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Sponsored by Regional Health Authority A & ACCES

Webinar Date: 2009-10-07

Hemodynamic monitoring is a corner stone in critical care. Traditionally, hemodynamic monitoring is carried through a pulmonary artery catheter commonly known as Swan Ganz catheter and cardiac output is obtained by thermodilution. This technology, besides being quite invasive, displays mostly snapshots of hemodynamic monitoring. Since the last decade technology has evolved toward a less invasive approach and a real time display of hemodynamic functions.

This presentation will describe two new technologies: transpulmonary thermodilution and arterial waveform contour analysis. An emphasis will be made on a technology that is drawing attention lately, the Vigileo technology from Edwards