Acute lung injury

This issue of *AJP–Lung Cellular and Molecular Physiology* features a focus on articles that were submitted as a part of a call for papers on acute lung injury. Considerable progress has been made in the last two decades to understand potential treatment modalities for acute lung injury. However, much still needs to be learned about the basic mechanisms that initiate and propagate clinical lung injury. Also, there is a major need for more human-based studies. In this call for papers, three of the articles are focused on human studies, whereas two of the articles use experimental models of acute lung injury. We are delighted that Dr. Polly Parsons was willing to write a critical commentary about these articles. We look forward to ongoing progress in this field with *AJP–Lung Cellular and Molecular Physiology* playing an important role in publishing both translational and experimental studies that provide new insights into the pathogenesis of and potential new treatments for patients with acute lung injury.

Michael A. Matthay, Associate Editor
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