring  $\geq 5$ X/hour of sleep

- Clinically results in disturbed sleep cycles, daytime sleepiness and cardiovascular changes
- Anatomy and physiology are well described, relevance to anesthetic care is clear

- Three collapsible pharyngeal segments (retropalatal, retroglossal and hypopharynx)
- Pharyngeal muscles actively keep airway open during inspiration



Chin

Throat

Nose

Tongue

Blocked airway

- Genioglossus moves the tongue anteriorly to keep the oropharyngeal air space open

### NEGATIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE

- The greater the obstruction, the greater negative pressure developed
- Much greater demands on airway muscles to keep airway patent

**NORMAL**



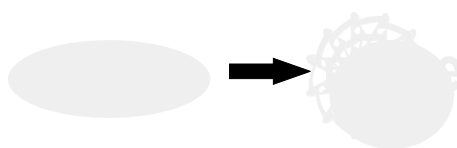
**APNEIC**



Restriction of the airway during an apneic event

### ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY IN OSA

- With obesity there is deposition of fat in the lateral pharyngeal walls
  - Decreases airway diameter and airflow resistance
  - Alters primary axis of airway from transverse to anterior-posterior



- Mechanical efficiency of pharyngeal muscles probably reduced

### THE SLEEP CYCLE

- With non-REM sleep, rhythmic activity of upper airway muscles decreases
- In REM sleep pharyngeal tone decreases, may disappear
- Airway obstruction may be a positive feedback loop

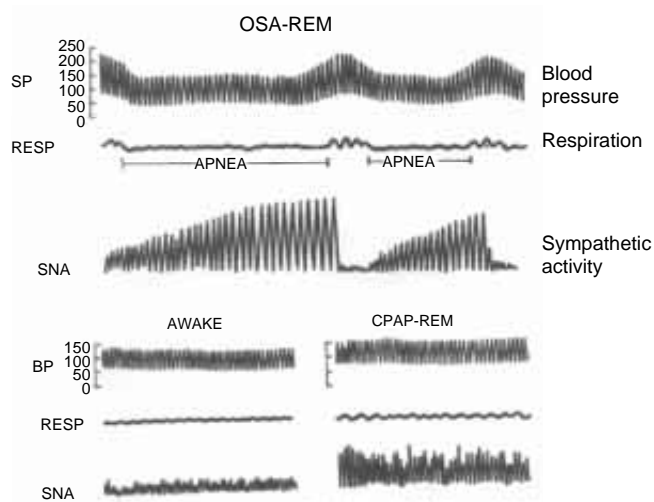
### AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION IN OSA SLEEP

- Increased resistance to airflow and increased negative inspiratory pressure
- Decreased pharyngeal tone during REM sleep
- Extrinsic airway compression for tissue
- Snoring occurs in 30-40% of obese men, represents periods prior to and following airway closure

### PHYSIOLOGIC EFFECTS OF OBSTRUCTION

- Decreased  $\text{PaO}_2$
- Increased  $\text{PaCO}_2$
- Arousal, increased sympathetic tone
  - Hypertension, systemic and pulmonary

### CARDIOVASCULAR EFFECTS OF OBSTRUCTION



### CARDIAC EFFECTS OF OSA

- Increased sympathetic tone
- Increased  $\text{MvO}_2$
- Myocardial ischemia and dysrhythmias
- Systemic and pulmonary hypertension

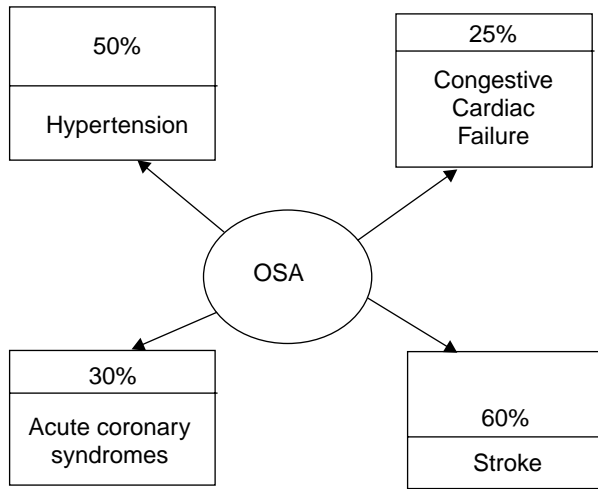
OSA episodes likened to “...*sequential administration of several hundred bolus of pressor agent each day*”.

Bradley, T.; Circulation 2003

## CARDIAC EFFECTS OF OSA

- Chronic exposure:
  - Cardiac remodeling:
    - LVH
    - myocyte necrosis, apoptosis
  - Worsening of LV failure
  - RV failure (*cor pulmonale*)

## CHRONIC CARDIOVASCULAR EFFECTS



## DIAGNOSIS OF OSA

- Sleep study is definitive
- Presumptive diagnosis:
  - Obesity (BSA > 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
  - Snoring or apnea during sleep
  - Daytime drowsiness/fatigue
- In surgical patients, assume OSA risk is there

## ANESTHETICS AND OSA

- All CNS depressants decrease pharyngeal dilator activity
  - thiopental
  - propofol
  - narcotics (I.V. and epidural)
  - NMBs
  - benzodiazepines
  - nitrous oxide
- Arousal, CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> responsiveness are diminished
- Interaction of anesthetics and OSA sleep cycle may last a week postoperatively

## OSA AND AIRWAY MANAGEMENT

- Presumption of difficult airway
- Prior anesthetic history may be mitigating
  - Prior intubation

- Adequacy of mask airway
- Change in body weight or OSA severity
- Dependence on nocturnal CPAP

- Strategy for difficult airway no different
- Pre-defined airway management strategy

Regional *versus* general anesthesia

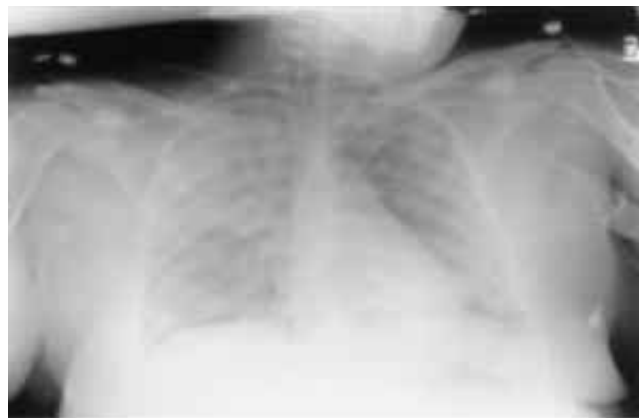
- Surgical requirement
- Patient preference
- Technical difficulty anticipated

- Risk of inability to ventilate
- Risk of aspiration
- Spontaneous ventilation
- Topicalization, sevoflurane
- Patient position, patient accessibility
- Special caution in MAC
- Outpatient surgi-centers, remote locations, more risky than standard operating and recovery rooms

## OSA AND POSTOP MANAGEMENT

- Regional analgesic techniques
- Awake extubation
- Pre-defined defined airway management strategy
- Surgery for OSA, more conservative
  - Bleeding, swelling, panic
- CPAP unit in PAR (non-airway surgery)

## NEGATIVE PRESSURE PULMONARY EDEMA



## METHODS OF MANAGEMENT

- Medical
  - CPAP/BiPAP
  - Weight loss

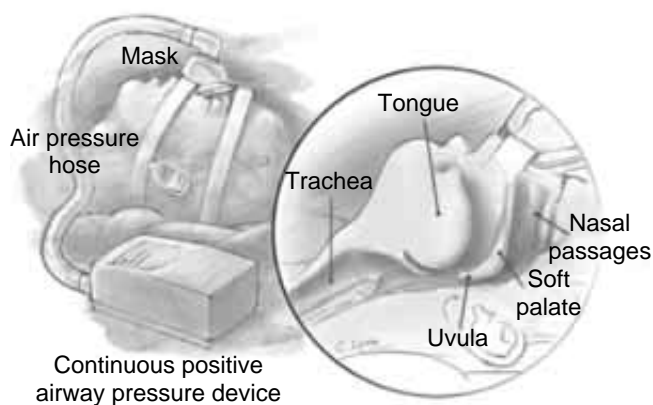
- Dental splints/tongue retaining devices
- Nasopharyngeal tubes
- Sleep hygiene
- Surgical

### CPAP AND BIPAP

- CPAP: continuous positive airway pressure
  - (typically 5-10 cm H<sub>2</sub>O pressure)
- BiPAP: Bilevel pressure support
  - Bi-pressure: senses inspiration,
  - Provides additional pressure to increase ventilation volume



### CPAP EFFECTS



### CPAP IN PATIENTS WITH HEART FAILURE AND OSA

- 24 patients with EF  $\leq$  45% with OSA
  - All receiving optimal Rx for heart failure
  - Randomly assigned to medical therapy or CPAP
  - Pre and post (1 month) respiratory and echocardiographic assessment of treatment effect (blinded)
- Kaneko Y et al NEJM 2003

#### Effects of CPAP on Heart Rate and Blood Pressure

Heart rate and blood pressure\*.

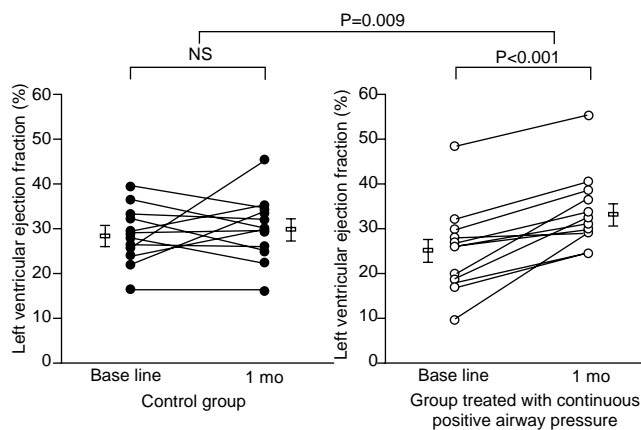
Variable	Control group			Group receiving continuous positive airway pressure		
	Base line	1 Mo	P value	Base line	1 Mo	P value
Heart rate (beats/min)	67 $\pm$ 4	67 $\pm$ 4	NS	68 $\pm$ 3	64 $\pm$ 3	0.007 <sup>†</sup>
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)	128 $\pm$ 7	134 $\pm$ 8	NS	126 $\pm$ 6	116 $\pm$ 5	0.02 <sup>‡</sup>
Diastolic blood pressure (mmHg)	60 $\pm$ 4	58 $\pm$ 3	NS	62 $\pm$ 4	59 $\pm$ 2	NS

\* NS denotes not significant. Plus-minus values are means  $\pm$  SE. There were no significant differences in base line values between the control group and the group given continuous positive airway pressure. Unless otherwise specified, P values are for the comparisons between base-line values and one-month values within the group.

<sup>†</sup> P = 0.09 for the comparison between the groups.

<sup>‡</sup> P = 0.008 for the comparison between the groups.

### EJECTION FRACTION BASELINE AND AT 1 MONTH



### CPAP IN PATIENTS WITH HEART FAILURE AND OSA

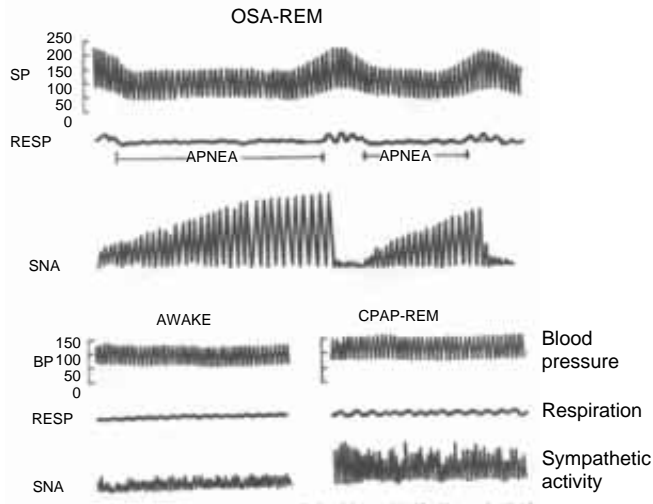
- In the control group, no change in ejection fraction (from 29  $\pm$  2 to 30  $\pm$  2 percent)
- Ejection fraction increased in all 12 subjects treated with CPAP (from 25  $\pm$  3 to 34  $\pm$  2 percent)

- While absolute change is small:  
Significant effect at this level of function  
Improvements in functional capacity can be meaningful

## SURGERY FOR OSA

- Uvulopalatopharyngoplasty (UPPP)

### CARDIOVASCULAR EFFECTS OF CPAP



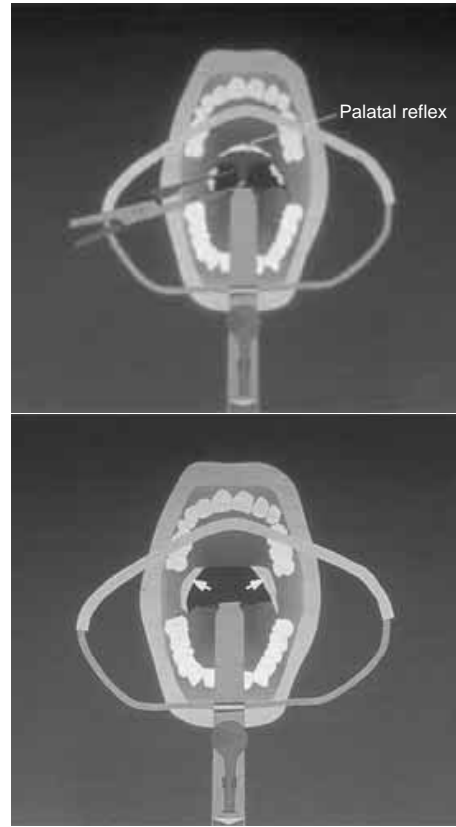
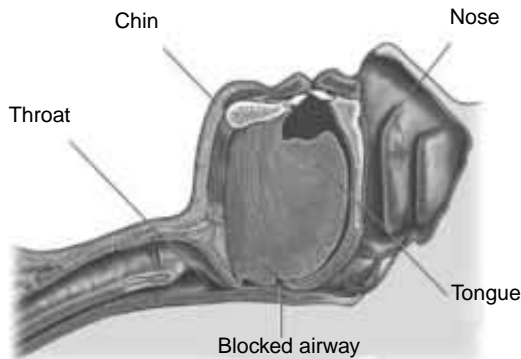
### METHODS OF MANAGEMENT

- Medical
  - CPAP/BiPAP
  - Weight loss
  - Dental splints/tongue retaining devices
  - Nasopharyngeal tubes
  - Sleep hygiene
- Surgical- medical Rx fails, or surgical etiology

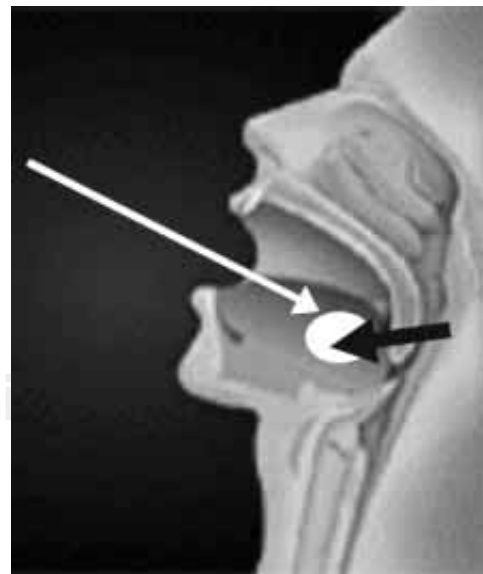
### SURGERY FOR OSA

- Uvulopalatopharyngoplasty (UPPP)
- Genioglossus advancement
- Hyoid-myoid suspension
- Surgeries for non-obese OSA

### SITES OF OBSTRUCTION, SURGICAL APPROACHES

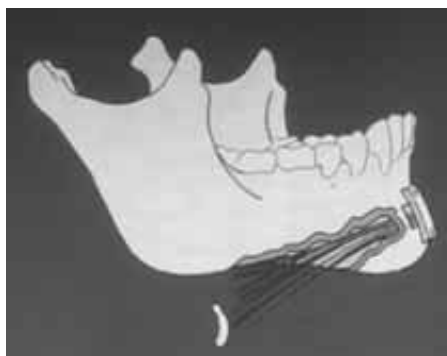


- Radiofrequency tongue base reduction

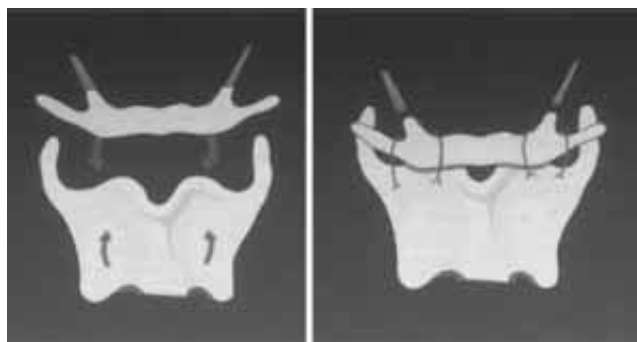


## SURGERY FOR OSA

- Genioglossus advancement

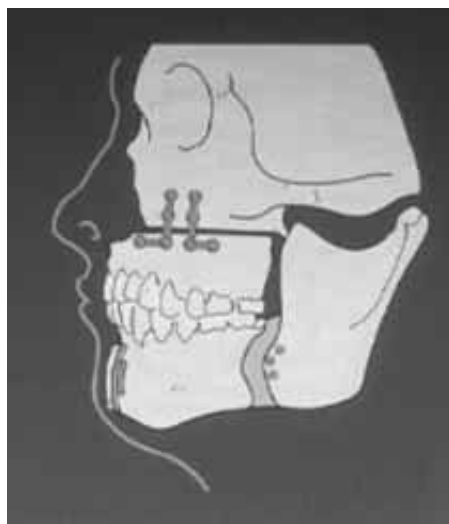


- Hyoid-myoid suspension



The hyoid bone is pulled forward in front of the larynx, it can help stabilize the retroglottal space

- Maxillomandibular advancement



## SPECIALTY SURGERY FOR OSA

- Maxillomandibular advancement
- Nasal
- Adenoid and tonsillectomy
- Tracheostomy- temporary
- Permanent (> 50/night, SpO<sub>2</sub> < 60%)
- (Gastric bypass)

## PEDIATRIC OSA

- OSA symptoms in children typically differs from adults
  - Snoring, worsened by URIs,
  - More continuous, without arousals
  - Irritability/behavior disorders
  - Poor attention span
  - Mouth breathing
  - Small stature (growth hormone)
- Peak age is 2-5 years, second peak, late teens
- Common cause is adenoid and tonsillar hyperplasia
- Sleep study rarely necessary
- Surgical treatment:
  - Adenoid and tonsillectomy
  - Turbinate reduction
  - UPPP
  - Maxillofacial reconstruction
- Adult-like OSA increasing (childhood obesity)
- Children with surgery for OSA overnight observation
  - Age < 3 years
  - History severe OSA
  - Medical co-morbidities
  - Craniofacial abnormalities
  - Social factors
  - CNS dysfunction or hypotonia
- CPAP not indicated
- Document desaturations and apneic spells

## DISORDERS ASSOCIATED WITH OSA

Achondroplasia	Arthrogryposis multiplex congenita
Down syndrome	Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome
Hunter's syndrome	Crouzon syndrome
Klippel-Feil syndrome	Fragile X syndrome
Larsen's syndrome	Hemifacial microsomia
Prader-Willi syndrome	Hurler's syndrome
Pierre Robin sequence	Marfan syndrome
Riley-Day syndrome	Pfeiffer's syndrome
Treacher Collins syndrome	Shy-Drager syndrome
Cerebral palsy	<b>Arnold-Chiari malformation</b>
Hydrocephalus	<b>Hypothyroidism</b>
Meningomyelocele	<b>Myotonic dystrophy</b>
Laryngeal neurofibroma	Sickle cell disease

**Lymphoproliferative disorders**

Vascular rings

Hypotonia  
Polio

Syringobulbia/myelia

**Gastroesophageal reflux**

Goiter

**Fetal alcohol syndrome**

**Head injury**

**SUMMARY**

- Obesity is epidemic and OSA is under diagnosed
- Higher risk groups concentrated in surgical population
- Perioperative period can turn a non-OSA patient into an

OSA patient

- Acute and chronic effects of OSA are under appreciated, Rx effect is dramatic
  - Pediatric population unique considerations  
Surgery more likely to be in the airway  
Many comorbid conditions that may prone to OSA
    - Neuromuscular disorders
    - CNS conditions
- Well defined airway and analgesic plan, pre and post operatively
- Airway *versus* non-airway surgery
  - Outpatient settings are very high risk areas
  - Avoid “creep” in sedation cases

