

Airway and ventilation

USING POSITIVE PRESSURE BREATHING

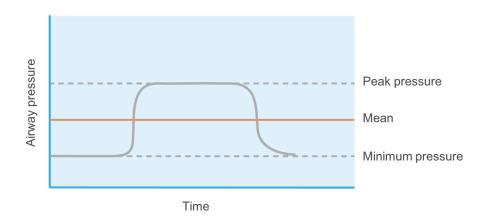
Most clinically-relevant cases of hypoxemia are caused by pulmonary shunt.



The most appropriate way to address this is to recruit the alveoli that are not participating in gas exchange, when possible. This is generally accomplished by increasing the **mean airway pressure**.

This can be done by

- Increasing the peak pressure (but at risk of barotrauma)
- Increasing the minimum pressure (positive end-expiratory pressure, or PEEP)
- Increasing the time at the peak pressure



Increasing end-expiratory pressure can be accomplished with invasive or noninvasive mechanical ventilation, or a bag-valve-mask with the use of a PEEP valve.









Hemodynamic effects of positive pressure ventilation include







Increased right ventricle afterload



Decreased left ventricle afterload