What is Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome?

<table>
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| • Progressive *dyspnea* with worsening *hypoxemia* and *bilateral infiltrates* on chest image within 6 hours to 7 days of inciting event | • Alveolar injury → excess fluid in the interstitium and alveoli → impaired gas exchange, decreased lung compliance, and increased pulmonary arterial pressure | History and Physical  
• Identify inciting event  
Imaging  
• CT chest/chest X-ray with bilateral patchy infiltrates  
• Chest ultrasound with B-lines and consolidative pattern  
Testing  
• ABG to determine severity (PaO₂/FIO₂ ratio)  
• Exclude cardiac causes for pulmonary edema (ECG and ECHO) |

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