



## Prone Positioning of the Conscious Patient with COVID-19 infection

Addendum to Irish Thoracic Society Guideline for Managing Respiratory Care: SARS COVID-19 V1  
27.03.2020

COVID RESPIRATORY SCALE (CRS) A/B/C/D**
A: Nasal cannula $\leq$ 3L min
B: Nasal cannula $>$ 3 L min/ Venturi Mask 24-60%
C1: High Flow Nasal O <sub>2</sub> C2: NIV
D: ICU +/- Intubate

- In patients with COVID-19 infection **CRS scale B or C** who can communicate and cooperate, are able to rotate to front and adjust position independently and in whom no anticipated airway issues will arise **without contraindication** (1), consider a trial prone positioning.
- The Intensive Care Society Link below provides a discussion of the merits of prone positioning, a flow diagram decision tool for the conscious patient and a tabulated suggestion of timed position changes.

### Reference

1. <https://emcrit.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2020-04-12-Guidance-for-conscious-proning.pdf>