

Going with the Flow: *Understanding Anaesthesia Breathing Systems*

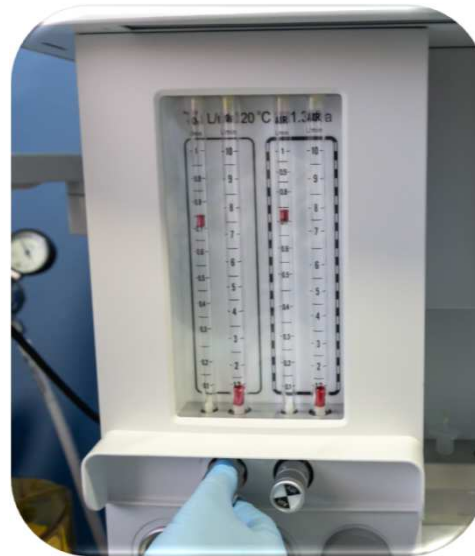
Speaker



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DipVN, NCert(Anaesth), RVN

Founder of:



Host



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Companion Animal**

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- ❑ Anaesthesia Machine
 - Oxygen
 - Reservoir Bags
- ❑ Breathing Systems
 - Calculating FGF
 - How they work
 - Leak Testing
 - Selection

- Paediatric T-Piece
- Bain
- Mini Lack and Lack
- Circle
- Humphrey ADE



The Anaesthesia Machine

www.ava.eu.com



Anaesthetic Safety Checklist



Pre-Induction

- ☐ Patient NAME, owner CONSENT & PROCEDURE confirmed
- ☐ IV CANNULA placed & patent
- ☐ AIRWAY EQUIPMENT available & functioning
- ☐ Endotracheal tube CUFFS checked
- ☐ ANAESTHETIC MACHINE checked today
- ☐ Adequate OXYGEN for proposed procedure
- ☐ BREATHING SYSTEM connected, leak free & APL VALVE OPEN
- ☐ Person assigned to MONITOR patient
- ☐ RISKS identified & COMMUNICATED
- ☐ EMERGENCY INTERVENTIONS available

This checklist was written by the AVA with design and distribution support from



- 13,700kPa > 400kPa > ~10L/min



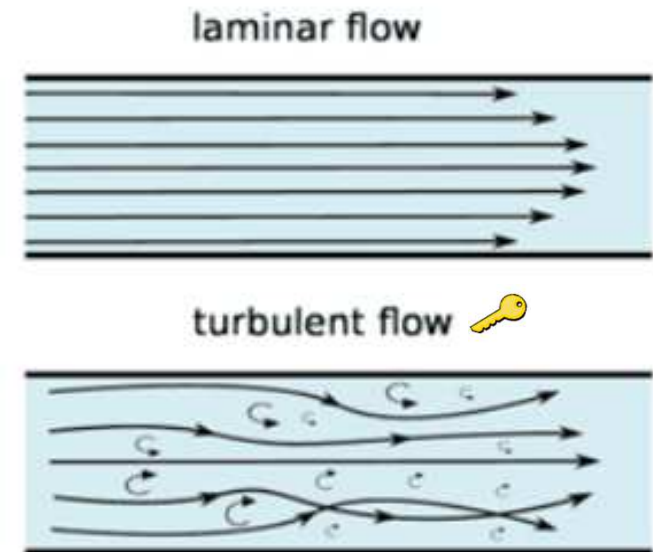
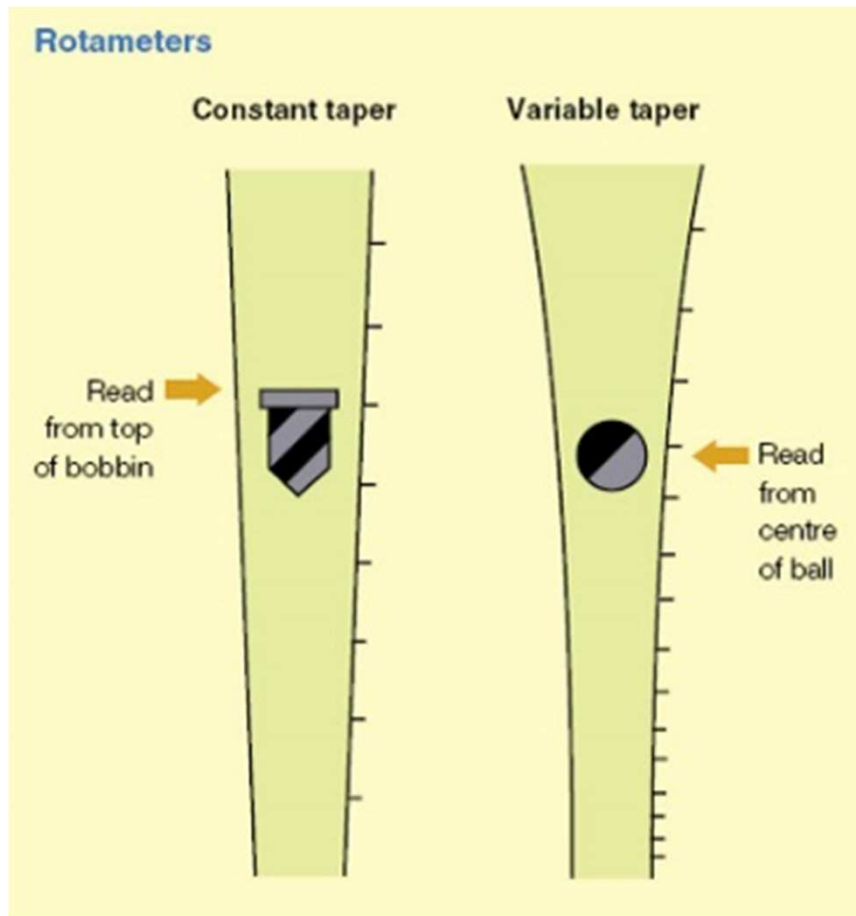
Oxygen Flush = 30-70L/min (1-8kPa)

The Anaesthesia Machine – Leak Test

1. Connect oxygen supply
2. Turn oxygen flow to 4L/min
3. Occlude common gas outlet
4. Bobbin should drop in flowmeter
5. The pressure relief valve may open (usually $>30\text{kPa}$ of pressure)



Flow Meters



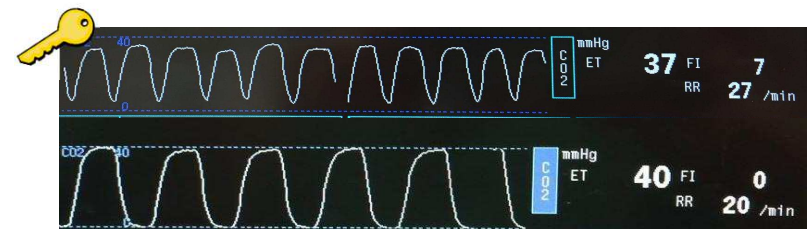
www.nuclear-power.net

Fresh Gas Flow

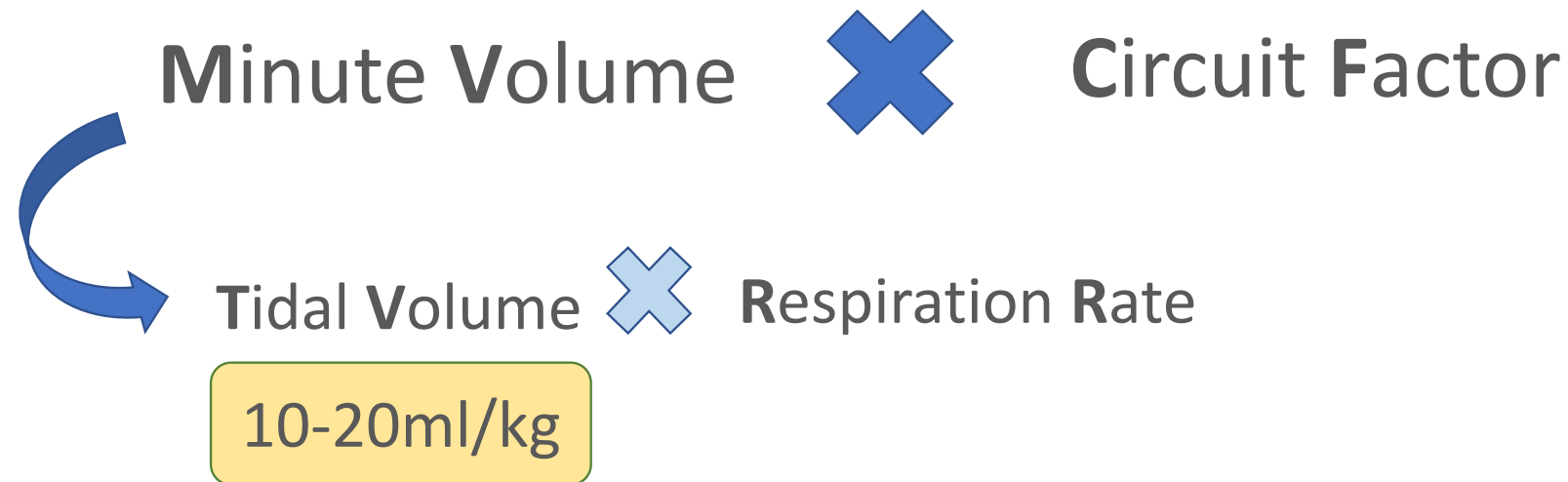
- Always provide O₂
- Calculations over estimates – many factors

Minute Volume Circuit Factor
Tidal Volume Respiration Rate

- Use capnography to reduce flow safely



Fresh Gas Flow - calculation



Fresh Gas Flow – shortcut!

Minute Volume



200ml/kg/minute

Breathing Systems - overview

- Deliver oxygen and volatile agent
- Remove carbon dioxide and waste gases
- Provide ventilation



Breathing Systems: types

- Non-Rebreathing or Rebreathing

NRB
Constant
Oxygen
Flow

D

T Piece

D

Bain

A

Lack

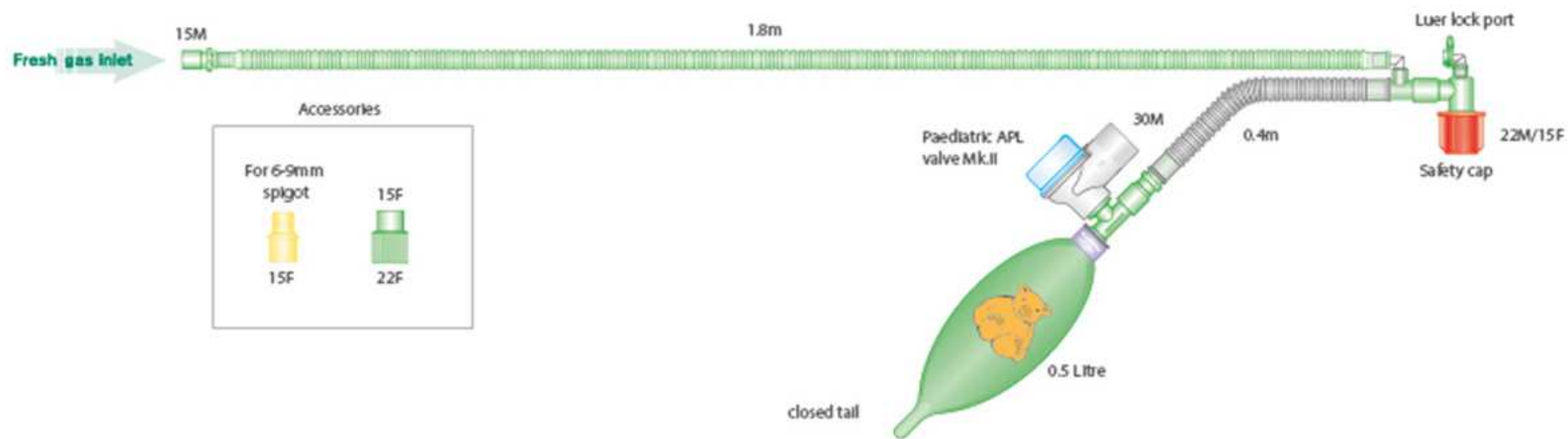
RB
Varied
Oxygen
Flow

Circle

Humphrey

Mapleson
Systems
(1954)

T Piece



T Piece

- Paediatric — ~~A~~es or Jacks~~1~~-Rees
- Smaller patients
 - < 10kg
 - Low drag and dead space
 - ✓ IPPV?
 - APL valve 35cmH₂O

500 – 600ml/kg/minute



CF
2.5 – 3
(1.5-2)

Bain

Lack

Circle

ADE

T Piece – FGF Calculation

$$\text{TV} \times \text{RR} \times \text{CF}$$

MV

4.2kg Cat

$$= 63\text{ml} \times 18\text{brpm} = 1.1\text{L/min}^{(\text{MV})}$$

$$= 1.1\text{L/min} \times 2.5 = 2.8\text{L/min}$$

2.1L/min

500 – 600ml/kg/minute

CF
2.5 – 3
(1.5-2)

T Piece – FGF Calculation

$$\text{TV} \times \text{RR} \times \text{CF}$$

MV

7.6kg Dachshund

$$= 114\text{ml} \times 12\text{brpm} = 1.4\text{L/min}^{(\text{MV})}$$

$$= 1.4\text{L/min} \times 2.5 = 3.5\text{L/min}$$

3.8L/min

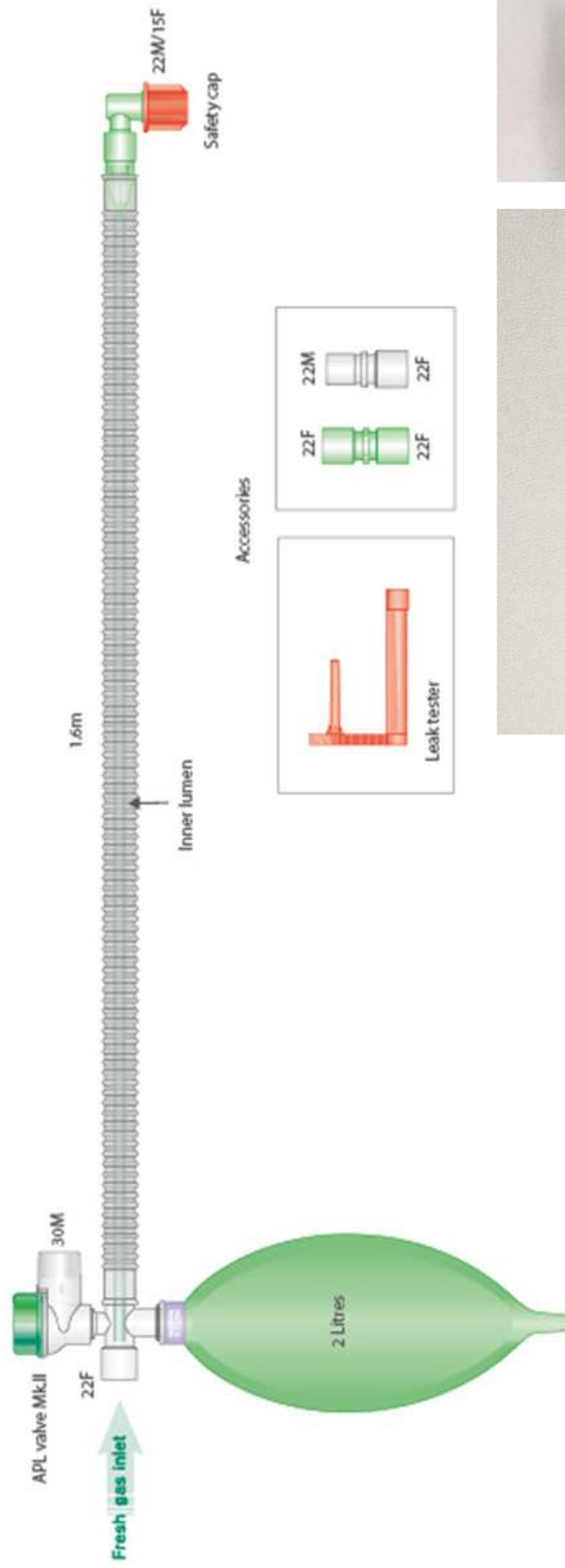
500 – 600ml/kg/minute

CF
2.5 – 3
(1.5-2)

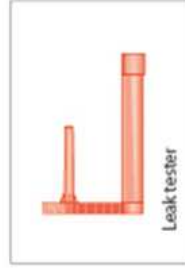
T Piece – Leak Test

1. Close APL valve
2. Occlude patient end with thumb
3. Fill up reservoir bag (with oxygen)
4. Gently squeeze bag to feel resistance
5. Forcefully squeeze to open the safety pressure relief valve
6. Open APL valve

Bain



Accessories



Bain

- Co-axial;
 - inner tube = inspiratory
 - outer = expiratory
- Any size patient
- ✓ IPPV?
 - Use lower FGF when doing IPPV

200 – 400ml/kg/minute



T Piece

Lack

Circle

ADE

CF
2.5 – 3
(1 – 2)

Bain – FGF Calculation

$$\text{TV} \times \text{RR} \times \text{CF}$$

MV

9.6kg Jack Russel

$$= 144\text{ml} \times 16\text{brpm} = 2.3\text{L/min}$$

$$= 2.3\text{L/min} \times 1 = 2.3\text{L/min}$$

$$= 2.3\text{L/min} \times 2.5 = 5.8\text{L/min}$$

1.9L/min

200 – 400ml/kg/minute

CF
2.5 – 3
(1 – 2)

T Piece

Lack

Circle

ADE

Bain – FGF Calculation

$$\text{TV} \times \text{RR} \times \text{CF}$$

MV

34kg Labrador

$$= 340\text{ml} \times 10\text{brpm} = 3.4\text{L/min}$$

$$= 3.4\text{L/min} \times 1 = 3.4\text{L/min}$$

$$= 3.4\text{L/min} \times 2.5 = 8.5\text{L/min}$$

2.8L/min

200 – 400ml/kg/minute

CF

2.5 – 3
(1 – 2)

T Piece

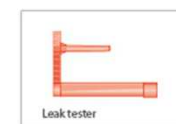
Lack

Circle

ADE

Bain – leak test inspiratory tube

1. Visually inspect patient end that the inner tube is intact
2. Turn on oxygen flow to 4L/min
3. Use red adaptor, finger or 2ml syringe plunger to occlude inner tube
4. Bobbin should drop in flowmeter



T Piece

Lack

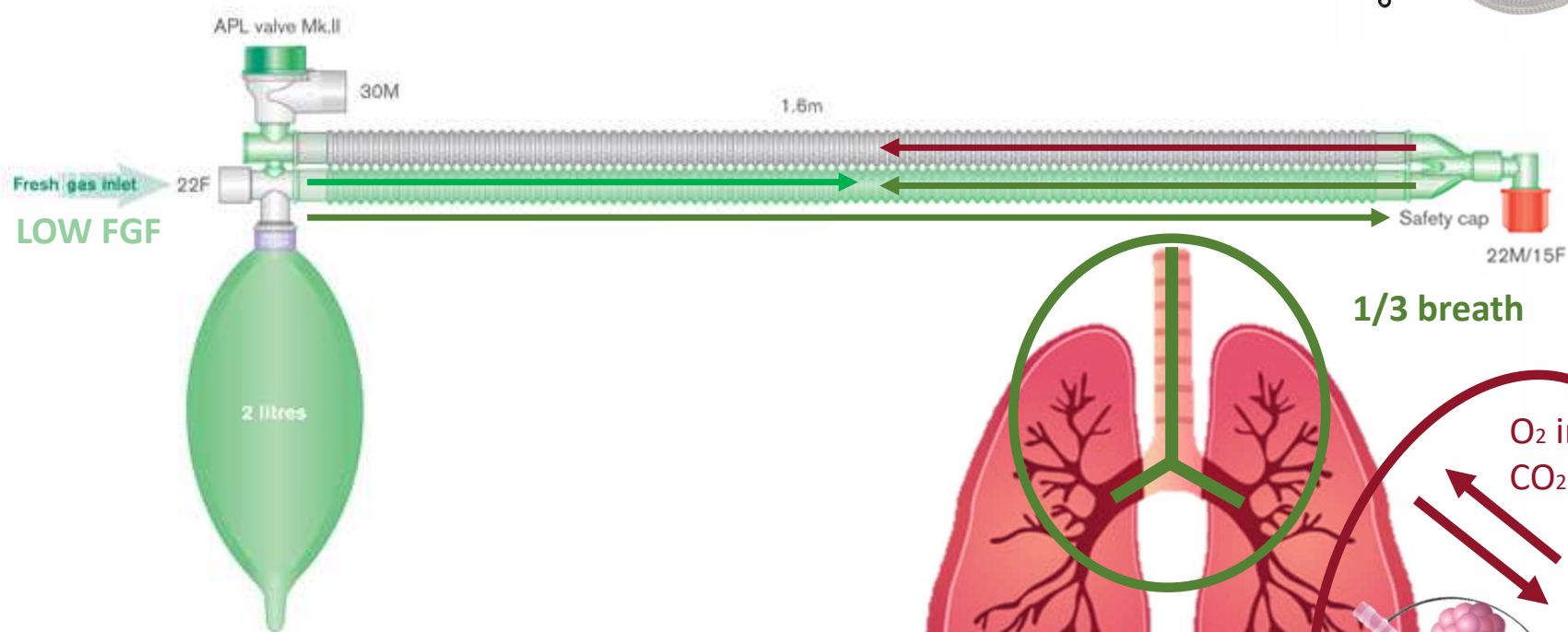
Circle

ADE

Bain – leak test expiratory tube

1. Close APL valve
2. Occlude patient end with thumb
3. Fill up reservoir bag (with oxygen)
4. Gently squeeze bag to feel resistance
5. Open APL valve

Lack



T Piece

Bain

Circle

ADE

Lack



Rebreathing of dead space gases

- Parallel tubing;

➤ Mini Lack 2-10kg (inc cats)

➤ Lack >10kg



IPPV



Increase FGF

200ml/kg/minute



T Piece

Bain

Circle

ADE

CF
1

Lack – FGF Calculation

$$\text{TV} \times \text{RR} \times \text{CF}$$

MV

3.8kg Cat

$$= 57\text{ml} \times 22\text{brpm} = 1.3\text{L/min}$$

$$= 1.3\text{L/min} \times 1 = 1.3\text{L/min}$$

0.8L/min

200ml/kg/minute

Lack – FGF Calculation

$$\boxed{\text{TV} \times \text{RR}} \times \text{CF}$$

MV

19kg Springer Spaniel

$$= 190\text{ml} \times 12\text{brpm} = 2.3\text{L/min}$$
$$= 2.3\text{L/min} \times 1 = 2.3\text{L/min}$$

3.8L/min



200ml/kg/minute

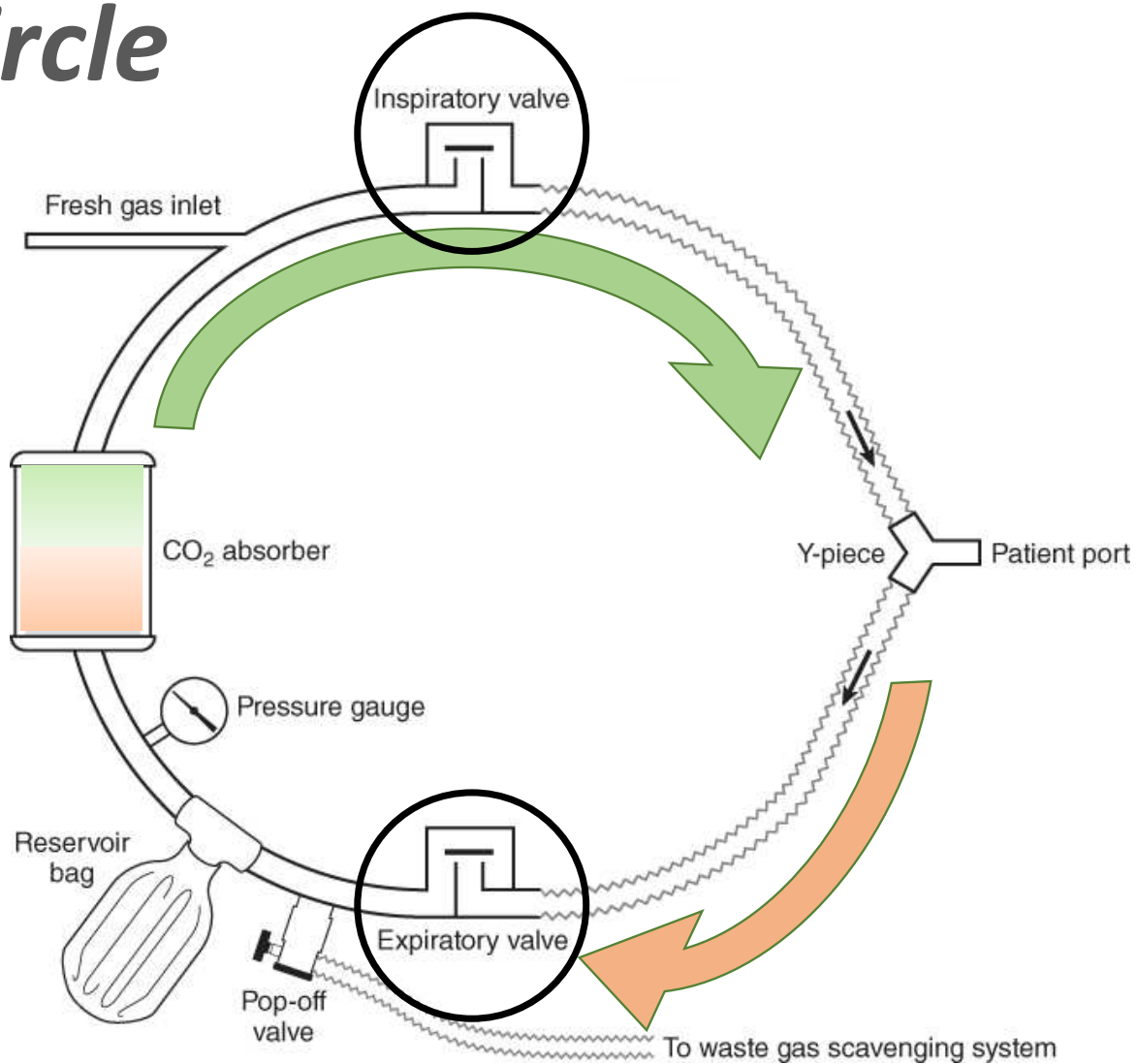
Lack - leak test

1. Close APL valve
2. Occlude patient end with thumb
3. Fill up reservoir bag (with oxygen)
4. Gently squeeze bag to feel resistance
5. Open APL valve

Non Rebreathing – summary

Pros	Cons
reliable conc.	gases are dry/cold
range of sizes	↑ O ₂ flow
↓ resistance	↑ inhalant
disposable	↑ pollution

Circle



T Piece

Bain

Lack

ADE

Circle

- Very economical
- Different tubing
 - F circuit (co-axial) >10kg
 - Adult parallel >10kg
 - Paediatric parallel (cats to <10kg)



IPPV?



Diluting system

100ml/kg/minute
0.5-1L/min



T Piece

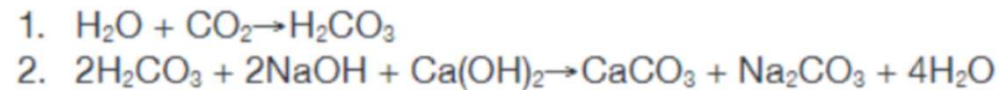
Bain

Lack

ADE

Circle - Carbon Dioxide Absorber

- Sodium hydroxide with calcium hydroxide
- CO₂ is removed by chemical reaction



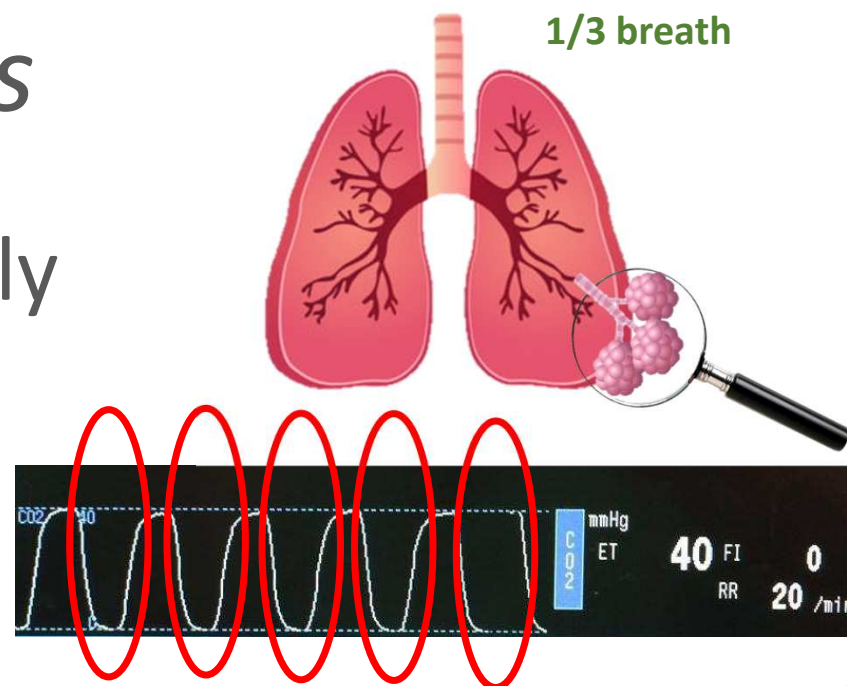
- Reaction causes heat and moisture
- Change when re-breathing seen

➤ When?



Circle – Flow Rates

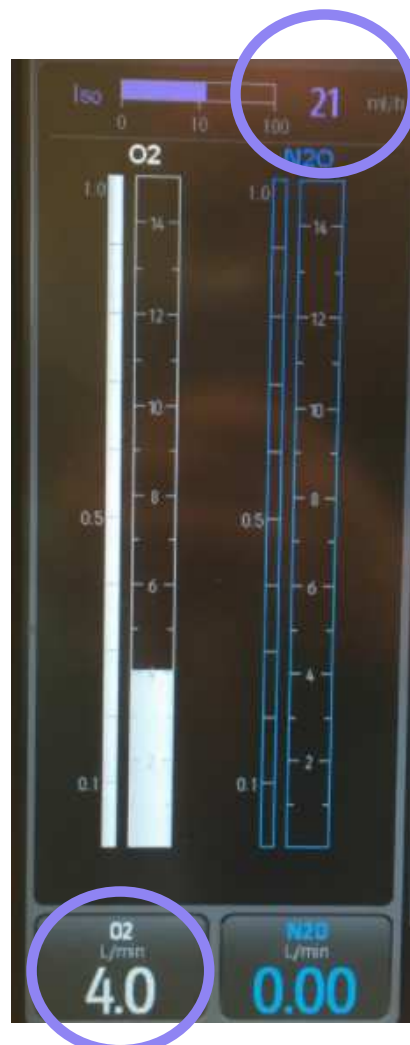
- High FGF rate initially
 - De-nitrogenation
 - Saturate system
- Lower FGF rate
 - 10ml/kg/min
 - Usually 0.5-1L/min



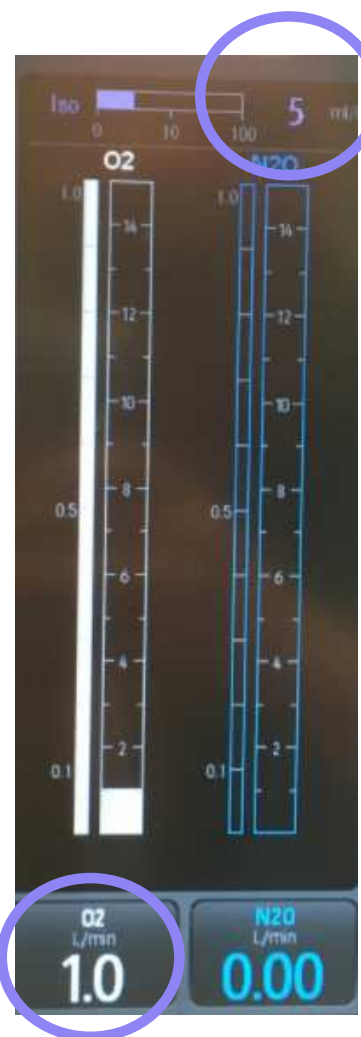
100ml/kg/minute for 10 minutes
0.5-1L/min

Circle – Flow Rates and volatiles!

11 hours use
from a 250ml
bottle of
isoflurane



50 hours use
from a 250ml
bottle of
isoflurane



Circle - leak test

1. Close APL valve
2. Occlude patient end with thumb
3. Fill up reservoir bag (with oxygen)
4. Gently squeeze bag to feel resistance
 - a. Ensure one-way valves flutter
5. Open APL valve and squeeze bag empty before releasing occlusion at patient end

Humphrey ADE (+ circle)



Humphrey ADE (+ circle)


A CF
0.5

T Piece

Bain

Lack

Circle

- 15mm smooth bore tubing
- Leaver up – A = Like a Lack 
- Leaver down – D/E = Like a T-Piece (vent)
- ✓ IPPV?
- 1cmH₂O PEEP, pressure relief at 60cmH₂O
- Can add carbon dioxide canister (circle)

0.5-1L/min, then
0.3-0.5L/min

Humphrey ADE – changing modes



Leaver up – A = Like a Lack

- Leaver down – D/E = Like a T-Piece (vent)

A

Lack

D

T Piece

T Piece

Bain

Lack

Circle

Humphrey ADE - leak test

1. Close APL valve
2. Occlude patient end with thumb
3. Fill up reservoir bag (with oxygen)
4. Gently squeeze bag to feel resistance
5. Open APL valve

Humphrey “Circle” - leak test

1. Close APL valve
2. Occlude patient end with thumb
3. Fill up reservoir bag (with oxygen)
4. Gently squeeze bag to feel resistance
5. Open APL valve and squeeze bag empty before releasing occlusion at patient end

Circle – Summary



T Piece

Bain

Lack

Pros	Cons
↓ waste gas	↑ resistance
↓ inhalant cost	slow conc. change
warms, humidifies	many parts
2 tube sizes	monitoring

Breathing Systems - selection

Patient weight

Patient breed

Length of Procedure

?IPPV

Breathing Systems - storage

- Hang up at the end of the day
- Dispose of often
- Clean often - weekly

An investigation of the bacterial contamination of small animal breathing systems during routine use

May 2007 · Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia 34(3):190-9

DOI: [10.1111/j.1467-2995.2006.00320.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-2995.2006.00320.x)

Source · [PubMed](#)

 Ludovic Pelligand · Richard Hammond ·  Andrew N Rycroft



Reservoir Bags

- Reservoir
 - Accommodates changes of airflow
 - Accommodates excessive pressure
- Hold at least two TVs
- Visualise breathing
- IPPV
- Hang to dry



Scavenging


- Passive (absorbers)
 - Weigh daily 🗝️
 - Below APL/patient level
 - Keep away from heat
 - Sit on flat surface
- Passive (out of building)
- Active (powered)



Oxygen - Concentrators

1. Pulls room air
 2. Removes nitrogen
 3. Concentrates oxygen
- Zeolite sieve
 - Filter
 - Oxygen backup



- 
- ✓ Anaesthesia Machine
 - Oxygen
 - Reservoir Bags
 - ✓ Breathing Systems
 - Calculating FGF
 - How they work
 - Leak Testing
 - Selection

- Paediatric T-Piece
- Bain
- Mini Lack and Lack
- Circle
- Humphrey ADE



Courtney Scales
DipVN NCert(Anaesth) RVN
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