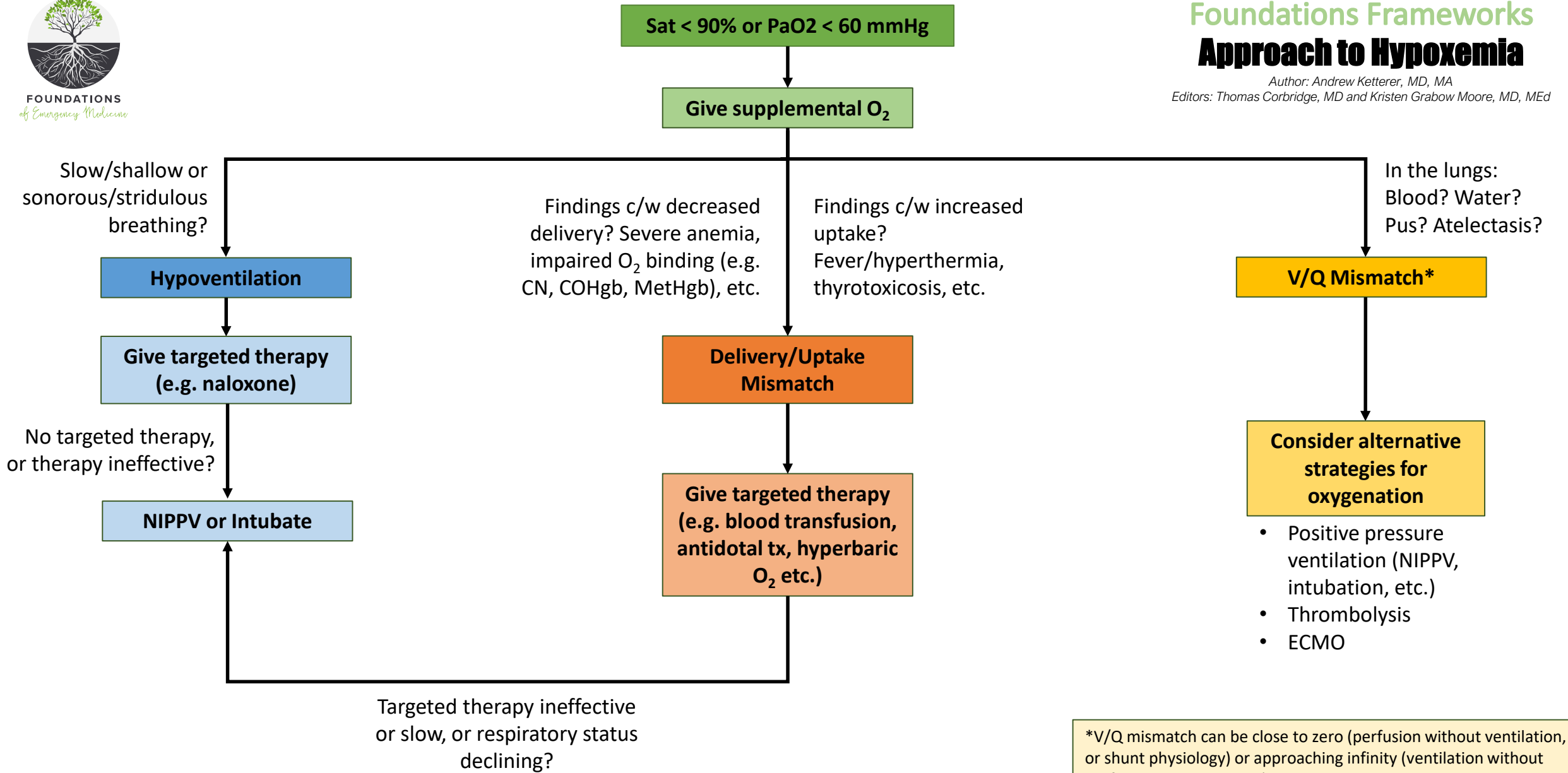




Foundations Frameworks

Approach to Hypoxemia

Author: Andrew Ketterer, MD, MA
Editors: Thomas Corbridge, MD and Kristen Grabow Moore, MD, MEd



*V/Q mismatch can be close to zero (perfusion without ventilation, or shunt physiology) or approaching infinity (ventilation without perfusion, or dead space). Patients rarely have pure shunt or dead space physiology, so supplemental O₂ can be helpful in many cases. Be wary of treating only the SaO₂, however, as toxic oxygen metabolites produced by hyperoxygenation can impair recovery.