Baxter

UMC HEALTH SYSTEM IMPLEMENTS A HIGH LEVEL OF OLE THERAPY WITH THE **VOLARA** SYSTEM

It's no secret that each patient is unique, regardless of their condition or how they present. Comorbidities, age, ability to tolerate medication or therapy— every case has to be evaluated on its own. Having the technology to provide therapy that works for patients and therapists is crucial to achieving desired outcomes and adding value to how a hospital provides care.

HIGHLIGHTS

FACILITY
University Medical Center
Health System
Lubbock, TX

PROFILE
- 500-bed teaching hospital serving a 500-mile radius
- Level 1 trauma center
- Level 4 NICU
- Burn ICU

PARTNER
Anthony Trantham
Respiratory Director

REPORTED IMPACT
- Due to precise therapy delivery staff noticed **Volara** System therapy was well tolerated
- Staff adoption and utilization
- Increased versatility for treating more patients
- Improved time efficiency of Respiratory Therapists

OVERVIEW

As a large teaching hospital serving a large area, University Medical Center (UMC Health System) in Lubbock, Texas, has a technology-forward focus. However, it's never just about technology for the sake of it, but how easy it is for therapists to use, how well a therapy can be tolerated by patients, and the value that adds to the organization. That's what UMC Health System discovered when they moved from the **MetaNeb** System to the **Volara** System to deliver Oscillation & Lung Expansion (OLE) Therapy.

Designed For Clinicians, Made For Patients

"The thing that makes the **Volara** System better is it gives you feedback and information so you can tweak things and make specific adjustments on the settings in real time," says Anthony Trantham, Respiratory Director of UMC Health System. "That's a big difference between the **Volara** and **MetaNeb** Systems."

Helping patients tolerate the therapy was a noticeable improvement as well. "I think the biggest 'Aha!' moment for us was patient compliance," says Anthony. "We would have patients that wouldn't always be able to tolerate the therapy with the **MetaNeb** System. Now, we can tweak these settings for each patient. With the precise higher pressure, the **Volara** System is able to deliver what we need," Anthony says.

> "When you can get patients comfortable and they can tolerate the therapy, obviously the outcomes are going to be better."

HELPING BURN PATIENTS BREATHE EASIER

While the **Volara** System is being used throughout the hospital, Anthony notes one area in particular. "We're using it post-op, we're using it on patients with traumas. We're getting the most positive feedback out of our burn unit," he says. "When we have patients with significant inhalation injuries, they're the ones that seem to benefit the most, so we've incorporated that with our protocols in there. We'll start them with secretion clearance, we'll use the **Volara** System to deliver the heparin. When they come off the ventilator, we're able to continue the therapy. And those patients do well, it helps with their atelectasis."

> Anthony states,
> "Overall for our inhalation injuries, almost every one of them are getting this therapy, and it's become standard practice."

Staff Adoption

UMC Health System is also finding that the respiratory staff quickly adopted the **Volara** System. "They're not getting as much pushback from patients," Anthony says. "Our staff feedback has been fantastic. The fact that it's portable really helps. We can take it to almost any unit in the hospital, and sometimes the same unit will follow the patient from the Emergency Center through the burn unit, take them to the step-down unit, and the **Volara** System will just follow them until they're discharged."

Therapy Versatility

Anthony and his team appreciate the versatility the **Volara** System provides in terms of therapy delivery. "One of the nice features is if you have a patient on a ventilator, maybe at night and then during the day they're on a trach collar, you can program those settings depending on which mode they're on. It's a time-saver for the clinician, but more importantly, you know you can offer different therapies with the same device based on what you know your patient needs."

UMC Health System is also using the **Volara** System in the Pediatric Unit. "We've had pediatric patients in the patient room but not even in their bed, or they're in a little activity area or the playroom, and we're able to provide the therapy in there with the **Volara** System," says Anthony.

AN EASY TRANSITION

For Anthony and his team, incorporating the new **Volara** System was a matter of being prepared. "Before we even got the units, our Baxter representative came out and provided education and training, as well as a clinical expert to work with our clinical educators. Our staff felt like they had a good understanding of it," he says. "Then they had the opportunity to interact with the equipment, use the interface, ask questions. And the day we received our **Volara** units, we were using them on patients right away."

Adding Value

A therapy or technology must be designed for both patients and clinicians. Ultimately, that's what adds value to an organization providing care. "I don't just want to buy equipment, I want to have a partnership with the product we're using," Anthony says. "One big push in the respiratory world right now is value-added services — is the work we're doing adding value? Respiratory therapists are hard to come by. We need to make sure we're utilizing their time efficiently. If it's not adding value to the patient or organization or the clinician at the bedside, there's no reason to even look at the product. And I feel we get all that with the **Volara** System. The ease of use, the patient compliance, those are all time-savers, so that's very helpful in the big picture."

The **Volara** System is helping decrease ventilator days and decrease length of stay in the hospital.

— ANTHONY TRANTHAM
RESPIRATORY DIRECTOR

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A HIGHER LEVEL OF OLE THERAPY

Patient compliance, clinician adoption, therapy delivery — all have to work as seamlessly and efficiently as possible in order to deliver the best care while also delivering value. At UMC Health System, the **Volara** System is helping the respiratory team bring it all together.

For more information, contact your Baxter Sales Representative, call us at 1-800-426-4224 or email us at cfs_customer_service@baxter.com.