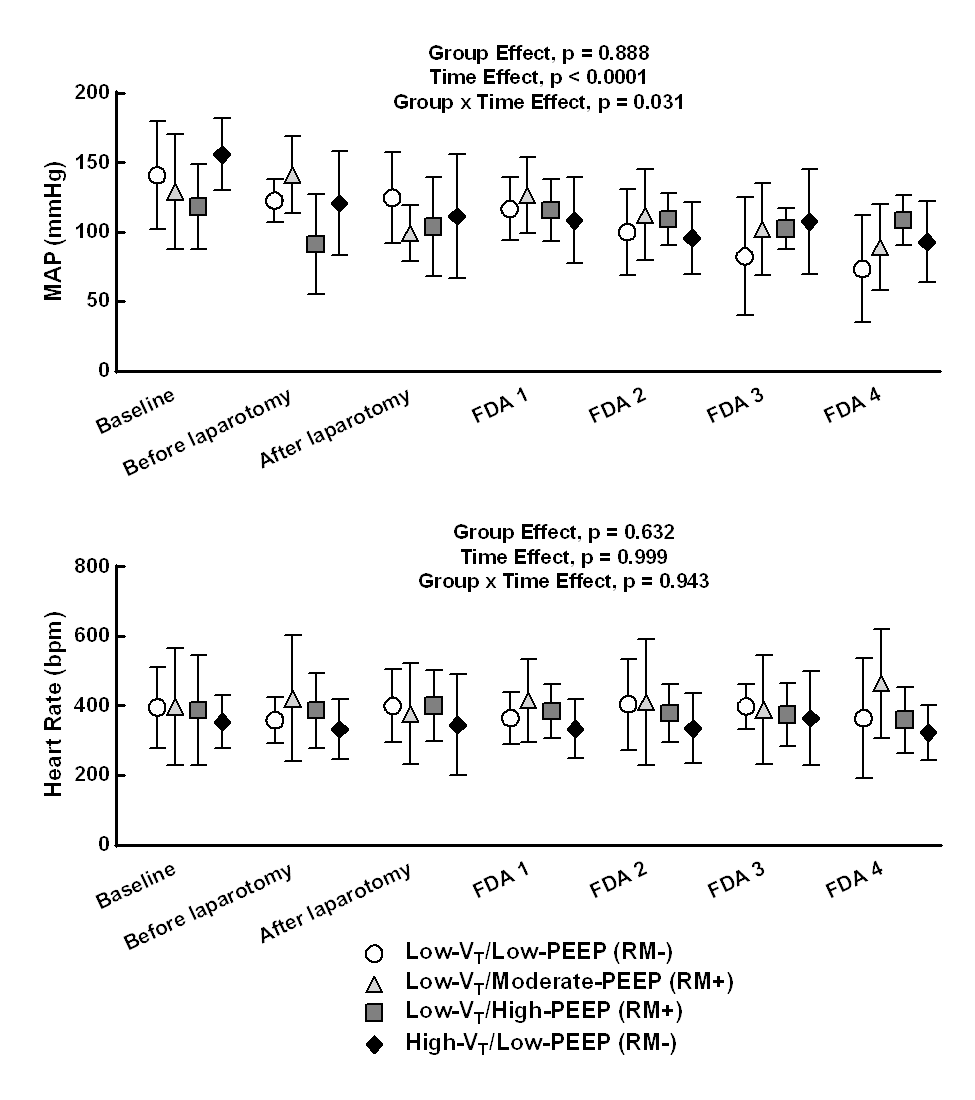
**Supplemental Digital Content 4**



**Low VT/Low PEEP/RM-**

**Low VT/Moderate PEEP/4RM+**

**Low VT/High PEEP/1RM+**

**High VT/Low PEEP/RM-**

**Supplemental Figure 2:** Mean arterial blood pressure and heart rate over time in the four mechanically ventilated groups. 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.