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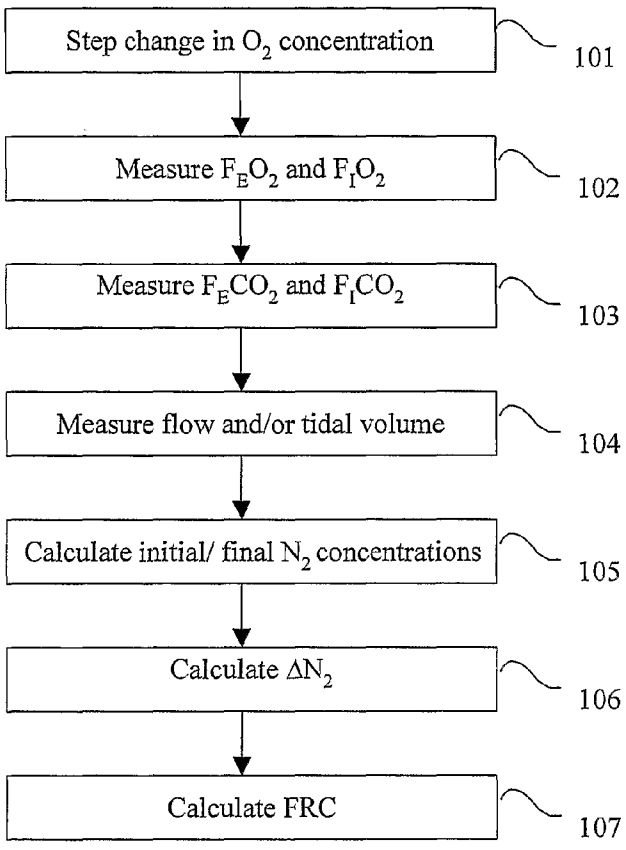
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(54) Title: LUNG VOLUME MONITORING METHOD AND DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A method for determining functional residual capacity (FRC) of a patient while ventilating the patient. The system may include a medical ventilator which provides inhalation and exhalation from the patient, a sensor which measures a fraction one or more gas components of the inhalation and a fraction of the same gas components of the exhalation. A step change of oxygen fraction is provided to the inhalation of the patient. Subsequent to the step change, The fractions of the gas components are measured in the inhalation and in the exhalation. The functional residual capacity of the lungs of the patient is measured based on the fraction of the gas components in the inhalation and in the exhalation. The step change is provided manually by a technician, or automatically by programming a programmable device to provide the step change automatically to the patient by the medical ventilator. The step change is either an increase or a decrease in of the oxygen fraction.

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