**Atelectasis in General Anaesthesia**

Atelectasis is a common condition occurring during general anaesthesia. It can lead to intraoperative and postoperative pulmonary complications with impact on morbidity and mortality.

**Lung recruitment**

**Indications:**
- Atelectasis resulting in hypoxemia
- Requirement of ventilation
- Obesity
- Ventilation with high PIPs
- Endotracheal suction
- Tube disconnection

**Contraindications:**
- Lung emphysema
- Hypotension
- Right heart failure
- Increased brain pressure

**Lung recruitment maneuvers**

**One-Step recruitment** (sustained inflation)

**Multi-Step recruitment** (Incremental recruitment)

**Effects of recruitment maneuvers**

- Improvement of ventilation & oxygenation
- Increase of functional residual capacity (FRC)
- Increase in lung compliance
- Reduction in work of breathing
- Reduction of right-to-left shunt

**The future of PEEP**

- One PEEP fits all?
- Patient-specific PEEP?

*Moderate to low PEEPs of 2-5 cmH₂O?*