

# NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT OF THE TRAUMA PATIENT



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**Trauma Medical Director**



# KEY POINTS

- **Nutritional assessment on ICU admission**
  - Energy requirements
  - Protein requirements
- **Initiate enteral nutrition (EN) 24-48 hours after admission.**
  - Reach goal < a week from admission (preferably much sooner)
- **Take steps to reduce aspiration risk and improve tolerance to feeding.**
- **Do NOT use gastric residual volumes to monitor patients on EN.**

**FEED the GUT!**

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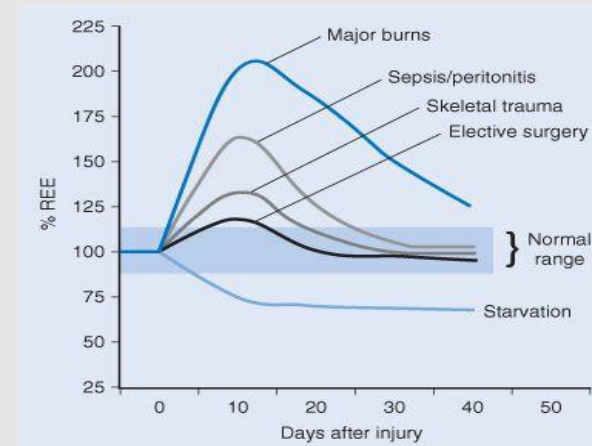
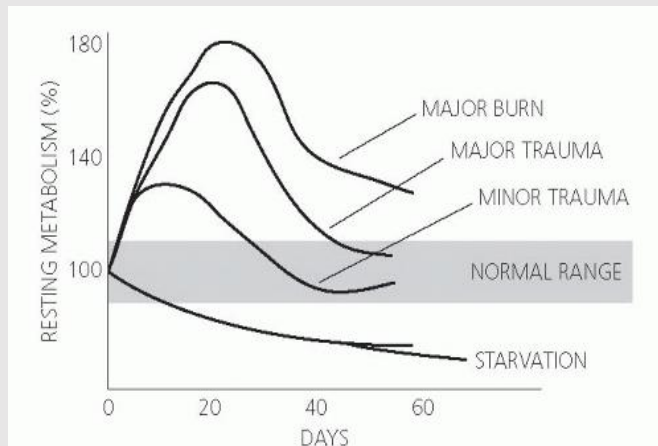
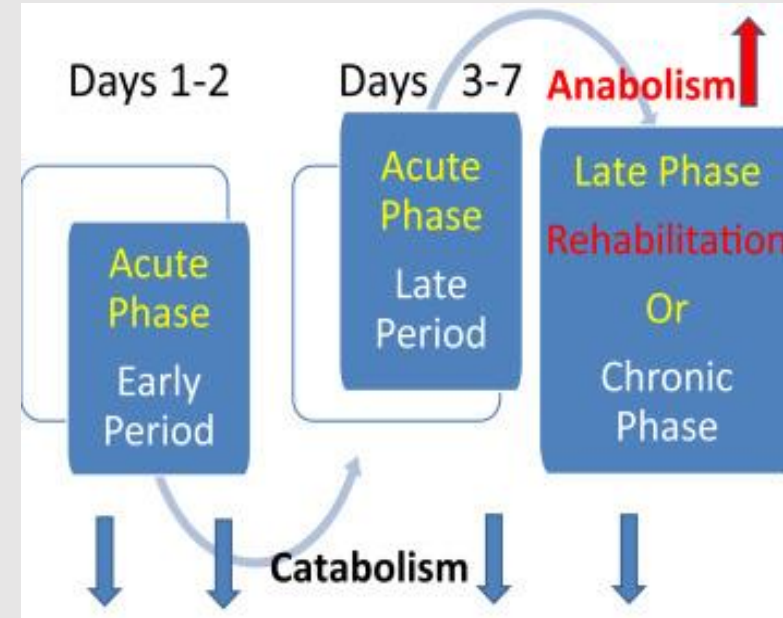
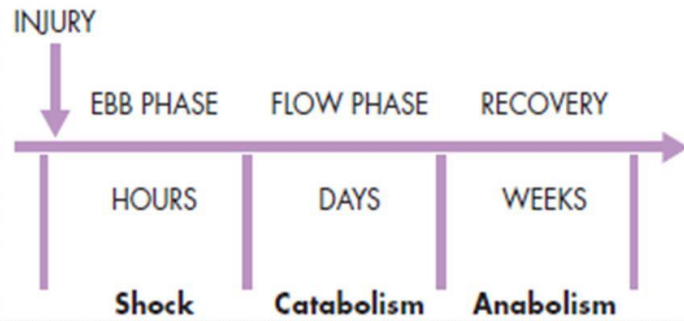
**FEED the GUT!**

**(I hate TPN!)**

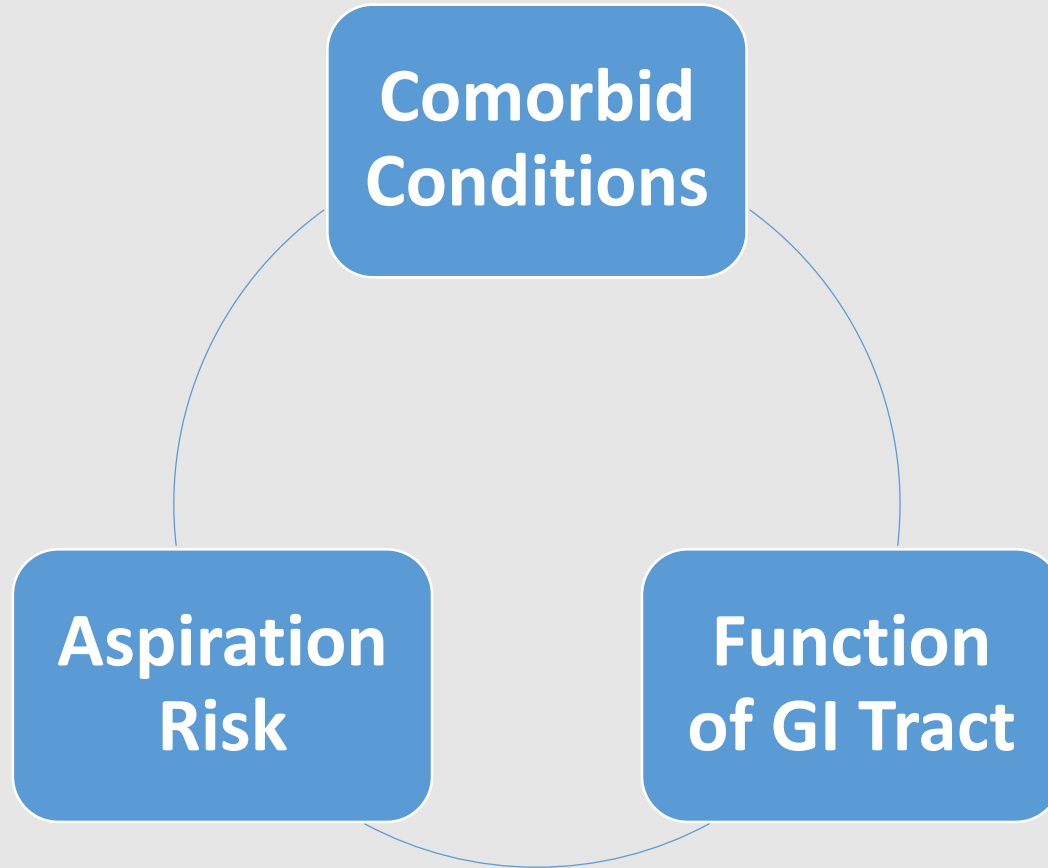


# METABOLIC RESPONSE

In 1930, Sir David Cuthbertson divided the metabolic response to injury in humans into 'ebb' and 'flow' phases :



# NUTRITIONAL ASSESSMENT



## DO NOT USE

Traditional Serum Markers  
24-hour Urine Urea Nitrogen

## BEST TEST

Indirect Calorimetry

## POTENTIAL

CT Scan  
Ultrasound

# PATIENT ASSESSMENT

- **Patient history**
- **Physical exam**
- **Anthropometrics**
  - **Height**
  - **Weight (ideal & dry)**
  - **BMI**
- **Usual labs**

## NUTRIC Score<sup>1</sup>

The NUTRIC Score is designed to quantify the risk of critically ill patients developing adverse events that may be modified by aggressive nutrition therapy. The score, of 1-10, is based on 6 variables that are explained below in Table 1. The scoring system is shown in Tables 2 and 3.

**Table 1: NUTRIC Score variables**

Variable	Range	Points
Age	<50	0
	50 - <75	1
	>75	2
APACHE II	<15	0
	15 - <20	1
	20-28	2
	>28	3
SOFA	<6	0
	6 - <10	1
	>10	2
Number of Co-morbidities	0-1	0
	≥2	1
Days from hospital to ICU admission	0 - <1	0
	≥1	1
IL-6	0 - <400	0
	≥ 400	1

**Table 2: NUTRIC Score scoring system: if IL-6 available**

Sum of points	Category	Explanation
6-10	High Score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Associated with worse clinical outcomes (mortality, ventilation).</li> <li>➢ These patients are the most likely to benefit from aggressive nutrition therapy.</li> </ul>
0-5	Low Score	➢ These patients have a low malnutrition risk.

**Table 3. NUTRIC Score scoring system: If no IL-6 available\***

Sum of points	Category	Explanation
5-9	High Score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Associated with worse clinical outcomes (mortality, ventilation).</li> <li>➢ These patients are the most likely to benefit from aggressive nutrition therapy.</li> </ul>
0-4	Low Score	➢ These patients have a low malnutrition risk.

\*It is acceptable to not include IL-6 data when it is not routinely available; it was shown to contribute very little to the overall prediction of the NUTRIC score.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Heyland DK, Dhaliwal R, Jiang X, Day AG. Identifying critically ill patients who benefit the most from nutrition therapy: the development and initial validation of a novel risk assessment tool. *Critical Care*. 2011;15(6):R268.

<sup>2</sup> Rahman A, Hasan RM, Agarwala R, Martin C, Day AG, Heyland DK. Identifying critically-ill patients who will benefit most from nutritional therapy: Further validation of the "modified NUTRIC" nutritional risk assessment tool. *Clin Nutr*. 2015. [Epub ahead of print]

	Nutritional status	Disease/surgery severity	Age
0	Normal	Normal	<70
1	Weight loss >5%/3 months <b>or</b> Food intake <75%	Includes chronic disease, hip fracture, cancer, minor surgery	≥70
2	Weight loss >5%/2 months <b>or</b> Food intake <50% <b>or</b> BMI 18.5-20.5	Includes major surgery, myocardial infarction, pneumonia, lymphoma, leukemia	
3	Weight loss >5%/1 month (or >15%/3 months) <b>or</b> Food intake <25% <b>or</b> BMI <18.5	Includes head trauma, transplantation, intensive care patients	

BMI: body mass index. The Nutritional Risk Score (NRS) is calculated by adding 3 different components: nutritional status + disease/surgery severity + age. Only the more severe contribution to the overall score of each of these 3 elements is considered in the overall score.

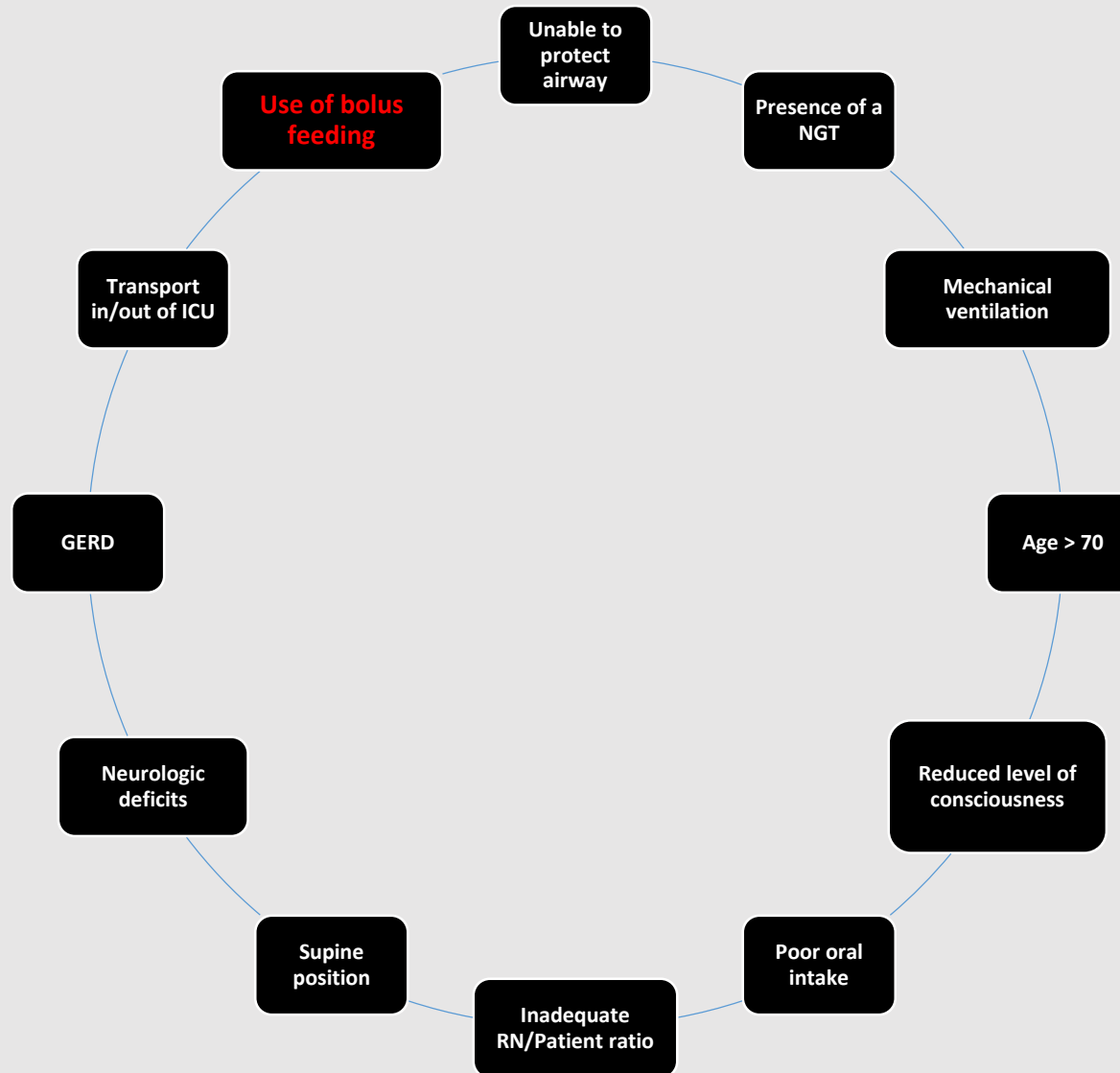
# ESPEN RECOMMENDATIONS

- Predicted ICU stay > 2 days.
- Mechanical ventilation
- Active infection
- Underfed > 5 days
- Presenting with a severe chronic disease

*“Medical nutrition therapy shall be considered for all patients staying in the ICU, mainly for more than 48 hours.”*



# ASPIRATION RISKS



# **NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT**

## **Inadequacy**

- **< 50% of patients reach their target goal of energy intake.**
- **We provide only 60%-80% of energy requirements.**
- **Patients receive ~80% of what is prescribed.**
- **Feeding is held for too long and for inappropriate reasons**

# INITIATION OF NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT

- Calculate energy requirements: 25-30 kcal/kg/day
- Protein Provision: 1.2-2.0 g/kg/day (more for major trauma & burns)
  - ESPEN: 1.3 g/kg/day
- Start tube feeds at 20cc/hr and increase by 10cc/hr every 4-6 hours until goal (conservative approach)
- Provide free water at 30cc/kg (NS if TBI)
  - Enteral nutrition is ~85% water

# **SPECIAL POPULATIONS**

## **Renal Failure**

- **Standard enteral formula**
- **Use dry weight for calculation**
- **Energy provision: 25-30 kcal/kg/day**
- **Protein provision: 1.2-2 g/kg actual body weight**
- **Hemodialysis or CRRT:**
  - **Increase protein to 2.5 g/kg/day**

# **SPECIAL POPULATIONS**

## **Hepatic Failure**

- **Use dry weight to determine energy and protein requirements in those with cirrhosis and hepatic failure.**
- **Avoid restricting protein.**
- **Standard enteral formula.**
  - **Branched-chain amino acid formulas had no effect on coma grade**

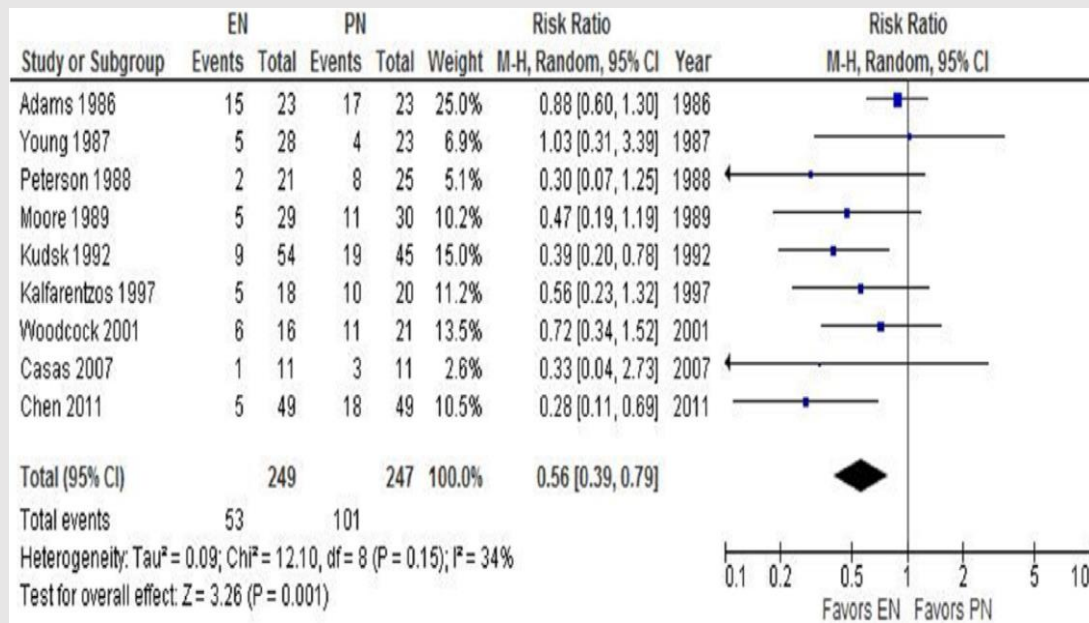
# **RATIONAL OF ENTERAL VERSUS PARENTERAL NUTRITION**

- **Reduction of infectious morbidity:**
  - **Pneumonia**
  - **CAUTI**
  - **Abdominal abscess (trauma)**
- **Reduced ICU LOS.**
- **Minimal impact on mortality.**

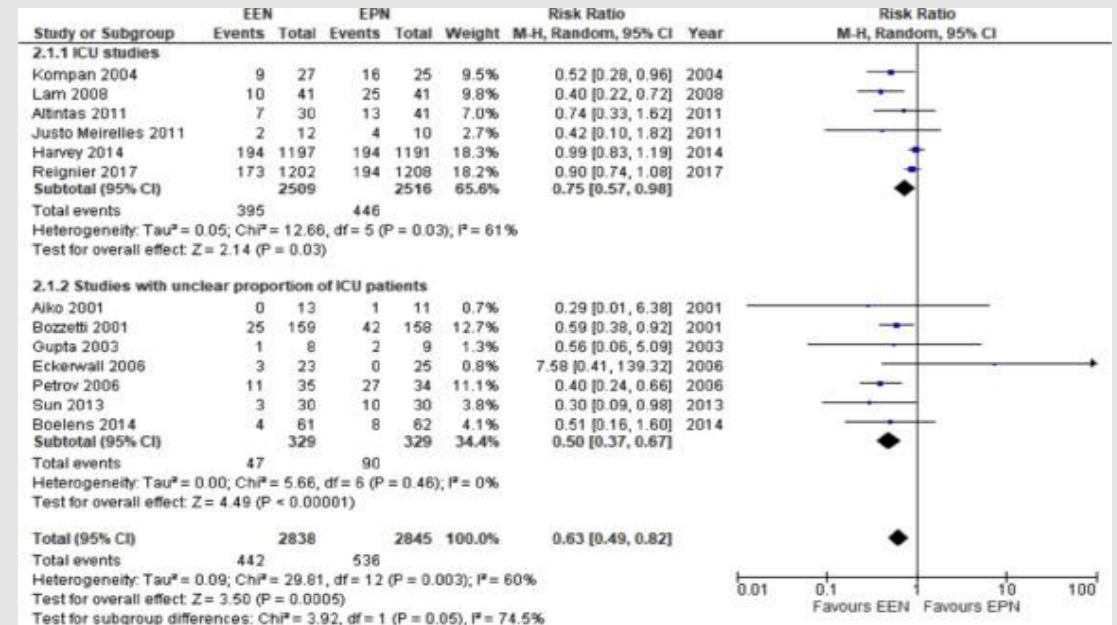
# ENTERAL VERSUS PARENTERAL NUTRITION

## Infectious Complications

### ASPEN



### ESPEN



# INITIATION OF ENTERAL NUTRITION (24 - 48 Hours)

## RATIONALE

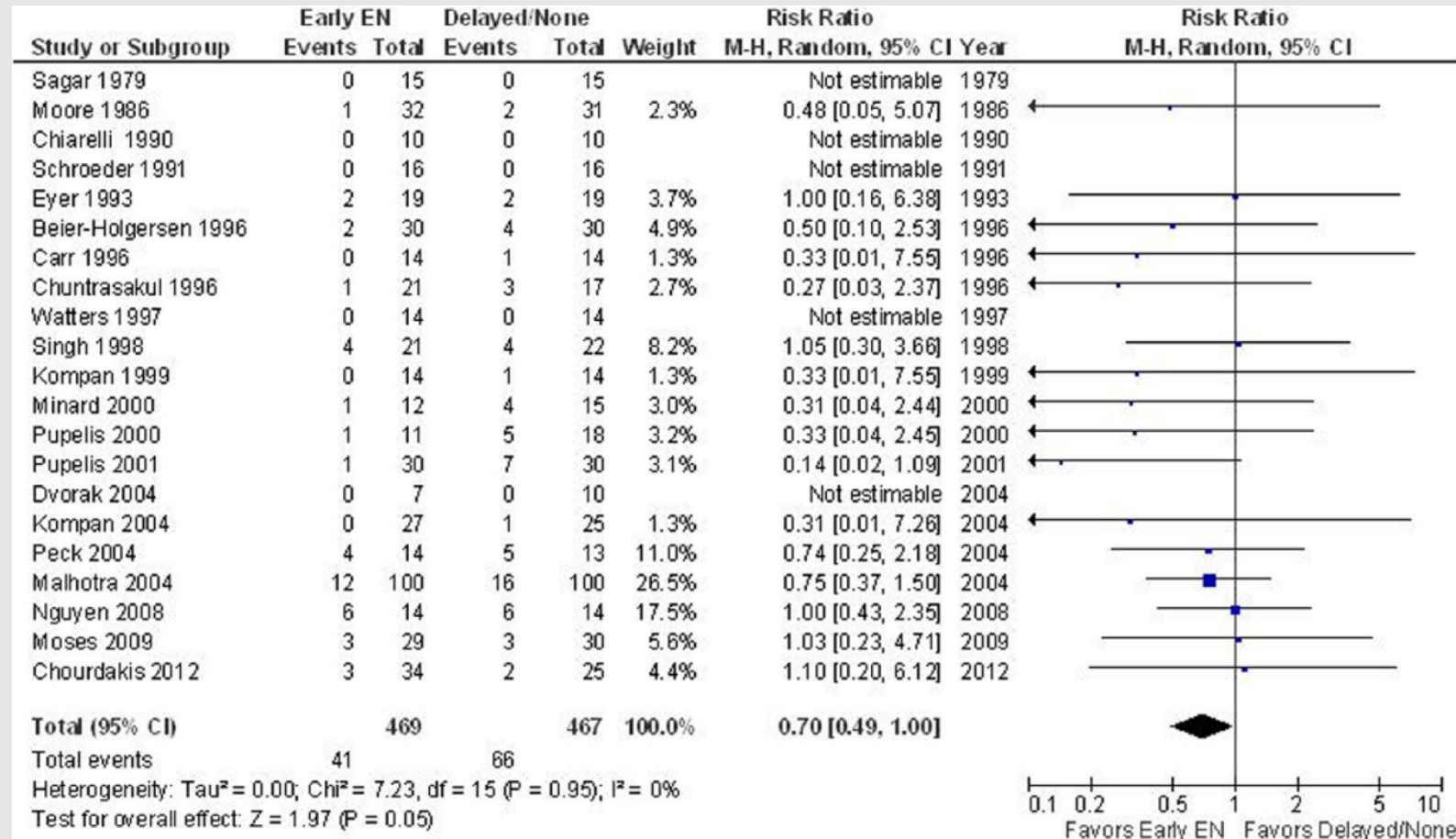
- Supports intestinal integrity.
- Stimulates intestinal blood flow.
- Induces release of trophic agents.
- Supports immunocytes.

## KEY POINTS

- Presence of bowel sounds is **NOT** required.
- Do **NOT** wait for flatus or bowel movement.

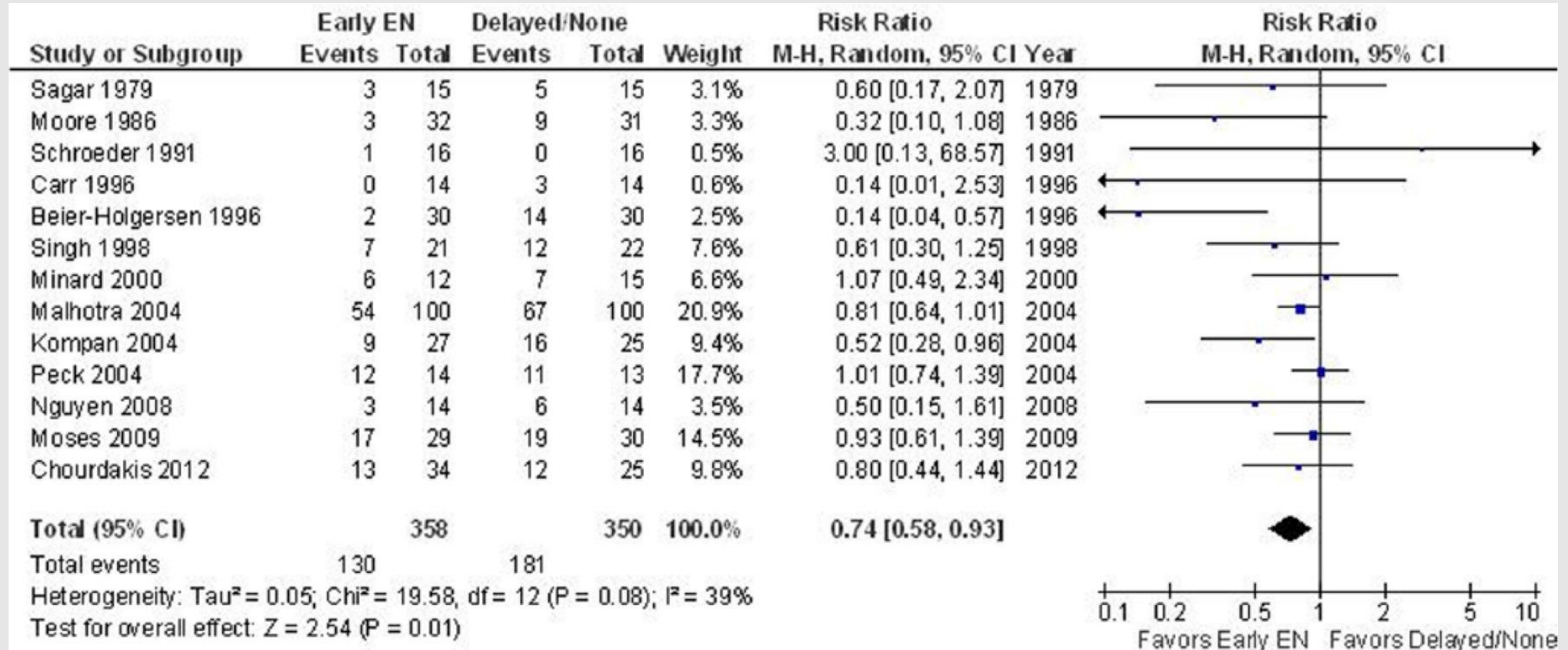


# EARLY VERSUS DELAYED ENTERAL NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT Mortality



# EARLY VERSUS DELAYED ENTERAL NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT

## Infectious Complications



# SMALL BOWEL VERSUS GASTRIC FEEDINGS

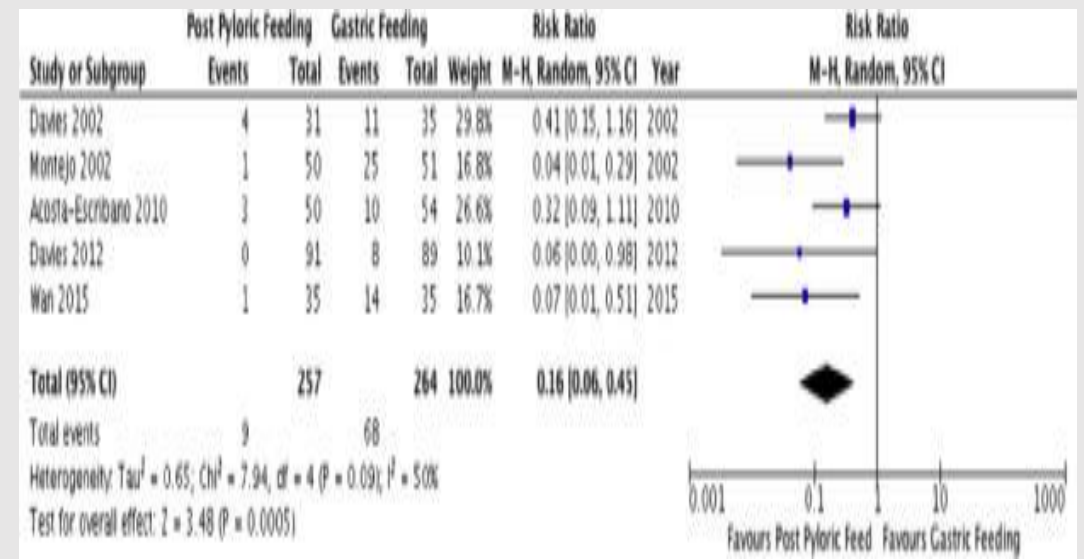
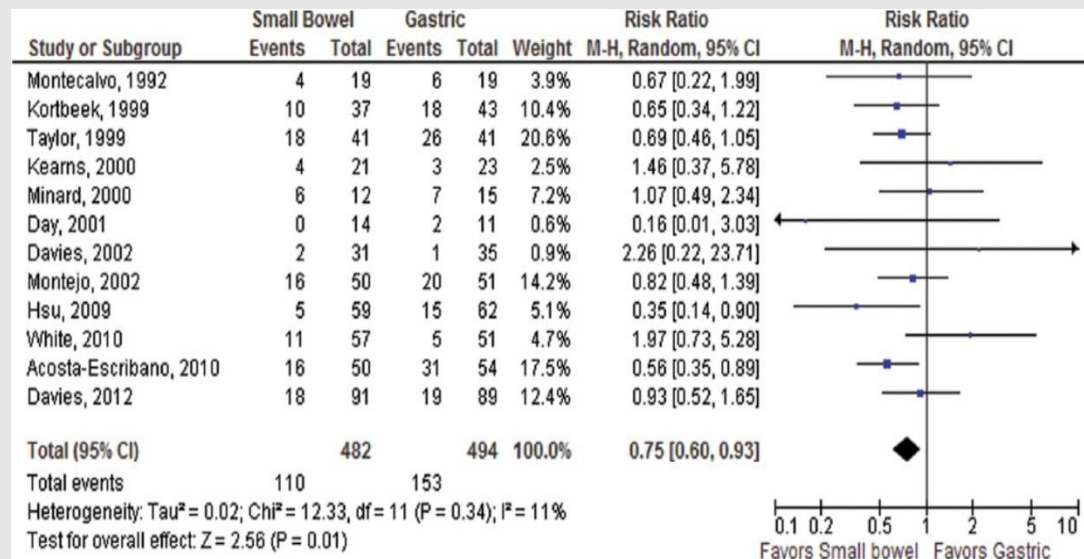
- **Acceptable to initiate enteral nutrition in the stomach.**
  - ASPEN: **Yes**
  - ESPEN: **Yes**
  
- **No difference, to include:**
  - LOS
  - Mortality
  - Nutrient delivery
  - Pneumonia

# SMALL BOWEL VERSUS GASTRIC FEEDINGS

## Nutritional Efficiency

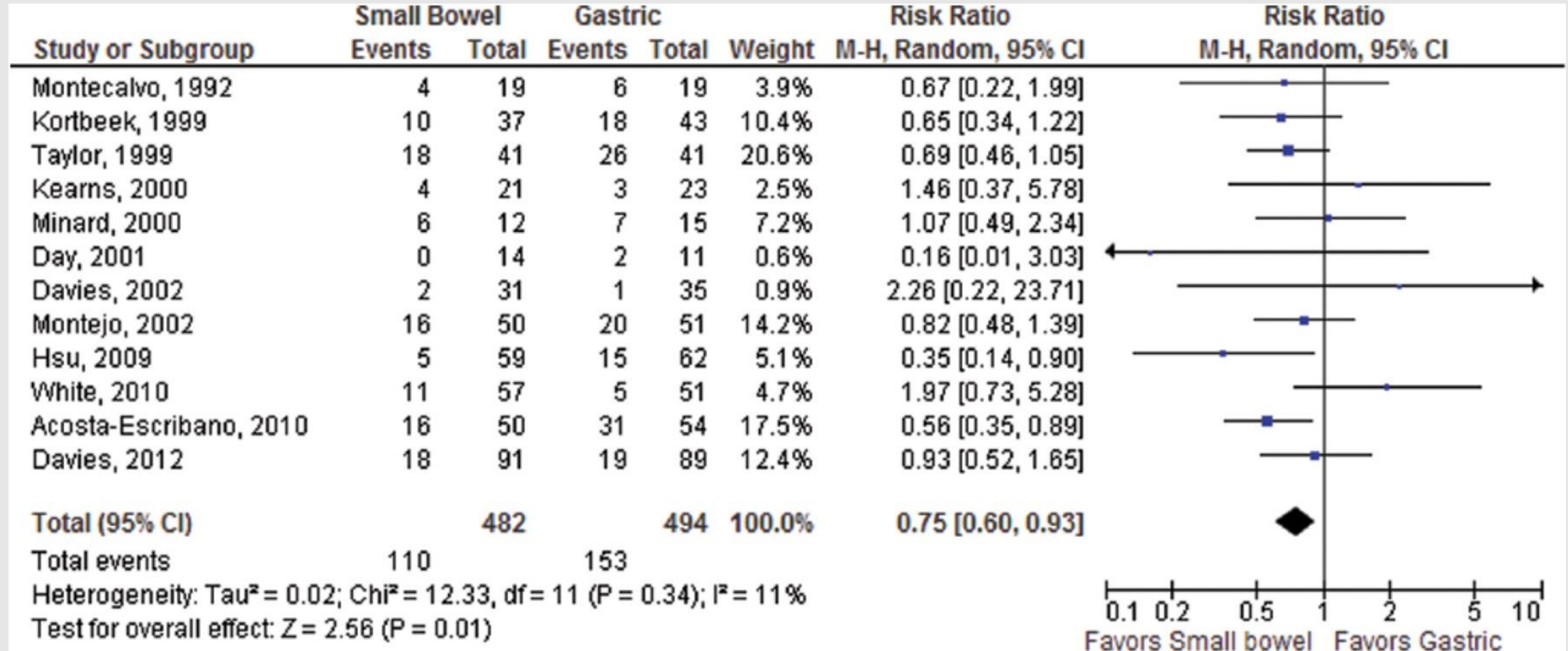
### ASPEN

### ESPEN



# SMALL BOWEL VERSUS GASTRIC FEEDINGS

## Pneumonia



# IS ENTERAL NUTRITION SAFE WITH HEMODYNAMIC INSTABILITY? ASPEN

**Do not start in the setting of hemodynamic compromise or instability.**

- Hypotensive (MAP < 50mm Hg)
- Vasopressors are being initiated
- Escalating doses of vasopressors are required for hemodynamic instability

EN may be started if vasopressor support is being withdrawn, but watch for abdominal distention, increased residuals or worsening metabolic acidosis or rising base deficit.

# **IS ENTERAL NUTRITION SAFE WITH HEMODYNAMIC INSTABILITY? ESPEN**

- **Uncontrolled shock**
- **Uncontrolled hypoxemia and acidosis**
- **Uncontrolled UGI hemorrhage**
- **Gastric aspirate > 500cc/6hr**
- **Intestinal ischemia**
- **Intestinal obstruction**
- **Abdominal compartment syndrome**
- **High-output fistula without distal feeding access**

# GASTRIC RESIDUALS

- Gastric residuals should **NOT** be used as part of routine care.
- Residuals do NOT correlate with:
  - Pneumonia
  - Regurgitation
  - Aspiration
- If you must check, hold EN if gastric residual is **> 500cc** in the absence of other signs of intolerance.

**ASPEN: Do not check residuals.**

**ESPEN: Suggest hold EN if > 500cc/6hrs.**



# **DAILY VOLUME GOAL**

## **Nurse-Driven**

- **Use volume-based feeding protocols in which 24-hour daily volumes are targeted instead of simply hourly rates.**
- **This allows the RN to increase feeding rates to make up for lost volume.**

**EMPOWER THE NURSES!**

# UMC PREOPERATIVE ENTERAL NUTRITION GUIDELINE

**Continue enteral nutrition until one hour prior to surgery on ventilated patients except for the following procedures (hold for 8 hours):**

- **Tracheostomy**
- **Laparotomy**
- **Spine surgery**
- **Oral maxillofacial procedures**
- **If patient will be placed in prone position**
- **Thoracotomy, especially if patient is to be placed in lateral position or if there is need to change to a double-lumen tube.**

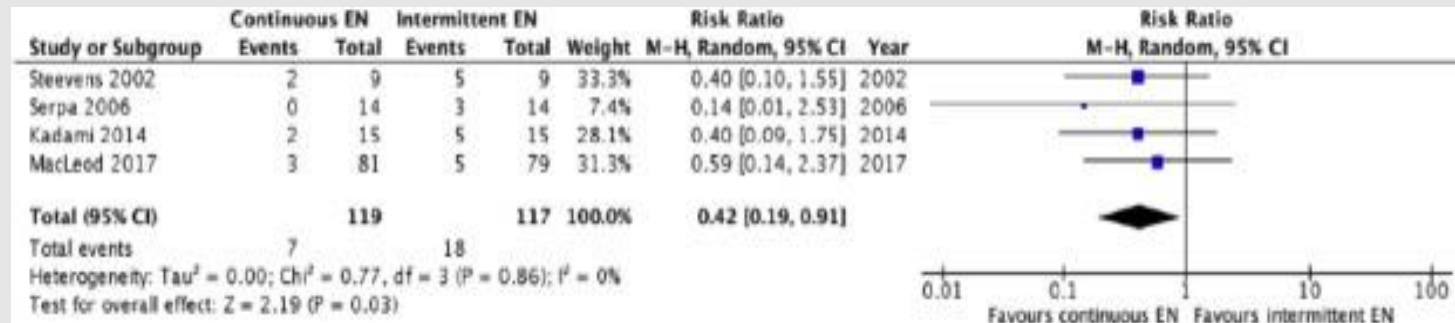
# TUBE PLACEMENT

- CXR is the gold standard
- Capnometry is an adjunct
- Auscultation is of minimal value (dangerous)



# DIARRHEA

- Do NOT stop enteral feeds.
  - If necessary, reduce rate.
- Review medication list (most likely source), including IV antibiotics.
- Rule-out infectious etiology (*C.diff*).
- Significant reduction in diarrhea with continuous vs. bolus feeding.



# Help! My tube is clogged!

- **Prevention is the best key**
- **Irrigate with ~25cc of water every 4-6 hrs and before & after Rxs.**
- **If clogged, do this:**
  - **Push back and forth with a 60cc syringe containing warm water.**
  - **If that does not work, let the warm water sit for ~20 minutes**
- **Sorry! Coke, Pepsi, Gingerale or meat tenderizer really do not work even though many think otherwise. Carbonation may make matters worse.**
- **Pancrease (Not enteric coated)**
  - **Viokase**

# TARGETED GLUCOSE RANGE

- **SCCM: 150-180 mg/dl**
- **ASPEN: 140-180 mg/dl**
- **ESPEN: 150-180 mg/dl**

**Glucose > 200 is NOT OK!**  
**Consider insulin drip**

# PERCUTANEOUS GASTROSTOMY PEARLS

- **Literature supports use within 4 hours. No joke!**
  - **ASPEN: Yes**
  - **ESPEN: Yes**
- **Restart EN at same rate prior to stopping for procedure.**
- **If concern for patient pulling PEG out, place an abdominal binder.**
- **Don't place bumper too tight to the skin.**

# OPEN GASTROSTOMY, G-J & J TUBES

- Moss tube
- MIC tube
- Foley
- Feeding jejunostomy tube

## Pearls

- Always use water or saline for the balloon; NEVER use air.
- Can't check residuals via a J-tube.
- If the tube fall out, immediately replace with a Foley catheter before tract closes.

