

# DESIGN PRINCIPLES: ANESTHESIA MACHINE

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# **Recommended Textbook**

- John F. Butterworth IV, David C. Mackey and John D. Wasnick, Morgan & Mikhail's Clinical Anesthesiology, 5th Ed., McGraw-Hill Education, New York, 2013. (ISBN: 978-0-07-171405-1)
- Rüdiger Kramme, Klaus-Peter Hoffmann, Robert S. Pozos (Eds.), Springer Handbook of Medical Technology, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2011. (ISBN: 978-3-540-74657-7)



# Definition

- Anesthesia devices are used in operating rooms in hospitals by medical staff to ensure that operative and diagnostic procedures can be performed on a patient without pain in an unconscious and relaxed state
- On the most basic level, anesthesiologist uses anesthesia machine to control patient's ventilation and oxygen delivery and to administer inhalation anesthetics

# Modern Anesthesia Machine - Front



# Modern Anesthesia Machine - Back



### **Functional Schematic**



#### Internal Schematic Examples



# **Components of Anesthesia Machine**

- Anesthesia device consists of following components, according to its intended medical purpose:
  - Drug dosing unit
  - Ventilator with breathing system
  - Monitoring unit consisting of 3 subunits:
    - One monitors drug dosing and the ventilator called device monitoring
    - One monitors the patient called patient monitoring
    - One monitors the depth of anesthesia called anesthesia effect monitoring

# Drug Dosing

Two principles are used for delivering  $O_2$ , air, and  $N_2O$ , namely mechanical metering values and electronic mixers



# Anesthetic Agent Vaporizers

- Volatile anesthetic agents are used to achieve unconsciousness
  Exhalable and evaporate quickly (e.g., isoflurane and sevoflurane)
- Anesthetic agent vaporizer converts anesthetic agent from liquid to vapor and mix it with fresh gas at preset concentration
- Concentration of saturated agent vapor is much higher (20 fold) than therapeutically necessary
  - Vaporizer is primarily designed to reduce high saturation concentration of, e.g., 30% to concentration required during anesthesia, e.g., 2%





#### **Electronic Vaporizer Example**



# Mechanical Vaporizer Example





# Mechanical Vaporizer Example



# Monitoring in Anesthesia

- □ Generally, anesthesia devices are equipped with nine sensors
- □ Five device monitoring sensors for drug dosing and ventilation
  - Oxygen
  - Pressure
  - Volume
  - Carbon dioxide (CO2)
  - Anesthetic agent
- Four patient monitoring sensors for monitoring patient health during uncomplicated operations
  - Electrocardiogram (ECG)
  - Noninvasive blood pressure (NIBP)
  - Oxygen saturation (SpO2), and
  - Body temperature.

# **Bourdon Pressure Gauge**

- Cylinder pressure is measured by Bourdon pressure gauge
  - A flexible tube within this gauge straightens when exposed to gas pressure, causing a gear mechanism to move a needle pointer



# Oxygen Sensor



# CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, and Anesthetic Agent Sensors

#### Infrared absorption spectroscopy

- Based on physical principle that polyatomic gases absorb infrared radiation at characteristic frequencies
- Level of absorption depends on concentration of molecules according to Lambert–Beer law: Concentration = Absorption constant ×  $\ln(I_0/I)$



## Volume and Flow Sensor

#### Hot-Wire Anemometer method

Purely electrical method for volume measurement



#### **Pressure Sensor**

#### Piezoresistive Sensor

 Solid-state device whose electrical resistance depends on elongation of membrane (and hence, pressure)



#### **Flowmeters**





Used to measure exhaled tidal volume in breathing circuit on all anesthesia machines, typically near exhalation valve



# **Oxygen Failure Protection**



#### Suggested Readings and Assignments

- Chapter 4 of Recommended Reference #1
- Chapter 30 of Recommended Reference #2