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# Acute hypoxaemic respiratory failure in immunocompromised patients: abandon bronchoscopy or make it better?

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**The decision-making process regarding whether to perform bronchoscopy in acute respiratory failure in immunosuppressed patients is complex and does not depend solely on severity** <http://bit.ly/2O9cjcq>

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## *From the authors:*

In their letter to the Editor, M.S. Zinter and G-S. Cheng raise concerns about the conclusion of our study that immunocompromised patients with acute hypoxaemic respiratory failure who undergo fiberoptic bronchoscopy have inferior survival relative to those who do not undergo fiberoptic bronchoscopy. They offer an alternative explanation to our findings by emphasising the role of the time-varying nature of the bronchoscopy as well as the time-varying nature of other covariates, including illness severity leading up to bronchoscopy, when performing the propensity score matching.