CLAIMS:

1. An exhalation port (100) for noninvasive ventilation therapy comprising:

an elongate body (101), said elongate body being hollow and defining a lumen (105) to carry a flow of gases,

a center portion (104);

a plurality of holes (114) arranged on a portion of the elongate body (101), the holes (114) configured to vent gases through the elongate body (101);

a shroud (116) extending from the elongate body (101), the shroud (116) surrounding one or more of the plurality of holes (114), the shroud (116) comprising a wall;

characterized in that a plurality of alternating recessed strips (125) and ridges (128) are provided on the wall of the shroud (116), the recessed strips (125) and the ridges (128) starting from the outer surface of the shroud (116) and extending toward the center portion (104);

wherein the exhalation port (100) is arranged to removably connect in-line with a circuit for delivering gases to a patient; and

wherein the shroud (116) has an outside surface (120), and wherein the outside surface (120) has either a 22 mm or a 15 mm taper configured to connect with a filter (170, 172).

2. The exhalation port of Claim 1, wherein the wall has four recessed strips (125) alternating with four ridges (128).

3. The exhalation port of Claim 2, wherein the recessed strips (125) are substantially equally spaced around a circumference of the shroud (116).

4. The exhalation port of anyone of Claims 1-3, wherein the plurality of recessed strips (125) and ridges (128) reach the centre portion (104) of the exhalation port.

5. The exhalation port of anyone of Claims 1-3, wherein the plurality of recessed strips (125) and ridges (128) stop between the outer surface (120) of the shroud (116) and the centre portion (104) of the exhalation port.

6. The exhalation port of anyone of Claims 1-5, wherein the shroud (116) extends outward from the elongate body (101).

7. The exhalation port of Claim 6, wherein the shroud (116) extends outward from the elongate body (101) in a substantially annular form.

8. The exhalation port of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of notches (118) are spaced equally around the outside surface of the shroud (116).

9. The exhalation port of Claim 8, wherein each of the plurality of notches (118) comprises a notch dimension and a spacing dimension, the notch dimension being substantially equal to or greater than the spacing dimension.

10. The exhalation port of Claim 8, wherein a centre line of the notches (118) and a centre line of the recessed strips (125) are coincident such that the notches (118) align with the recessed strips (125).

11. The exhalation port of claim 8, wherein a centre line of the spacing between the notches (118) and a centre line of the ridges (128) are coincident such that the notches (118) align with the ridges (128).

12. The exhalation port of anyone of Claims 1-11, wherein the elongate body (101) further comprises a first end (102), wherein the first end (102) of the elongate body (101) comprises a 22 mm male taper and a 15 mm female taper nested within the 22 mm taper.

13. The exhalation port of anyone of Claims 1-11, further comprising a pressure port (112) extending outward from the elongate body (101), the pressure port (112) configured to couple with a pressure sampling line that connects to a noninvasive ventilator.

14. A ventilation system, characterized in that it comprises an exhalation port (100) of any one of the proceeding claims and a filter (170,172) configured to be connectable to the exhalation port (100).

15. The system of claim 14, the filter (170,172) comprising a female taper connection configured to connect with the exhalation port (100) wherein, the connection between the female taper connection of the filter and the outer surface (120) of the exhalation port (100) is not airtight, and/or the filter (170,172) comprising a female taper connection is configured to connect with the exhalation port (100) wherein, an inner wall of the female taper connection of the filter (170,172) contacts an outer wall of the ridges (128) of the exhalation port (100) resulting in leak paths (126) being formed between the inner wall of the female connection of the filter (170,172) and an outer wall of the recessed strips (125).