**Supplemental Digital Content 7**

**Low VT/Low PEEP**

**RM-**

**Low VT/Moderate PEEP**

**4RM+**

**Low VT/High PEEP**

**1RM+**

**High VT/Low PEEP**

**RM-**

**Supplemental Figure 3:** Overview of respiratory system driving pressure (P,RS), positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP), and plateau pressure (Pplat,RS), in cmH2O, over time in the four mechanically ventilated groups: 1) Low-VT/Low-PEEP/RM-: VT = 7 mL/kg with PEEP = 1 cmH2O and no RMs; 2) Low-VT/Moderate-PEEP/4RM+: VT = 7 mL/kg with PEEP = 3 cmH2O and RMs before laparotomy and every 1 hour thereafter; 3) Low-VT/High-PEEP/1RM+: VT = 7 mL/kg with PEEP = 6 cmH2O and RMs before laparotomy; and 4) High-VT/Low-PEEP/RM-: VT = 14 mL/kg with PEEP = 1 cmH2O and no RMs. Bars represent mean ± standard deviation (SD) of seven rats in each group. \*p<0.05 *vs.* Low-VT/Low-PEEP/ RM-; †p<0.05 *vs.* Low-VT/Moderate-PEEP/RM+); ‡p<0.05 *vs.* Low-VT/High-PEEP/RM+; § *vs.* High-VT/Low-PEEP/RM-).