

From Around the Network

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BiPAP® AVAPS™ (Average Volume Assured Pressure Support) is a new bilevel ventilator from Respironics, Inc. that automatically adjusts the pressure support level to maintain a consistent tidal volume.

According to Elaine Lesnak, RRT, Home Respiratory Care Division at Respironics, "AVAPS combines the comfort and leak compensation of a pressure mode with the safety of a guaranteed volume."

Weighing only 4.2 pounds, BiPAP® AVAPS™ is simple to operate and has an integrated heated humidifier. BiPAP® AVAPS™ will eventually replace BiPAP® Synchrony™. www.respironics.com



The new AVAPS™ is highly recommended for people with neuromuscular conditions. According to Sairam Parthasarathy, MD, a sleep physician at the University of Arizona in Tucson, the advantages of AVAPS™ are:

- ◆ guaranteed ventilatory support during progressive respiratory changes,
- ◆ guaranteed ventilatory support during positional changes during sleep,
- ◆ assurance of tidal volume, and
- ◆ alarms that indicate that the tidal volume is not being met.

Respironics, Inc. has been acquired by **Royal Phillips Electronics** in a deal expected to be completed early in 2008. Respironics will become the headquarters for Phillips Home Healthcare Solutions group within Phillips Healthcare. The senior operating leadership of Respironics is expected to remain to continue to lead and manage the business.

Noninvasive assisted breathing on TV. Josh Benditt, MD, and Louie Boitano, RRT, of the Northwest Assisted Breathing Center at the University of Washington in Seattle, discuss noninvasive breathing options, equipment and set up of "sip" ventilation for people with neuromuscular conditions. One of their patients who has Duchenne muscular dystrophy is featured using the sip technique. Go to www.uwtv.org/programs, click on "Program Library," then click on "Programs by Title," scroll down to "Non-invasive Assisted Breathing," and click again. The program is 27 minutes.



Beyond Sticks and Stones: How to Help Your Child with a Disability Deal with Bullying

More than 160,000 children, many with disabilities, miss school each day to avoid harassment and intimidation by classmates. This book assists parents in helping their child address the problem of bullying. To order send \$6 (USD only) to PACER Center, 8161 Normandale Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55437-1044. ▲