# INTRODUCTION TO POLYSOMNOGRAPHY

BASIC POLYSOMNOGRAPHY TERMINOLOGY



#### SLEEP DISORDERS

- SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING (SDB) ABNORMAL NOCTURNAL BREATHING RESULTING IN ABSENT OR RESTRICTED AIRFLOW DURING SLEEP
- SLEEP APNEA SLEEP DISORDER CHARACTERIZED BY ABNORMAL PAUSES IN BREATHING OR INSTANCES OF ABNORMALLY LOW BREATHING DURING SLEEP
- INSOMNIA INABILITY TO FALL SLEEP OR REMAIN ASLEEP
- NARCOLEPSY SLEEP DISORDER CHARACTERIZED BY EXCESSIVE SLEEPINESS AND SLEEP ATTACKS AT INAPPROPRIATE TIMES
- HYPERSOMNIA EXCESSIVE SLEEPINESS NOT CAUSED BY DISTURBED NOCTURNAL SLEEP OR MISALIGNED CIRCADIAN RHYTHMS



## SLEEP DISORDERS

- PARASOMNIAS ABNORMAL MOVEMENTS/ACTIVITY DURING DEEP SLEEP
- CIRCADIAN RHYTHM DISORDERS DISTURBANCES OF THE BODY'S INTERNAL CLOCK
- MOVEMENT DISORDERS ABNORMAL MOVEMENTS DURING SLEEP



## TYPES OF SLEEP APNEA

- OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA (OSA) MOST COMMON TYPE OF SLEEP APNEA. BODY MAKES EFFORT TO BREATHE DURING SLEEP BUT AIRWAY IS OBSTRUCTED.
- **CENTRAL SLEEP APNEA (CSA)** TYPE OF SLEEP APNEA WHERE PATIENT REPEATEDLY STOPS BREATHING DURING SLEEP BECAUSE THE BRAIN TEMPORARILY STOPS SENDING SIGNALS TO THE MUSCLES THAT CONTROL BREATHING
- MIXED SLEEP APNEA APNEA EVENTS START OFF WITHOUT RESPIRATORY EFFORT BUT RESPIRATORY EFFORT RESUMES BEFORE BREATHING RESUMES



## TYPES OF SLEEP APNEA

- **COMPLEX SLEEP APNEA** PATIENT EXHIBITS OSA DURING DIAGNOSTIC STUDY BUT BEGINS TO HAVE PERSISTENT CENTRAL APNEAS DURING APPLICATION OF PAP THERAPY
- **HYPOPNEA** AT LEAST A 30% DECREASE IN AIRFLOW WITHOUT CESSATION OF BREATHING.
  THIS DECREASE IN AIRFLOW HAS AT LEAST A 3% OXYGEN DESATURATION ACCOMPANYING IT.



## TYPES OF TESTS

- PSG BASIC POLYSOMNOGRAM. USED TO DIAGNOSE SLEEP DISORDERS.
- TITRATION TREATMENT FOR SLEEP APNEA. STUDY USED TO FIGURE OUT EFFECTIVE TREATMENT USING POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE (PAP) THERAPY.
- MSLT MULTIPLE SLEEP LATENCY TEST. SERIES OF FIVE NAP TRIALS THAT IS USED TO TEST FOR NARCOLEPSY AND HYPERSOMNIA.



## TYPES OF TESTS

- MWT MAINTENANCE OF WAKEFULNESS TEST. TESTS ABILITY TO STAY AWAKE DURING SITUATIONS WITH LITTLE TO NO STIMULI. TYPICALLY USED TO ASSESS ALERTNESS OF TRUCK DRIVERS AND PILOTS.
- ACTIGRAPHY NON-INVASIVE METHOD OF MONITORING HUMAN REST/ACTIVITY CYCLES. CONSISTS OF WEARING SPECIAL WATCH THAT DETECTS MOVEMENT.

## TREATMENT FOR SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING

- PAP POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE. USED IN THE TREATMENT OF SLEEP APNEA. TAKES ROOM AIR AND PRESSURIZES IT, FORCING THE AIRWAY TO STAY OPEN DURING SLEEP.
- IPAP INSPIRATORY POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE. PAP PRESSURE WHEN PATIENT BREATHES IN.
- EPAP EXPIRATORY POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE. PAP PRESSURE WHEN PATIENT EXHALES.
- **CPAP** CONTINUOUS POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE. TYPICALLY USED FOR OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA. PRESSURE IS THE SAME FOR IPAP AND EPAP.
- EPR EXPIRATORY PRESSURE RELIEF. LOWERS PAP 1-3 CM H2O ON EXHALATION TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR PATIENT TO EXHALE ON CPAP.

# TREATMENT FOR SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING

- BILEVEL PAP TYPE OF PAP THERAPY WHERE THE INSPIRATORY PRESSURE (IPAP) IS HIGHER THAN THE EXPIRATORY PRESSURE (EPAP). GAP BETWEEN IPAP AND EPAP MUST BE BETWEEN 4-10 CM H2O. TYPICALLY USED WHEN PATIENT CANNOT TOLERATE CPAP OR CPAP DOES NOT CORRECT PATIENT'S SLEEP APNEA.
- **ASV** ADAPTIVE SERVO VENTILATION. MACHINE IS SET WITH A RANGE THAT ALLOWS PATIENT TO FLUCTUATE BETWEEN PRESSURES DURING THE NIGHT AS NEEDED. ADAPTS TO PATIENT'S VENTILATORY NEEDS USING PRESSURE SUPPORT. TYPICALLY USED FOR COMPLEX SLEEP APNEA.



- AHI = APNEA-HYPOPNEA INDEX
- DME = DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
- EEG = ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAM (HEAD LEADS)
- ECG / EKG = ELECTROCARDIOGRAM (HEART HZ = HERTZ LEADS)
- EDS = EXCESSIVE DAYTIME SLEEPINESS

- EMG = ELECTROMYOGRAM (MUSCLE MOVEMENT)
- EOG = ELECTRO-OCULOGRAM (EYE LEADS)
- HFF = HIGH FREQUENCY FILTER
- LFF = LOW FREQUENCY FILTER
- UV = MICROVOLT



- NREM = NON-RAPID EYE MOVEMENT
- OSA = OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA
- OSAS = OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA
   SYNDROME
- PAC = PREMATURE ATRIAL
   CONTRACTION/COMPLEX
- PLMD = PERIODIC LIMB MOVEMENT DISORDER

- PLMS = PERIODIC LIMB MOVEMENTS IN SLEEP
- PVC = PREMATURE VENTRICULAR
   CONTRACTION/ COMPLEX
- RDI = RESPIRATORY DISTURBANCE INDEX
- REM = RAPID EYE MOVEMENT
- RERA = RESPIRATORY-EFFORT RELATED
- AROUSAL



- RLS = RESTLESS LEG SYNDROME
- SDB = SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING
- SEM = SLOW EYE MOVEMENT
- SOREMP = SLEEP ONSET REM PERIOD
- SPO<sub>2</sub> = OXYHEMOGLOBIN SATURATION
- TC = TIME CONSTANT
- TST = TOTAL SLEEP TIME

- UARS = UPPER AIRWAY RESISTANCE
   SYNDROME
- V TACH = VENTRICULAR TACHYCARDIA
- WASO = WAKE AFTER SLEEP ONSET



- AASM = AMERICAN ACADEMY OF SLEEP MEDICINE
- BRPT = BOARD OF REGISTERED
   POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGISTS
- CPSGT = CERTIFIED POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIST
- RPSGT = REGISTERED POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIST

- AAST = AMERICAN ACADEMY OF SLEEP TECHNOLOGISTS
- ABSM = AMERICAN BOARD OF SLEEP MEDICINE
- RST = REGISTERED SLEEP TECHNOLOGIST
- CCSH = CERTIFICATION IN CLINICAL SLEEP HEALTH
- CSE = CLINICAL SLEEP EDUCATOR