



# **New Berlin Definition of ARDS: What's the implication**

**Dusit STAWORN, M.D.**  
**Phramongkutklo Hospital**  
**Bangkok, Thailand**



The ARDS Definition Task Force  
Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome:  
The Berlin Definition

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# ARDS Definition: AECG criteria [1994]

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A syndrome of acute and persistent lung inflammation with increased vascular permeability. It is characterized by three clinical features:

- Acute onset
- PaO<sub>2</sub>/FiO<sub>2</sub> less than or equal to 200 mm Hg, regardless of the level of PEEP.
- CXR: Widespread, bilateral infiltrates.
- No clinical evidence for an elevated left atrial pressure. If measured, the pulmonary capillary wedge pressure is 18 mmHg or less.

# Concerning Issues:

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Special Article: Point of View

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Acute respiratory distress syndrome 40 years later:  
Time to revisit its definition\*

Crit Care Med 2008;36; 2912-21

Jason Phua, MRCP; Thomas E. Stewart, MD, FRCPC; Niall D. Ferguson, MD, MSc, FRCPC

- ▶ **No definition of “acute”**
- ▶ **Risk factors not included**
- ▶ **Inconsistency of PaO<sub>2</sub>/ FiO<sub>2</sub> ratio**
  - ▶ **Effect of PEEP**
  - ▶ **Effect of FiO<sub>2</sub>**



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  - ▶ Effect of PEEP
  - ▶ Effect of  $\text{FiO}_2$
- ▶ **↑ PCWP & ARDS can coexist**

