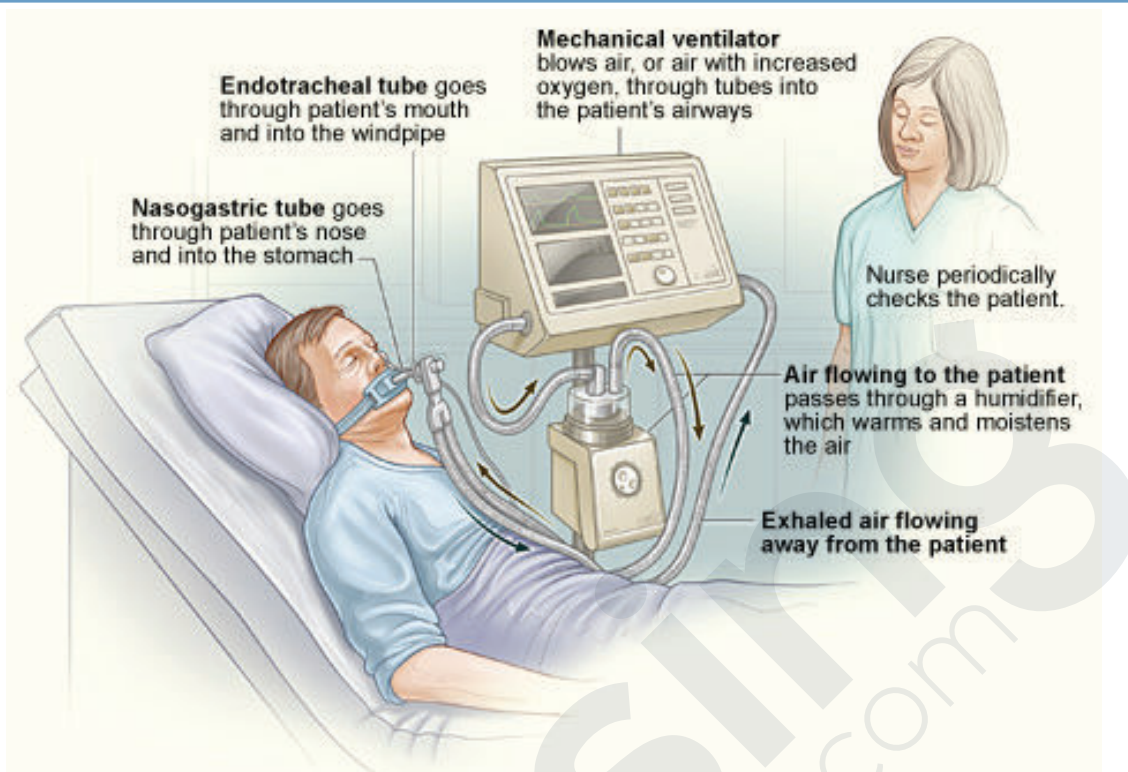


VENTILATOR ALARMS



Ventilator Alarms notify you that the patient is NOT receiving adequate breaths or lung volumes. This could be due to a problem anywhere in the system or the patient.

Here are the most common causes and troubleshooting tips.

HIGH PRESSURE:

- Kinked tubing
- Excess secretions
- Biting on the tube
- Coughing
- Remove kinks
- Suction ET Tube
- Increase sedation/comfort

LOW PRESSURE:

- Circuit disconnect
- Extubation / self-extubation
- Secure all connections
- Ensure ET Tube in place

LOW MINUTE VENTILATION:

- Decreased respiratory rate
- Decreased tidal volume
- *Often occurs when alarm settings haven't been adjusted to a clinical change in the patient.
- Notify RT to adjust alarms
- Ensure patient is not over-sedated

APNEA:

- Occurs in Spontaneous modes (SIMV, CPAP)
- Patient is not initiating a breath for a specific length of time
- Stimulate patient to breathe (may be oversedated)
- Return patient to a Mandatory mode (notify RT)