

SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

Scoliosis, which may be of varied etiology, leads to respiratory involvement characterized by restrictive lung disease, ventilation perfusion maldistribution and hypoxemia. Cardiovascular involvement is usually in the form of raised right heart pressures, mitral valve prolapse or congenital heart disease.

Anaesthesia is often needed for corrective orthopaedic surgery, which is very challenging. A detailed pre-anaesthetic assessment and optimization of the respiratory and cardiovascular systems is imperative. Important intraoperative considerations are monitoring, temperature and fluid balance maintenance, positioning, spinal cord integrity monitoring and blood conservation. Post operative intensive care, respiratory care and pain therapy deserve special mention.

Multiple studies have been done in an effort to determine the best anesthetic regimen to optimize operating conditions, facilitate spinal cord monitoring and intraoperative wake-up tests to assess motor function, and protect patients undergoing surgical correction of scoliosis from the dangers of allogeneic blood transfusions, hypothermia and paraplegia.