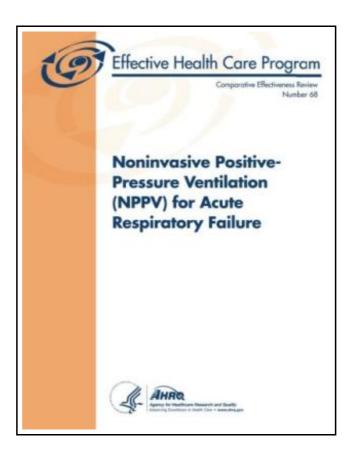
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Createspace, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Acute respiratory failure is a life-threatening condition characterized by an inability to maintain normal levels of oxygen and/or carbon dioxide gas exchange due to dysfunction of the respiratory system. In its most basic sense, the respiratory system comprises a gas exchanging organ (lung) and a ventilatory pump (respiratory muscles and controllers, chest wall). Respiratory failure is classified based on failure of one or both of these elements, as well as the timing of such failure. Acute respiratory failure develops over minutes to several days. Respiratory failure is deemed chronic when derangements occur over several days or longer. Acute-on-chronic respiratory failure occurs when a patient with chronic respiratory failure suffers an acute deterioration in gas exchange; this is most commonly seen in patients with severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The epidemiology of acute respiratory failure is not fully known. In the United States, millions of patients are admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) each year, and acute respiratory failure is the most common cause. Acute respiratory failure is severe enough to require life support with invasive mechanical ventilation for approximately 800,000 Americans a year, a high proportion of whom do not survive the episode. Epidemiological studies have estimated the annual incidence of acute respiratory failure to be between 77.6 and 430 patients per 100,000. The estimated health care costs related to critical care are approximately 0.7 percent of the annual gross domestic product, and the human and financial costs are only expected to increase with an aging population. The literature supporting the use of NPPV for respiratory failure in the acute-care setting has evolved over the last two decades. Although there have been some exceptions, such as...

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