

AI/ML to Predict Extubation Failure

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Introduction

Endotracheal (ET) intubation with mechanical ventilation (MV) is a life-saving procedure that provides respiratory support during critical illness.¹

It is required in up to **40% of all intensive care unit (ICU) patients** and is responsible for **12% of all hospital costs**.^{2,3}

Prolonged periods of MV are associated with worse outcomes and early extubation remains a paramount treatment goal.^{4,5}

Reintubation occurs in approximately **15% of patients** after ET tube removal.⁶

Extubation failure is associated with a **4.7-fold longer ICU stay** and at least a **30% higher risk of inpatient mortality**.⁶⁻⁸

Machine learning approaches to predict successful extubation have not been well studied.⁹⁻¹¹

Objectives

Develop a novel machine learning approach to **predict extubation failure within 48 hours of ET tube removal**.

Methods

Study Population: Data was extracted from the MIMIC-III dataset and included all patients ≥ 18 years of age who were intubated for at least 6 hours.¹² Model features were generated from demographics, vital signs, labs, and ventilation-related documentation.

MV: Initiation and duration of MV was not explicitly provided in the dataset and had to be extrapolated, by categorizing all respiratory elements, such as positive end expiratory pressure (PEEP), into three categories: 1) definite intubation; 2) definite extubation; and 3) ambiguous. Ambiguous was needed as some charted elements could be seen with non-invasive positive pressure ventilation modalities, such as FiO2.

Extubation failure: Defined as reintubation ≤ 48 hours after extubation.

Analysis: Data were analyzed in Python using jupyter notebook. XGBoost was trained with 4-fold cross-validation.^{13,14} Group comparisons were assessed using the t- and χ^2 -tests where appropriate.

Results

Population Characteristics

Variable	Total	Extubation Success	Extubation Failure
Number of Events	7,401	6,943	458
Age	65.3 (53.6 - 76.8)	65.5 (53.7 - 76.9)	63.7 (51.7 - 74.7)
Gender (Female)	3,140 (42.4%)	2,947 (42.4%)	193 (42.1%)
Race (White)	5,376 (72.6%)	5,067 (73.0%)	309 (67.5%)
Race (Hispanic)	285 (3.9%)	269 (3.9%)	16 (3.5%)
Race (Black)	626 (8.5%)	563 (8.1%)	63 (13.8%)
Race (Asian)	186 (2.5%)	170 (2.4%)	16 (3.5%)
Race (Other/Unknown)	928 (12.5%)	874 (12.6%)	54 (11.8%)
Body Mass Index	27.9 (24.3 - 32.5)	27.9 (24.4 - 32.6)	26.9 (23.8 - 31.9)
Intubation Duration (hours)	24.6 (14.0 - 65.5)	24.4 (14.0 - 65.6)	27.7 (15.5 - 62.6)
Time-to-Reintubation (hours)	N/A	N/A	17.0 (10.4 - 28.5)

Table 1. Baseline population characteristics. *P < .05

Model Performance

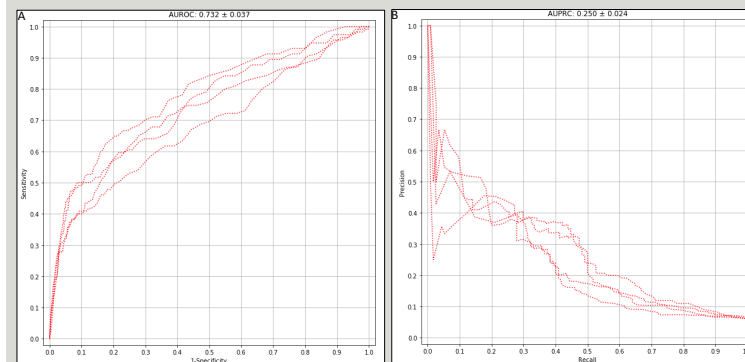


Figure 1. XGBoost model performance metrics. A. Area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUROC). Mean 4-fold AUROC 0.732. B. Area under the precision-recall curve (AUPRC). Mean 4-fold AUPRC 0.25.

Feature Importance

Feature	Cross validation fold				Mean	Standard deviation
	1	2	3	4		
PEEP set (std)	0.059	0.076	0.005	0.026	0.042	0.028
Minute volume (std)	0.031	0.019	0.030	0.004	0.021	0.011
Minute volume (first)	0.013	0.022	0.011	0.012	0.015	0.004
Mean airway pressure (std)	0.010	0.004	0.023	0.019	0.014	0.007
Peak inspiratory pressure (std)	0.004	0.004	0.038	0.003	0.012	0.015
GCS motor (1st percentile)	0.007	0.011	0.009	0.008	0.009	0.001
Arterial systolic blood pressure (last)	0.009	0.011	0.004	0.005	0.007	0.003
Tidal volume (observed) (std)	0.011	0.008	0.004	0.004	0.007	0.003
Tidal volume (observed) (25th percentile)	0.005	0.018	0.003	0.000	0.007	0.007
SpO2 (delta)	0.007	0.009	0.004	0.004	0.006	0.002

Table 2. Cross validation feature importance. The top 10 features, sorted by mean feature importance across folds. Feature importance instability can be observed in some features including the topmost feature (PEEP set std) which was underused in cross validation fold 3. Abbreviations: PEEP = positive end expiratory pressure; insp = inspiratory; GCS = Glasgow coma scale; SBP = systolic blood pressure; SpO2 = cutaneous oxygen saturation (%); std = standard deviation.

Results

Model Calibration

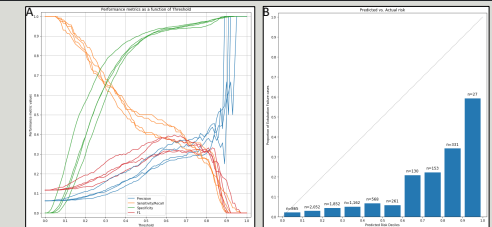


Figure 2. Model Calibration. A. Performance metrics for all cross-validations as a function of threshold. The harmonic mean of precision and recall peaks at a threshold value of approximately 0.65. B. Risk calibration plot. For each decile of extubation failure risk the proportion of actual extubation failures are shown.

Conclusions

Extubation failure occurred in 6% of this population and was more likely in patients who are **slightly younger** with a **lower BMI**.

The median **time to extubation failure was 17 hours**.

The **most predictive feature was standard deviation of set PEEP**.

Extrapolation of MV initiation and termination times from the electronic health record remains a challenge and more advanced heuristics and new approaches to documentation are required for accurate prediction.

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Future Directions

Develop a more advanced heuristic to determine MV status and include more features, such as comorbidities and volume status.