**Supplemental Digital Content 3**

**Supplemental Table 1:** Respiratory parameters and blood gas analysis at Baseline

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|  | **Low-VT/Low-PEEP****RM-** | **Low-VT/Moderate-PEEP****4RM+** | **Low-VT/High-PEEP****1RM+** | **High-VT/Low-PEEP****RM-** |
| **VT (mL/kg)** | 7.4 ± 0.9 | 6.7 ± 0.2 | 6.8 ± 0.3 | 6.8 ± 0.2 |
| **RR (min-1)** | 61± 9 | 54 ± 7 | 55 ± 10 | 54 ± 7 |
| **Ppeak,RS (cmH2O)** | 12.0 ± 1.7 | 12.8 ± 1.7 | 13.7 ± 3.84 | 11.9 ± 1.5 |
| **Pmean,RS (cmH2O)** | 4. 7 ± 0.5 | 4.9 ± 0. 7 | 5.2 ± 1.3 | 4.6 ± 0.5 |
| **pHa** | 7.43 ± 0.04 | 7.41 ± 0.03 | 7.44 ± 0.03 | 7.39 ± 0.03 |
| **PaCO2 (mmHg)** | 33.6 ± 6.8 | 38.1 ± 3.8 | 32.0 ± 5.7 | 38.8 ± 4.1 |
| **PaO2/FiO2**  | 319 ± 80 | 278 ± 97 | 255 ± 92 | 285 ± 72 |
| **HCO3-(mmol/L)** | 23.2 ± 3.5 | 24.1 ±1.3 | 22.7 ± 1.7 | 23.7 ± 1.4 |
| **MAP (mmHg)** | 141 ± 39 | 129 ± 41 | 118 ± 31 | 156 ± 26 |
| **HR (bpm)** | 395 ± 117 | 398 ± 168 | 388 ± 158 | 354 ± 76 |

Values are mean ± standard deviation (SD) of seven rats in each group. Low-VT/Low-PEEP/RM-: VT = 7 mL/kg with PEEP = 1 cmH2O and no RMs; Low-VT/Moderate-PEEP/4RM+: VT = 7 mL/kg with PEEP = 3 cmH2O and RMs before laparotomy and every 1 hour thereafter; Low-VT/High-PEEP/1RM+: VT = 7 mL/kg with PEEP = 6 cmH2O and RMs before laparotomy; High-VT/Low-PEEP/RM-: VT = 14 mL/kg with PEEP = 1 cmH2O and no RMs. VT: tidal volume; RR: respiratory rate; Ppeak,RS: peak airway pressure; Pmean,RS: mean airway pressure; pHa: arterial pH; PaCO2: arterial carbon dioxide partial pressure; PaO2/FiO2: arterial oxygen partial pressure divided by fraction of inspired oxygen; HCO3: bicarbonate; MAP: mean arterial pressure; HR: heart rate.