



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
VENTILATORY SUPPORT IN ELDER.  
PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE PATIENTS.

1° EDITION

Hotel Royal Continental

6<sup>th</sup>- 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026 - Naples (Italy)

Presidents: *Antonio Esquinas - Nicola Vargas*





## Conference Presentation

*Every day in clinical practice, we come across patients requiring care in a palliative context or elderly patients with clinical characteristics or a legal prerogative of do-not-intubate (DNI). Patients with respiratory failure can benefit from palliative use of non-invasive ventilation (NIV) not only in the sense of comfort care. Efforts have been made in the past to consider this therapeutic approach as an integral part of caring for all patients under invasive mechanical ventilation. Evidence from international guidelines and consensus statements has shown that NIV can be applied in a clinical context even out of the intensive care unit (ICU). This is possible if NIV is applied from a clinical, ethical, physiopathological, organizational, and rehabilitative point of view.*

**Antonio M. Esquinas** - Murcia, Spain

**Nicola Vargas** - Avellino, Italy

SEGRETERIA SCIENTIFICA

**Elisa Salsano, Immacolata Alviggi, Cecilia Rispoli, Oriana Rossi**



## March 6<sup>th</sup>

- 08.45-09.00 Registration
- 09.00-09.10 Introduction to the Conference  
**Nicola Vargas** (Avellino - Italy)
- 09.10-09.30 Introductory lecture on Niv and biphasic cuirass ventilation in elderly patients: epidemiology and future perspectives  
**Antonio M. Esquinas** (Murcia - Spain)
- 09.30-11.40 **I SESSION "MEDICAL CONDITIONS AND NIV IN ELDERLY"**  
Moderators: **Andrea Fabbo, Mina Bushra**
- 09.30-09.50 Lecture "The new therapeutic strategy in elderly COPD in light of Gold guidelines: triple and dual inhalation therapy"  
**Nicola Vargas** (Avellino - Italy)
- 09.50-10.10 Impact of lung and heart comorbidities on acute and chronic respiratory failure  
**Pasquale Abete** (Naples - Italy)
- 10.10-10.30 Pneumonia in the elderly: the role of NIV and HFNC  
**Filippo Fimognari** (Cosenza - Italy)
- 10.30-10.50 Management of elderly patients with Delirium syndrome in elderly patients with acute respiratory failure  
**Virginia Boccardi** (Perugia - Italy)
- 10.50-11.10 NIV use in elder medical conditions  
**Antonello Nicolini** (Genoa - Italy)
- 11.10-11.30 Quality of life and complications after percutaneous tracheostomy  
**Maria Vargas** (Naples - Italy)



## March 6<sup>th</sup>

11.30-11.40 DISCUSSION

11.40-12.00 COFFEE BREAK

12.00-14.00 **II SESSION "PALLIATIVE NIV"**

Moderators: **Antonio Esquinas, Filippo Fimognari**

12.00-12.20 Lecture "NIV in Palliative Medicine and END-OF-LIFE Care: the perspectives of patients, families and clinicians"  
**Andrea Fabbo** (Modena - Italy)

12.20-12.40 Weaning mechanical ventilation in elderly  
**Giuseppe Servillo** (Naples - Italy)

12.40-13.00 Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis and NIV  
**Anna Stanzola** (Naples - Italy)

13.00-13.20 Respiratory failure and critically ill cancer patients  
**S. Egbert Pravinkumar** (Texas - USA)

13.20-13.40 Chronic venous insufficiency, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism and post-thrombotic syndrome  
**Elisa Salsano** (Avellino - Italy)

13.40-14.00 DISCUSSION

14.00-15.00 LUNCH



## March 6<sup>th</sup>

### 15.00-17.20 III SESSION "MECHANICAL VENTILATION IN ELDERLY"

Moderators: *Giuseppe Rengo, S. Egbert Pravinkumar*

15.00-15.20 Lecture "Mechanical Ventilation in elderly patients: the timing"  
*Bushra Mina (New York USA)*

15.20-15.40 Ventilatory modes in elderly: pressure support ventilation and other ventilatory options.  
*Sven Stieglitz (Wuppertal - Germany)*

15.40-16.00 NIV in Neuromuscular patients (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and other conditions)  
*Giuseppe Fiorentino (Naples - Italy)*

16.00-16.20 DISCUSSION

16.20-16.40 Lecture "Sarcopenia in non invasive ventilation"  
*Grazia Daniela Femminella (Naples-Italy)*



## March 7<sup>th</sup>

### 08.30-10.30 IV SESSION "COMPLEMENTARY USE OF NIV AND CHRONIC STABLE CONDITIONS"

Moderators: *Sven Stieglitz, Nicola Vargas*

08.30-08.50 Lecture "Use of NIV in non-surgery procedures in elderly patients (sedation, bronchoscopy, gastroscopy)"  
*Raffaele Scala (Arezzo - Italy)*

08.50-09.10 Nocturnal NIV in COPD patients with prolonged Hypercapnia after ventilatory support for acute respiratory failure  
*Zühal Karakurt (Istanbul - Türkiye)*

09.10-09.30 The role of NIV home in elderly patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease  
*Laura Petraglia (Naples -Italy)*

09.30-09.50 The role of respiratory physiotherapy during non-invasive ventilation: devices and indications  
*Salvatore Musella (Naples - Italy)*

09.50-10.10 Complementary use of NIV and Therapy of COPD and pulmonary fibrosis  
*Giorgio Castellana (Bari - Italy)*

10.10-10.30 DISCUSSION

10.30-10.00 COFFEE BREAK



## March 7<sup>th</sup>

### 11.00-12.40 **V SESSION "OUTCOME"**

Moderators: **Zühal Karakurt, Maria Vargas**

11.00-11.20 Lecture "Predictors of outcome of NIV in elder, palliative and END-OF-LIFE care patients"

**Francesco Panero** (Turin - Italy)

11.20-11.40 Prognosis following acute exacerbation of COPD treated with non-invasive mechanical ventilation

**Giancarlo Garuti** (Modena - Italy)

11.40-12.00 Legal Issues (Surrogacy Laws Informed Consent)

**Nicola Vargas** (Avellino - Italy)

12.00-12.20 Hospital organizations of ARF in elderly, palliative and END-OF-LIFE.

The role of scientific society

**Andrea Cavalli** (Rome - Italy)

12.20-12.40 DISCUSSION

12.40-13.00 Closure of Conference and recommendations for the future

**Nicola Vargas** (Avellino - Italy)



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### CONFERENCE VENUE:

Hotel Royal Continental  
Via Partenope 38/44 - 80121 - Naples - Italy

### OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:

The official language of the Conference is English

### REGISTRATION FEES:

Registration fees	EARLY REGISTRATION (until February 1)	LATE REGISTRATION (until February 2)
NON MEMBER SIGOT NON SOCIO SIGOT	350,00 €	450,00 €
RESIDENT SPECIALIZZANDO	100,00 €	150,00 €
SIGOT MEMBER SOCIO SIGOT IN REGOLA CON QUOTA ASSOCIATIVA 2026	FREE REGISTRATION	FREE REGISTRATION

### The applicable VAT is included.

Registration fees includes: admission to all the conference, conference materials, CME points, coffee breaks and lunch, certificate of participation.

TO REGISTER, CLICK HERE



OR SCAN HERE



### CME (CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION)

The Conference obtained n. 11 CME credits for the following professions:  
Medical Surgeon specialized in:

**Cardiology, Geriatrics, Respiratory Diseases, Internal Medicine, Thoracic Surgery, Anesthesiology, General Medicine**