Claims:

1. A patient simulator, in particular a premature baby, newborn or child simulator, comprising a simulated thorax, a lung simulator and a simulated anatomical trachea leading to the lung simulator, wherein the simulated thorax comprises a simulated chest including at least one liftable and lowerable chest element to simulate lifting and lowering of the chest, characterized in that the at least one liftable and lowerable chest element cooperates with a lifting and lowering mechanism actuatable independently of the lung simulator and the liftable and lowerable chest element is driven by a lifting and lowering mechanism being mechanically independent of the lung simulator, such that the lifting and lowering of the chest can be simulated independently of the current status of the lung simulator, wherein the drive of the liftable and lowerable chest element is preferably configured as pneumatic, hydraulic or electric drive.

2. A patient simulator according to claim 1, characterized in that at least one sensor for measuring the state of the lung simulator, in particular at least one pressure sensor for measuring the pressure in at least one cavity of the lung simulator, is provided, whose signals are fed to a control device for actuating the drive of the lifting and lowering mechanism of the simulated thorax in order to lift and lower the at least one liftable and lowerable chest element as a function of said signals, said pressure sensor being preferably arranged and configured to detect the respiratory pressure.

3. A patient simulator according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that at least one right liftable and lowerable chest element for the right hemithorax and at least one left liftable and lowerable chest element for the left

hemithorax are provided, which are designed to be liftable and lowerable separately from each other and each cooperate with a separate, actuatable lifting and lowering mechanism, the lifting and lowering mechanism for the right chest element and the lifting and lowering mechanism for the left chest element being actuatable independently of each other.

4. A patient simulator according to claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the lung simulator comprises at least one control element for adjusting the compliance and/or at least one control element for adjusting the resistance.

5. A patient simulator according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the lifting and lowering mechanism(s) is/are disposed in the simulated thorax, in particular below the at least one liftable and lowerable chest element.

6. A patient simulator according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the drive for the lifting and lowering mechanism(s) each comprises an electromotor drive unit preferably including an arm drivable for pivotal movement.

7. A patient simulator according to any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that a humidity sensor is provided in the simulated thorax, in particular in a simulated respiratory tract, preferably in the simulated trachea, which detects the injection of a fluid such as a surfactant preparation into the simulated respiratory tract and/or the lungs and which cooperates with the lung simulator in such a manner as to change the compliance and/or resistance values of the lung simulator upon detection of a fluid.

8. A patient simulator according to claim 7, characterized in that the humidity sensor is disposed on or in a fluid-adsorbing material, in particular a foamed material.

9. A patient simulator according to any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the at least one liftable and lowerable chest element comprises a plurality of simulated ribs, and the simulated thorax comprises a simulated skin covering the simulated ribs and being liftable and lowerable together with the at least one liftable and lowerable chest element, wherein a tension or pressure means such as at least one thread or a rod-shaped tension element, in particular an electromechanical tension or pressure means, contacting the simulated skin is fastened to the at least one liftable and lowerable chest element, and wherein the at least one liftable and lowerable chest element carries a drive element, in particular an electromotor, for shifting the tension means so as to cause an intercostal retraction of the simulated skin.

10. A patient simulator in particular a premature baby, newborn or child simulator, in particular according to any one of claims 1 to 9, comprising a lung simulator, a simulated thorax including a liftable and lowerable chest element driven by a lifting and lowering mechanism, and a simulated head cooperating with a tilting mechanism for changing the angle between the simulated head and the simulated thorax, wherein a control device is arranged to drive the tilting mechanism for periodic tilting movements of the simulated head, said period tilting movements being synchronized with the lifting and lowering movements of the chest element.

11. A patient simulator in particular a premature baby, newborn or child simulator, in particular according to any one of claims 1 to 9, comprising a lung simulator, a simulated thorax including a liftable and lowerable chest element driven by a lifting and lowering mechanism, and a simulated head cooperating with a tilting mechanism for changing the angle

between the simulated head and the simulated thorax, wherein a user interface and a monitor display for setting and displaying patient-specific biosignals and respiratory parameters are implemented on two, preferably wirelessly coupled systems.