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| **eTable 1.** Linear mixed model with a random factor for individual patient with **transpulmonary driving pressure** as dependent variable and group as main independent variable. |
| Variable | **Estimate** | **Standard Error** | **Lower 95% CI** | **Upper 95% CI** | **P–value** |
| **(Intercept)**  | 2.13 | 2.533 | -2.73 | 6.995 | 0.408 |
| **Group (Targeted PEEP)** | -2.441 | 0.513 | -3.434 | -1.442 | <0.001 |
| **Intra–abdominal pressure****(Reference category = 8 mm Hg)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 mm Hg | 0.483 | 0.513 | - 0.51 | 1.481 | 0.349 |
| 15 mm Hg | 1.889 | 0.513 | 0.896 | 2.888 | < 0.001 |
| **Baseline transpulmonary** **driving pressure** | 0.413 | 0.079 | 0.262 | 0.564 | < 0.001 |
| **Body Mass Index**  | 0.124 | 0.096 | - 0.06 | 0.307 | 0.206 |
| **Interaction Group\*Intra–abdominal pressure****(Reference category intra–abdominal pressure = 8 mm Hg)** |  |  |  |  |  |
|  IAP targeted PEEP \* **Intra–abdominal pressure** 12 mm Hg | - 0.583 | 0.722 | -.1987 | 0.816 | 0.421 |
|  IAP targeted PEEP \* **Intra–abdominal pressure** 15 mm Hg | - 1.426 | 0.722 | -2.83 | - 0.028 | **0.050** |
| *Akaike Information Criterion* 823.01; *PEEP*, positive end–expiratory pressure; *CI*, confidence interval |

Targeted PEEP led to lower **transpulmonary pressure driving pressure** values. Compared to low **intra–abdominal pressure** (8 mmHg) **high intra–abdominal pressure** (15 mmHg) increased the effect estimate significantly. The effect of high PEEP increases at higher IAP level as showed by the interaction term.