

## **INTRODUCTION**

Compartment syndrome occurs when a fixed compartment, defined by myo-fascial elements or bone, becomes subject to increased pressure, leading to ischemia and organ dysfunction. Well recognized to occur in the extremities, it also occurs in the abdomen, and some believe, in the intracranial cavity. The exact clinical conditions that define abdominal compartment syndrome (ACS) are controversial; however, organ dysfunction caused by intra-abdominal hypertension (IAH) is considered to be abdominal compartment syndrome. The dysfunction may be respiratory insufficiency secondary to compromised tidal volumes, decreased urine output caused by falling renal perfusion, or any organ dysfunction caused by increased abdominal compartment pressure(1).