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Treatment of refractory sleep apnea with supplemental carbon dioxide

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Sleep apnea syndrome is a relatively common disorder characterized by periodic cessation of breathing during **sleep** because of upper airway obstruction (obstructive **sleep** apnea) or by reduction of ventilatory drive (central **sleep** apnea). We report the case of a middle-aged, obese man who underwent tracheostomy for the **treatment of** obstructive **sleep** apnea documented by polysomnography. Although tracheostomy resulted in marked clinical improvement, relief of upper airway obstruction unmasked severe central **sleep** apnea. We report the successful **treatment of** this patient's central **sleep** apnea syndrome with the use of supplemental CO₂ therapy.

This article has been cited by other articles:

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- HUDGEL, D. W., THANAKITCHARU, S. (1998). Pharmacologic **Treatment of Sleep**-disordered Breathing. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 158: 691-699 [[Abstract](#)] [[Full Text](#)]
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- CARLEY, D. W., RADULOVACKI, M. (1999). Mirtazapine, a Mixed-Profile Serotonin Agonist/Antagonist, Suppresses **Sleep** Apnea in the Rat. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 160: 1824-1829 [[Abstract](#)] [[Full Text](#)]

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