Background and Aims Severe respiratory disease presents a challenge for anaesthesia in shoulder surgery. Awake surgery under interscalene block may be considered. However, the reduction in FEV1 and FVC due to phrenic nerve palsy may be prohibitive. Numerous techniques have been described as phrenic nerve sparing for shoulder anaesthesia. However, there is limited published data regarding effectiveness in anaesthesia for awake shoulder and clavicular surgery.

Methods We describe a case of a 64-year-old male undergoing brachial plexus exploration with open reduction and internal fixation for clavicle non-union. Following an injury 10 months previously, he presented with medial cord symptoms; sensory deficit predominately in the ulnar nerve distribution and hand weakness. Significant comorbidities included severe COPD with a FEV1 <27%.

A low volume phrenic nerve sparing interscalene block with superficial cervical plexus block (5 ml of 0.5% Bupivacaine with Adrenaline for each) was performed under ultrasound guidance. The skin and subcutaneous layers were infiltrated with 10 ml of 1% Xylocaine with Adrenaline as a field block.

Results Using a direct approach to the clavicle, the non-union was excised and fracture ends debrided. The inferior perios- teum was carefully elevated off the clavicle to protect the bra- chial plexus. There was an intraoperative improvement in ulnar nerve symptoms observed when the lateral clavicle was reduced. There was no evidence of clinically significant phrenic nerve involvement; oxygen saturations were stable and the patient remained comfortable with no respiratory symptoms.

Conclusions Low volume regional anaesthetic techniques can facilitate awake shoulder and clavicular surgery without clinically significant phrenic nerve involvement in selected patients.

Background and Aims Regional anesthesia, which includes peripheral nerve blocks, contributes to a multimodal analgesic approach. Iliac fascia block is an alternative or complementary analgesic technique for knee, thigh and hip surgery.

Methods 93-year-old man, ASA IV, with history of hypocoa-gulated atrial fibrillation, NYHA Class III heart failure, benign prostatic hypertrophy, hypertension, diabetes, demen- tia and dyslipidemia scheduled for femoral intramedullary nailing.

Given the patient’s comorbidities and general condition, with his possible intolerance to the hemodynamic rebound produced by general or spinal anesthesia, the team decided to resort to iliac fascia block as an anesthetic technique.

Caregiver’s consent to anesthesia was obtained.

To perform the block, a suprainguinal ecoguided approach was used. A linear probe was placed immediately below the antero-superior iliac spine (ASIS). The ASIS was identified and the probe placed transversely and rotated towards the umbilicus. An out of plane technique and a 50 mm needle were used and 20 ml of 1.5% mepivacaine and 20 mL of 0.375% ropivacaine were injected into the fascial ilia.

The block was tested after 40’, with loss of sensitivity and muscle strength in the area of the LCFN and FN. The sur- gery began 50’ after the block. 15’ and 25’ into surgery, 30 mg and 70 mg of propofol were administered, respectively, due to patient agitation.

Results The surgery lasted 60’ and there were no complica- tions or episodes of hemodynamic instability.

Conclusions The anesthetic approach used may be another option in hemodynamically unstable patients in which the most common anesthetic techniques incur an important hemodynamic rebound.