Respiratory impact of Covid-19

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Background

• Symptoms – importance of breathlessness
• CXR – very abnormal
• Respiratory failure – main reason for ITU and death
• Patients with Respiratory disease – increased risk
• Course and outcome for covid-19 – very unpredictable
Management – supportive care

• Fluids
• Antibiotics
• Drug trials
• Oxygen therapy

When these measures don’t suffice
• “proning”
• CPAP
• Invasive ventilation in ITU (50% mortality)
CPAP
Complications of Covid -19

• Blood clots
• Lung scarring
• Deconditioning
• Psychological seculae
The elephant in the room

• Delayed treatment of respiratory disease
• Virtual clinics are no substitute for face-face clinics
• Patients are scared to come to hospital
• We are seeing complications of Pneumonia, Asthma COPD and most worryingly Lung cancer