ECMO refers to extracorporeal membrane oxygenation; one of the many synonyms of the relatively recent but definitely invasive lung support management system. The role of ECMO in pediatric intensive care has many implications. Whereas the obvious indication may be refractory hypoxemia yet inclusion and exclusion criteria may not be so obvious. Moreover, the high cost, dangerous complications, controversial study results and critically ill patients candidate for ECMO, gather all to make the latter a real dilemma.

This talk will attempt to answer questions concerning ECMO, including how and when to use ECMO as well as many other aspects concerning this challenging intriguing therapy.