Pathogenic factors

- Colonisation of oropharynx and nasal sinuses
- Pooling of secretions above tracheal tube cuff
- Tracheal mucosal injury by tracheal tube
- Microaspiration of secretions past the cuff
- Biofilm formation inside the tracheal tube
- Colonisation of upper respiratory tract

Prevention strategies

- Tooth-brushing and chlorhexidine 2% wash
- Subglottic secretion drainage (SSD)
- New tube & cuff design + cuff pressure maintenance
- Coated tracheal tubes

VAP