Table S1 Description of Patients, Interventions, Comparators, and Outcomes (PICO) targeted by the systematic review.

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| Questions | Description |
| Patient | Mechanically ventilated, adult patients with ARDS |
| Intervention | Higher PEEP |
| Comparators | Lower PEEP |
| Outcome | Primary outcome: mortality(28d, ICU,hospital)  Secondary outcome: barotrauma |