

Table 1: Demographic characteristics of the 108 consecutive ICU adult patients under mechanical ventilation that were included in the study over a period of two years (2013-2015).

Sex	n	Percent
Male	81	75
Female	27	25
PFO detection by TEE		
No	78	72.2
Yes	30	27.8
Age		
Mean	57.2	
Standard Deviation	17.89	
Minimum	17	
Maximum	87	

n: number of patients, ICU: Intensive Care Unit, n: number, PFO: patent foramen ovale, TEE: transesophageal echo.