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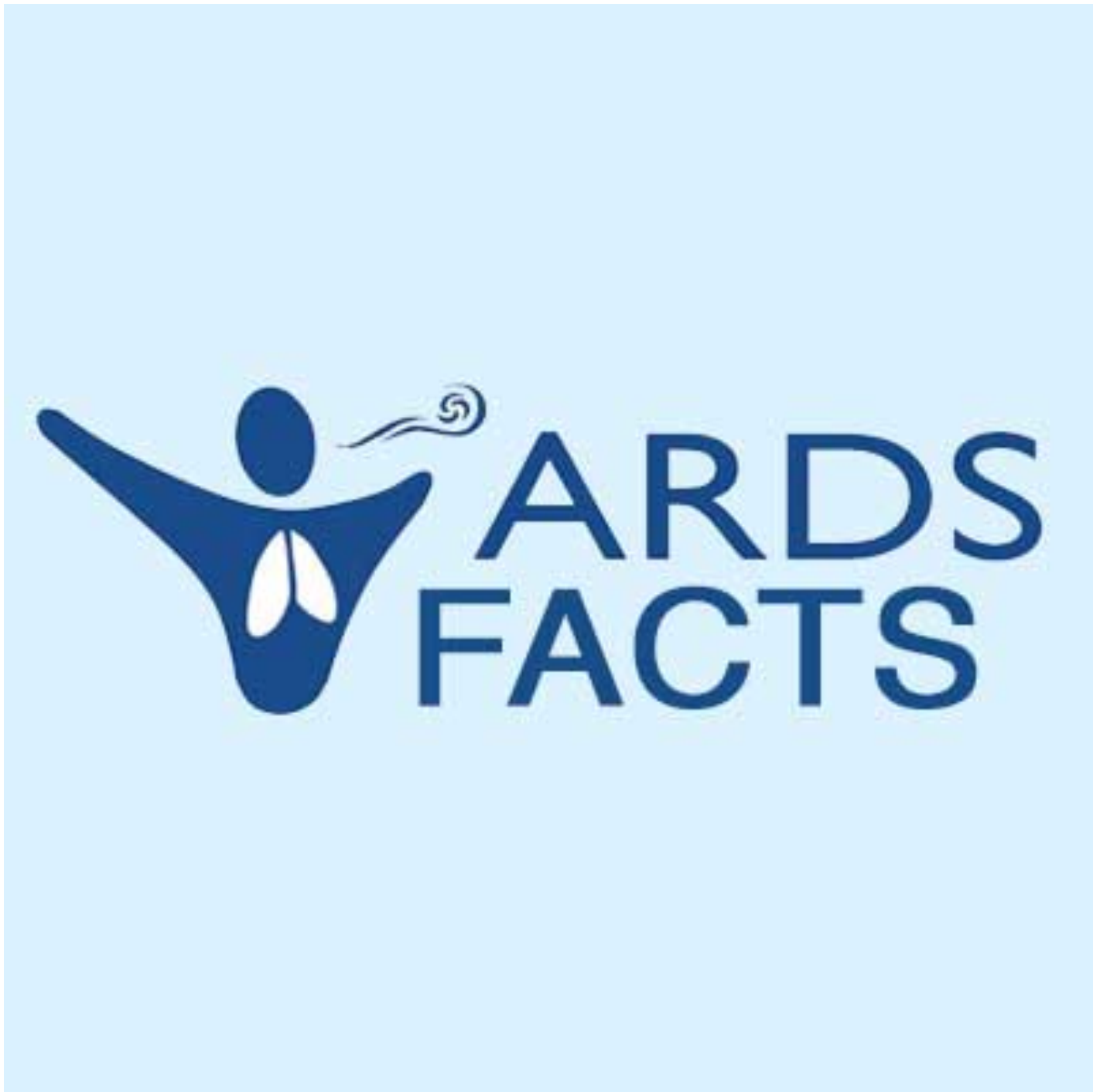
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## Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome Information

**Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS)** is an acute process, which results in moderate to severe loss of lung function.

In **ARDS** there is intense inflammation of the lung tissue, which can be caused by a variety of factors. This inflammation in the lung results in a loss of function. The alveoli lose their ability to exchange oxygen and carbon dioxide with the blood. This loss of function of the alveoli is due to collapse of the air sacs and leakage of fluid (which is called edema) into the air sacs.

*This sequence of events can happen rapidly. It can start in one lung and advance to the other. If the inflammation persists over time, the lungs will eventually attempt to heal the damage, which results in the formation of scar tissue. The formation of scar tissue will continue to create a problem with gas (oxygen and carbon dioxide) exchange.*

- ARDS presents within 12-24 hours of antecedent event
- ARDS patients intubated within 72 hours in 90% cases
- High mortality rate (ICU: 37%, overall: 42%)
  - Predictors of better prognosis
  - Those who survive acute respiratory distress syndrome in the first 2 weeks have better prognosis
  - Age under 55 years
  - Trauma related to acute respiratory distress syndrome
- Predictors of poor prognosis
  - Elderly (especially over age 70 years)
  - Immunocompromised patients
  - Chronic Liver Disease
  - Increased dead space fraction
- Only 34% of ards survivors are well enough to be discharged directly home
- ALI/ARDS leads to approximately 2.2 million days in the ICU

## Possible Precipitating Causes

- Shock
- Severe blood loss
- Bone fractures – if they cause shock.
- Severe infections
- Bacterial lung infection
- Viral lung infection
- Fungal lung infection
- Lung trauma
- Drowning
- Water inhalation
- Vomit inhalation
- Pneumonia
- Sepsis
- Poliomyelitis
- Blood transfusion adverse reaction (type of Adverse reaction)
- Heart bypass surgery adverse reaction (type of Adverse reaction)
- Smoke inhalation
- Toxic fume inhalation
- Circulatory collapse
- Sepsis
- Asthma
- Emphysema
- Muscular dystrophy
- Pancreatitis
- Guillaine-Barre syndrome
- Uremia

- Myasthenia gravis

### According to the NHLBI:

- Incidence (annual) of Acute respiratory distress syndrome:

150,000 Americans will be diagnosed with acute respiratory distress syndrome each year

- Incidence extrapolations for the United States of America for Acute respiratory distress syndrome:

150,000 per year

12,500 per month

2,884 per week

410 per day

17 per hour

### Acute respiratory distress syndrome by country (Extrapolated Statistics)

Country/Region	Extrapolated Incidence
<b>Population Estimated Used</b>	
USA	161,942
293,655,405	
Canada	17,927
32,507,874	
United Kingdom	33,237
60,270,708	
France	33,322
60,424,213	

Greece	5,871
10,647,529	
Germany	45,454
82,424,609	
Ireland	2,189
3,969,558	
Italy	32,016
58,057,477	
Netherlands	8,999
16,318,199	
Poland	21,301
38,626,349	
Spain	22,213
40,280,780	
China	716,276
1,298,847,624	
India	587,355
1,065,070,607	
Japan	70,220
127,270,708	
Philippines	47,559
86,241,697	
Bangladesh	77,945
141,340,476	
Thailand	35,771
64,865,523	
Russia	79,397

143,974,059	
Australia	10,981
19,913,144	
New Zealand	2,202
3,993,817	
Afghanistan	15,725
28,513,677	
Egypt	41,976
76,117,421	
Israel	3,418
6,199,008	
Saudi Arabia	14,225
25,795,938	
Turkey	37,992
68,893,918	
Mexico	57,882
104,959,594	
Brazil	101,526
184,101,109	
Puerto Rico	3,418
6,199,008	
South Africa	24,512
44,448,470	

*Population estimates based upon US Census Bureau, Population Estimates, 2004 and US Census Bureau, International Data Base, 2004*

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By Eileen Rubin | August 26th, 2013 | Patient and Family Resources | Comments Off

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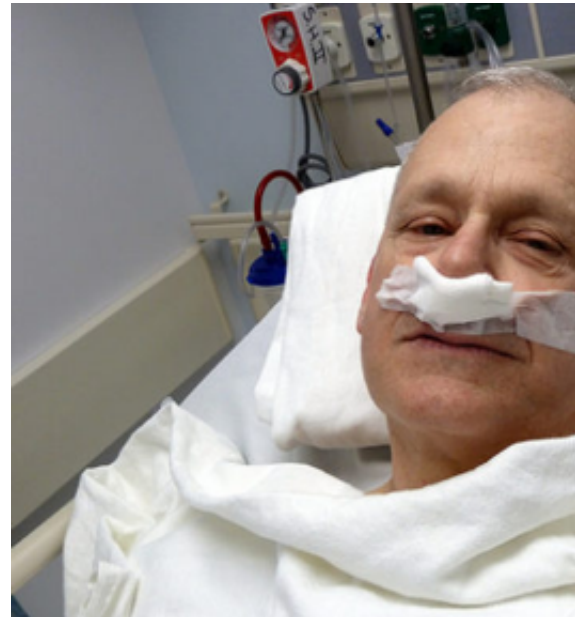
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SEND

Suite C4

Northbrook, IL

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Phone: (312)749-

7047

Email:

erubin@ardsglobal.org

Web:

http://www.ardsglobal.org

**Or you can MAIL  
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ARDS Foundation

3330 Dundee Rd.

Suite C4

Northbrook, IL

60062

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