

Table 2. Daily characteristics of study patients*

Characteristics	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Total number of patients	73	73	73
Laboratory tests, median (IQR)			
PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ (mmHg)	110.0 (80.0–158.5)	141.6 (104.7–177.2)	156.8 (113.3–193.8)
PaO ₂ (mmHg)	76.0 (62.7–89.4)	78.5 (67.1–89.7)	74.5 (66.2–85.6)
PacO ₂ (mmHg)	46.4 (40.0–51.3)	48.5 (43.3–53.0)	47.8 (43.3–52.7)
Arterial pH	7.38 (7.31–7.444)	7.41 (7.35–7.46)	7.43 (7.36–7.48)
Vital signs, median (IQR)			
Mean arterial pressure	79 (66–93)	82 (71–94)	88 (75–97)
Urine output (24 h)	2180 (1300–3150)	3535 (2402–4687)	3467 (2336–4695)
Ventilatory support			
Previous use of non-invasive ventilation	20/70 (28.6%)	na	na
Mode of ventilation			
Controlled	64/70 (91.4%)	54/70 (77.1%)	51/67 (76.1%)
Assisted	6/70 (8.6%)	16/70 (22.9%)	16/67 (23.9%)
Tidal volume (mL/kg PBW), median (IQR)	6.7 (6.0–7.5)	6.7 (6.0–7.5)	6.7 (6.1–7.4)
PEEP (cmH ₂ O), median (IQR)	12 (10–14)	12 (10–14)	12 (10–14)
FiO ₂ (mmHg), median (IQR)	0.70 (0.52–0.80)	0.60 (0.50–0.70)	0.50 (0.40–0.65)
Peak airway pressure (cmH ₂ O), median (IQR)	28.5 (25.2–30.0)	26.0 (20.5–29.5)	26.0 (23.8–30.0)
Driving pressure (cmH ₂ O), [†] median (IQR)	12.0 (7.0–16.5)	10.0 (6.0–15.0)	11.0 (9.0–11.0)
Dynamic compliance (mL/cmH ₂ O), [‡] median (IQR)	28.6 (21.8–34.0)	31.7 (25.4–39.6)	30.0 (25.7–34.6)
Clinical support			
ECMO [§]	4 (5.5%)	4 (5.5%)	4 (5.5%)
Tracheostomy	0/72 (0.0%)	1/69 (1.4%)	1/70 (1.4%)
Renal replacement therapy	0/72 (0.0%)	3/68 (4.4%)	4/69 (5.8%)
Vasopressor or inotropic therapy	59/72 (81.9%)	58/70 (82.9%)	59/70 (84.3%)
Norepinephrine	42/72 (58.3%)	48/70 (68.6%)	39/70 (55.7%)
▶ Maximum dose (μg/kg/min), median (IQR)	0.15 (0.10–0.20)	0.10 (0.05–0.20)	0.10 (0.08–0.20)
Angiotensin II	35/72 (48.6%)	36/70 (51.4%)	37/70 (52.9%)
▶ Maximum dose (ng/kg/min), median (IQR)	10.0 (5.0–20.0)	10.0 (5.0–20.0)	10.0 (5.0–20.0)
Neuromuscular blocking agents	53/70 (75.7%)	43/69 (62.3%)	39/70 (55.7%)
Prone positioning	28/70 (40.0%)	36/70 (51.4%)	29/69 (42.0%)
Duration (h), median (IQR)	12 (9–18)	16 (9–18)	14 (9–16)

ECMO = extracorporeal membrane oxygenation; FiO₂ = fraction of inspired oxygen; IQR = interquartile range; na = not applicable; PaCO₂ = arterial partial pressure of carbon dioxide; PaO₂ = arterial partial pressure of oxygen; PBW = predicted body weight; PEEP = positive end-expiratory pressure. * Percentages may not total 100 because of rounding. † Calculated as plateau pressure minus PEEP and available only in seven patients (9.6%) on Day 1, in 13 patients (17.8%) on Day 2 and in 13 patients (17.8%) on Day 3. ‡ Calculated as tidal volume divided by the [peak pressure minus PEEP] and available only in 22 patients (30.1%) on Day 1, in 26 patients (35.6%) on Day 2 and in 33 patients (45.2%) on Day 3. § All but one patient receiving ECMO in the first 3 days were transferred from other centres already receiving mechanical ventilation for a period.