



L'ÉVALUATION EN RÉANIMATION

Fonction musculaire respiratoire

Daniel Langer

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences



réanimation 2025

PARIS 11-13 JUIN

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LEUVEN

Respiratory muscle dysfunction in acute and chronic respiratory failure: how to diagnose and how to treat?

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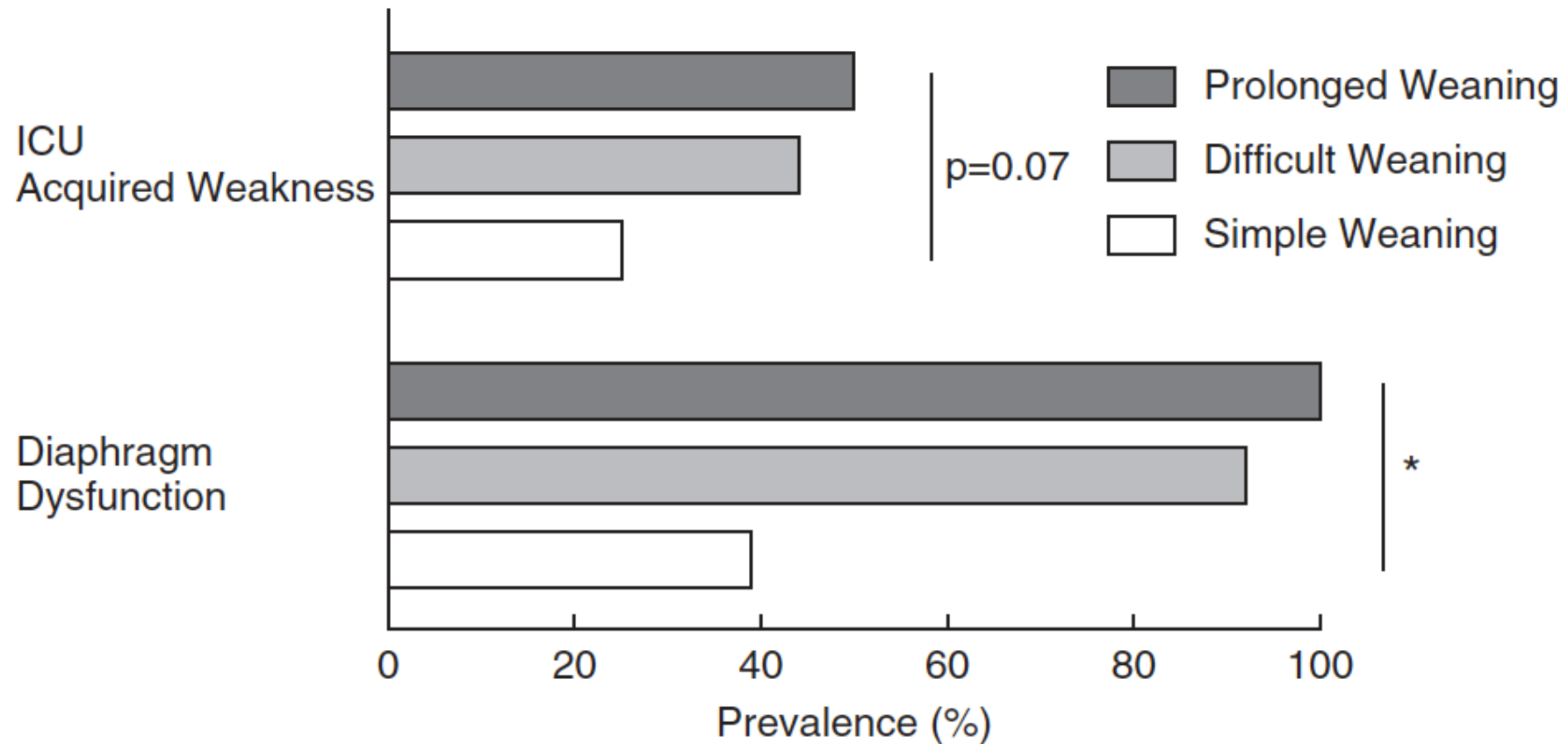
Shareable abstract (@ERSpublications)

Respiratory muscle dysfunction can be both a cause and consequence of respiratory failure. It is often reversible and should be diagnosed and treated. This review covers available assessment and treatment options in acute and chronic respiratory failure. <https://bit.ly/3XZBeVa>

Cite this article as: Poddighe D, Van Hollebeke M, Rodrigues A, *et al.* Respiratory muscle dysfunction in acute and chronic respiratory failure: how to diagnose and how to treat? *Eur Respir Rev* 2024; 33: 240150 [DOI: 10.1183/16000617.0150-2024].

Coexistence and Impact of Limb Muscle and Diaphragm Weakness at Time of Liberation from Mechanical Ventilation in Medical Intensive Care Unit Patients

Martin Dres^{1,2*}, Bruno-Pierre Dubé^{1,3*}, Julien Mayaux², Julie Delemazure², Danielle Reuter², Laurent Brochard^{4,5}, Thomas Similowski^{1,2}, and Alexandre Demoule^{1,2}

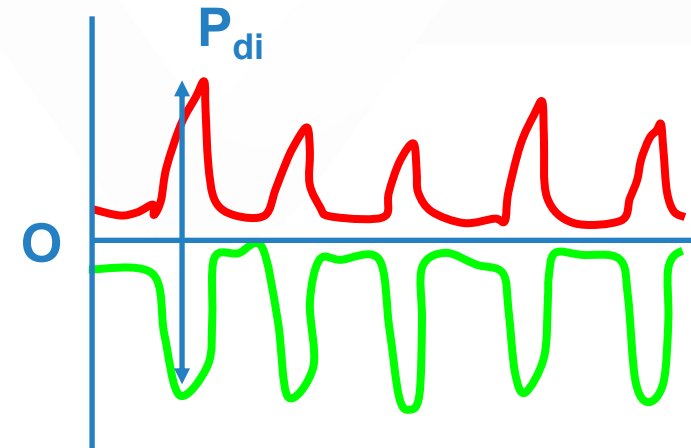
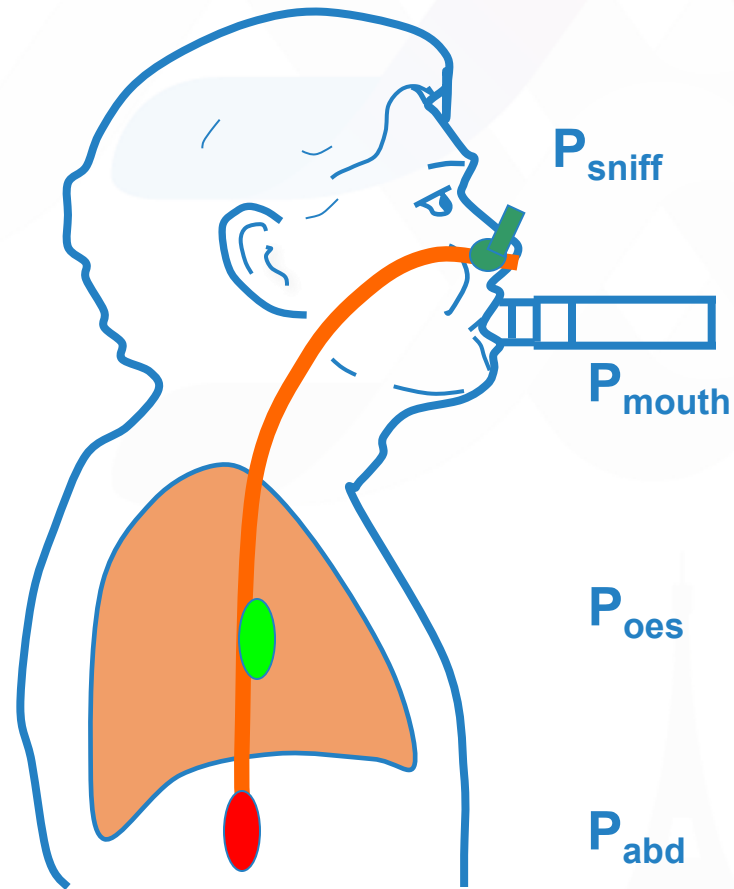


Dres et al. Am. J. Resp. Crit. Care Med. 2017

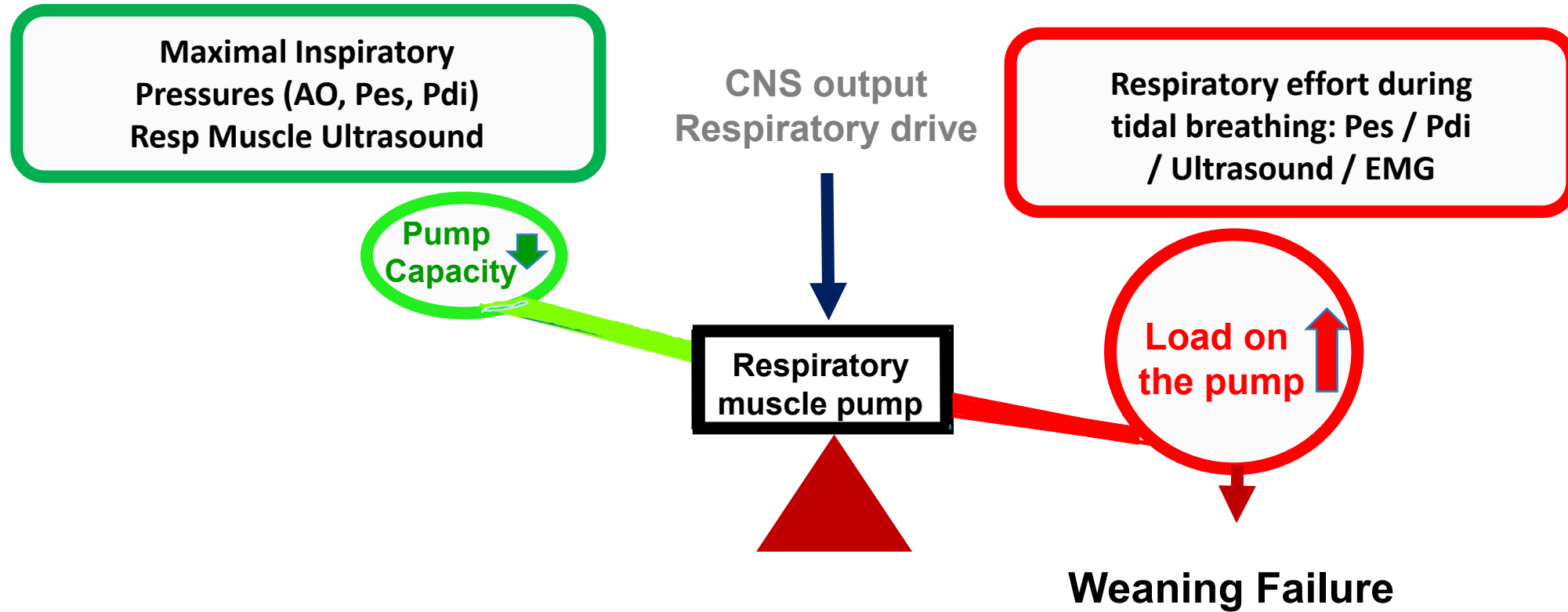
Techniques to measure respiratory muscle function



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DIFFICULT WEANING



Adapted from Moxham J.

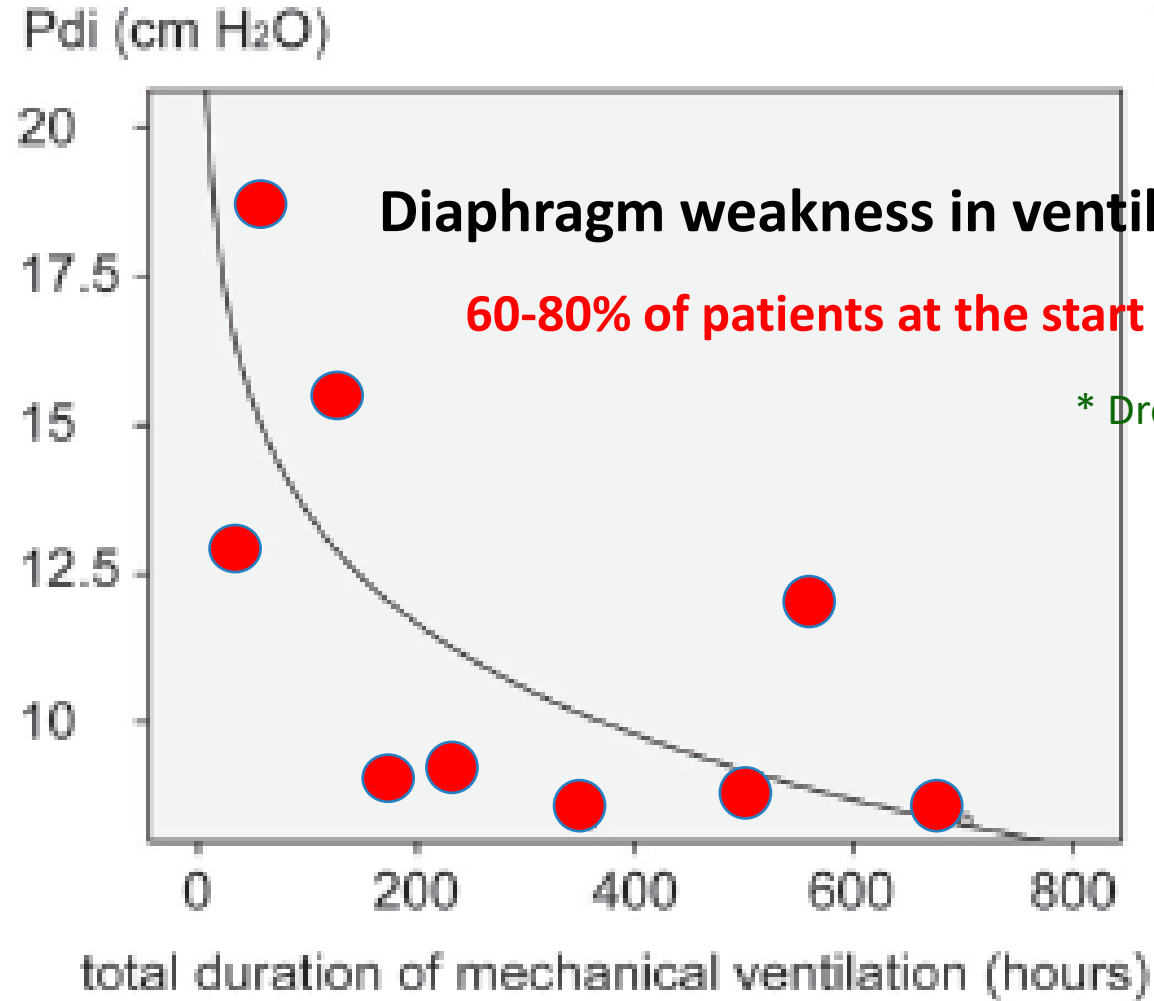
***RESPIRATORY MUSCLE STRENGTH ASSESSMENT:
MAGNETIC PHRENIC NERVE STIMULATION***

Polkey & Moxham.

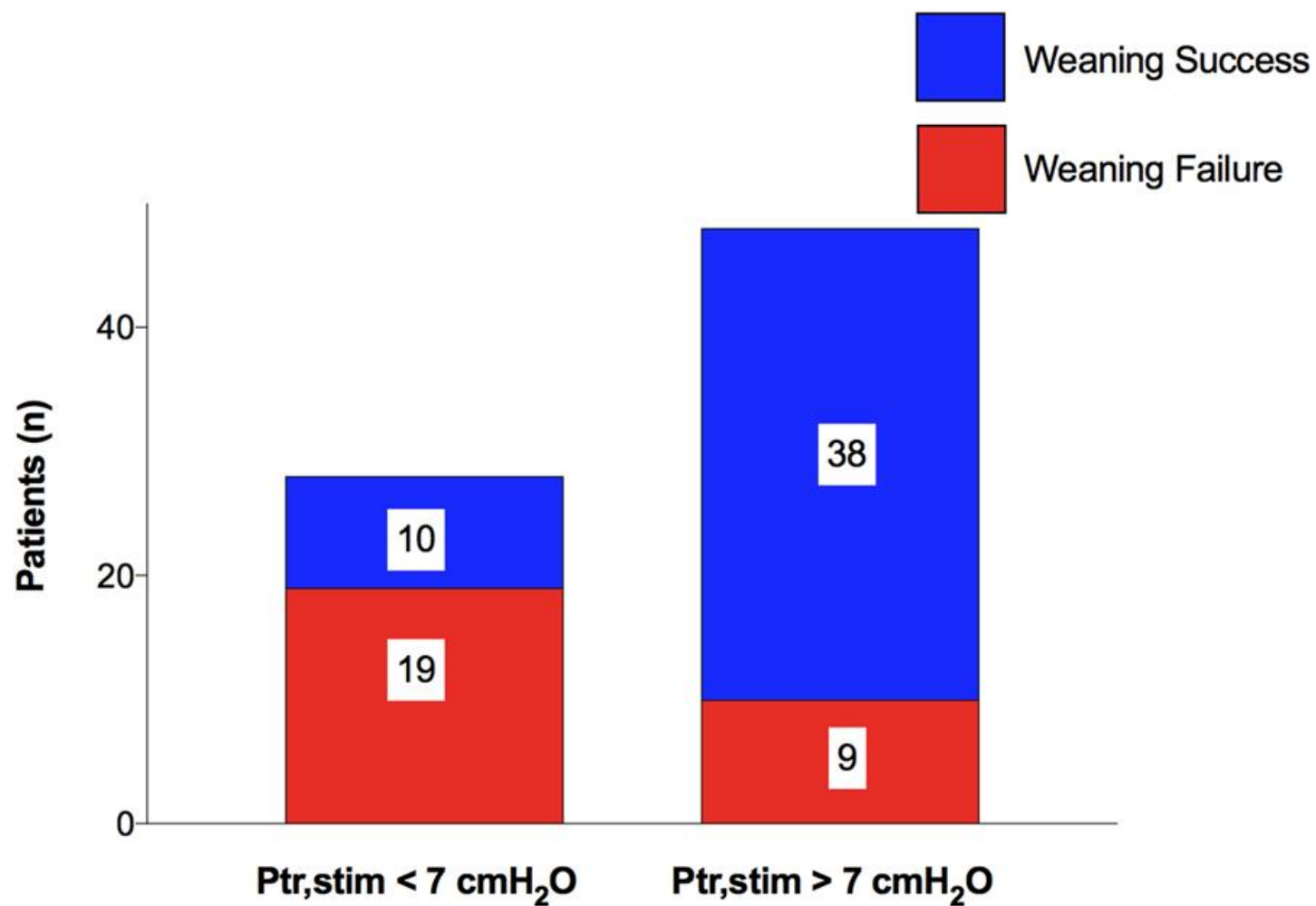
Chest 2001; 119:926-939.



TRANSDIAPHRAGMATIC TWITCH PRESSURE IN MECHANICALLY VENTILATED PATIENTS

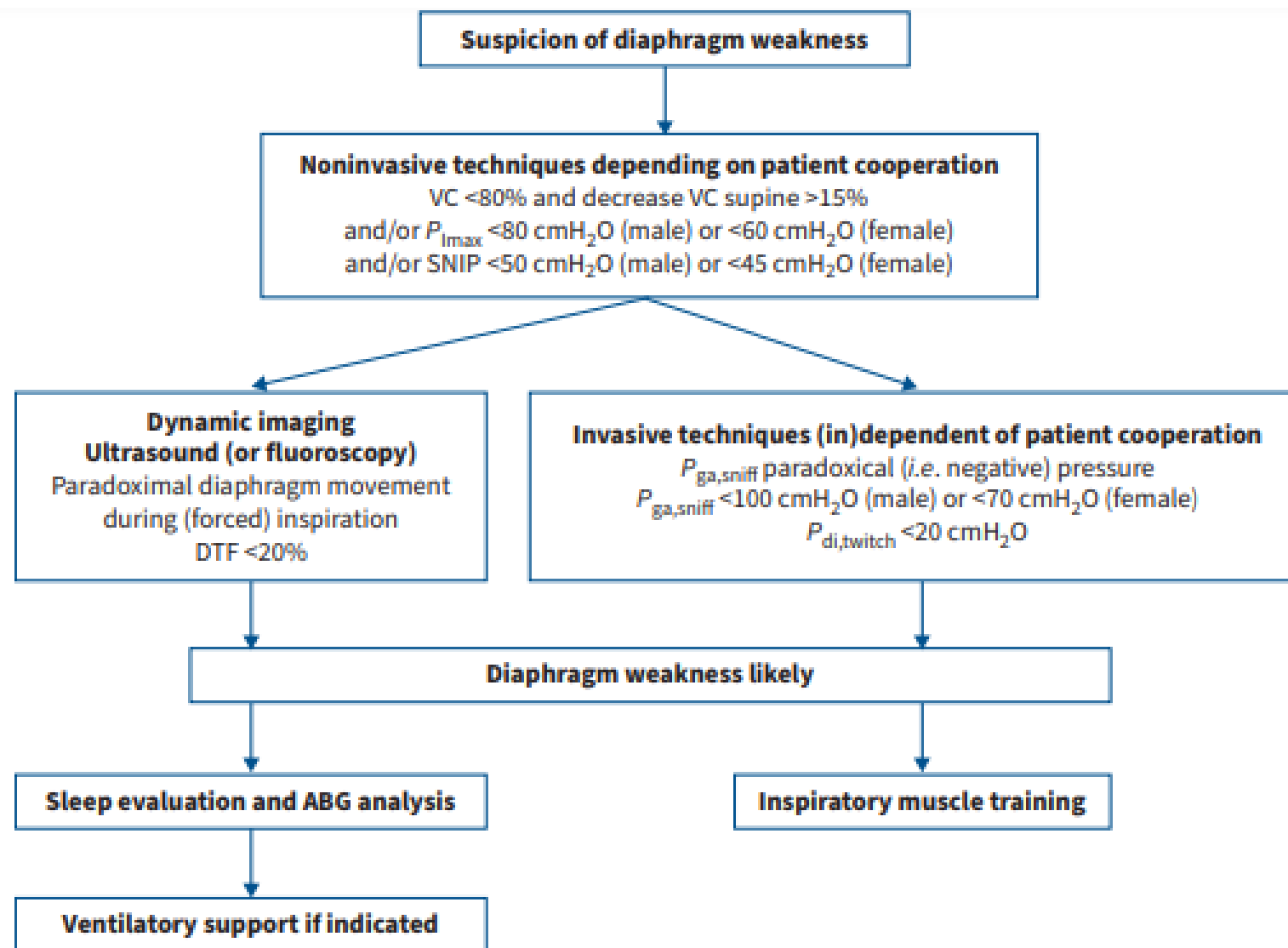


Hermans et al. Crit. Care 2010; 14: R127



Ptr: airway (trachea) opening pressure during phrenic nerve stimulation

Dres et al. Ann. of Int. Care 2018; 8:53.



Cite this article as: Poddighe D, Van Hollebeke M, Rodrigues A, et al. Respiratory muscle dysfunction in acute and chronic respiratory failure: how to diagnose and how to treat? *Eur Respir Rev* 2024; 33: 240150 [DOI: 10.1183/16000617.0150-2024].

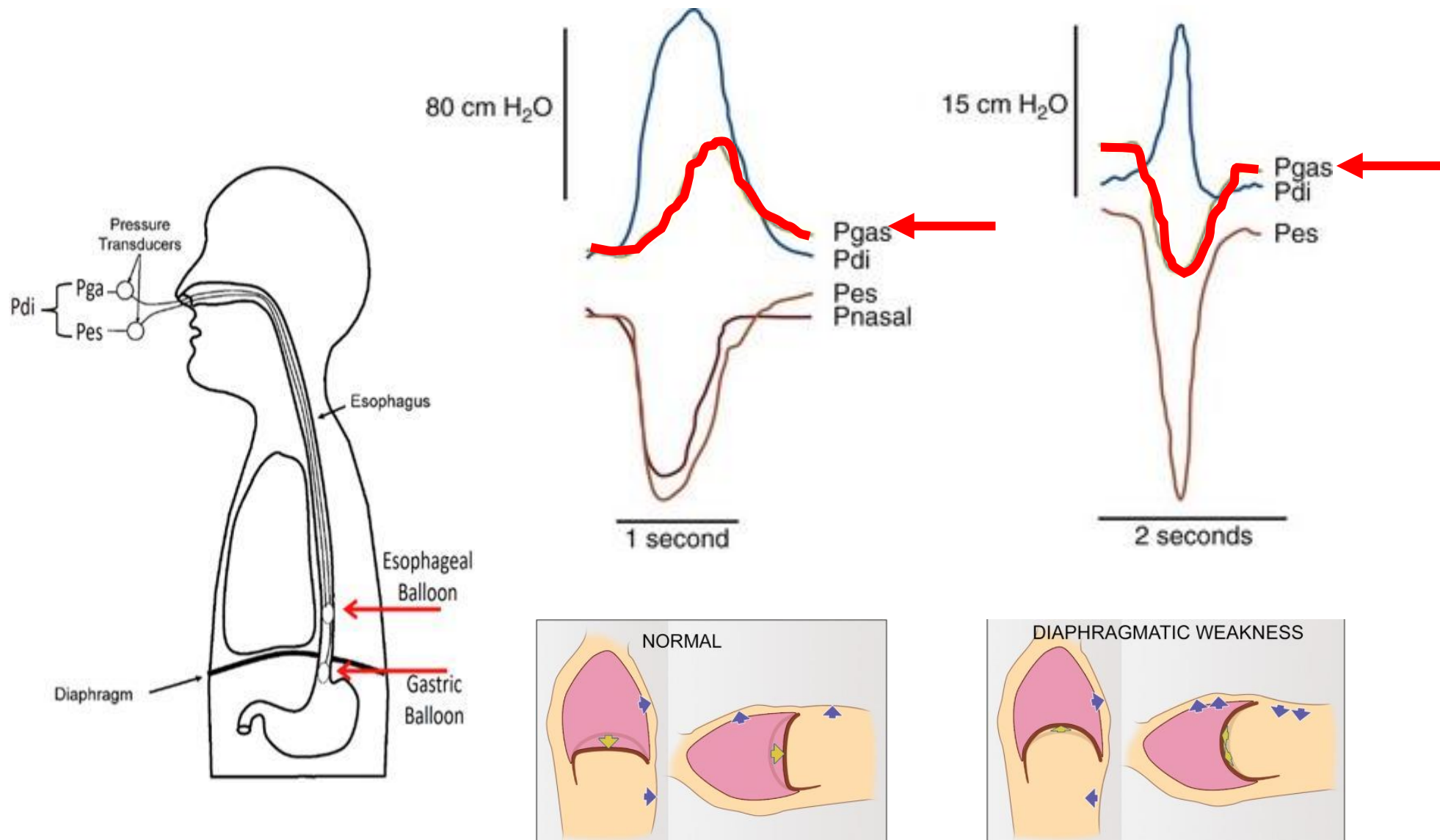




TABLE 1 Cut-off values for diagnosing weakness for each respiratory muscle test, test characteristics, practical applications and costs					
Test	Cut-off values for diagnosing weakness	Respiratory muscle group assessed	Level of invasiveness and difficulty	Practical applications	Cost
$P_{I\max}$	M: 80 cmH ₂ O F: 60 cmH ₂ O	Diaphragm and extradiaphragmatic inspiratory muscles	Not invasive Simple	Assessment of inspiratory muscle function before and after interventions aimed at unloading or improving respiratory muscle function Determination of the external load before starting inspiratory muscle training	Low
SNIP	M: 50 cmH ₂ O F: 45 cmH ₂ O	Diaphragm and extradiaphragmatic inspiratory muscles	Not invasive Simple	Assessment of inspiratory muscle function before and after interventions aimed at unloading or improving respiratory muscle function in patients unable to perform $P_{I\max}$ manoeuvre reliably	Low
$P_{E\max}$	M: 110 cmH ₂ O F: 80 cmH ₂ O	Expiratory muscles	Not invasive Simple	Assessment of expiratory muscle function before and after interventions aimed at unloading or improving respiratory muscle function	Low
PCF	M and F: 270 L·min ⁻¹	Expiratory muscles	Not invasive Simple	Estimation of airway clearance effectiveness in patients with NMDs Estimation of expiratory muscle function in patients with NMDs	Low
DTF	M and F: 20%	Diaphragm	Not invasive Medium	Evaluation of diaphragmatic function in the intensive care unit Confirmation or refinement of the diagnosis of (hemi-) diaphragmatic dysfunction Prediction of weaning outcomes in mechanically ventilated patients	Medium
$P_{es,uniff}$	M: 55 cmH ₂ O F: 50 cmH ₂ O	Diaphragm and extradiaphragmatic inspiratory muscles	Invasive Simple	Confirmation or refinement of the diagnosis of respiratory muscle weakness when noninvasive assessments provide equivocal results	Medium
$P_{di,uniff}$	M: 100 cmH ₂ O F: 70 cmH ₂ O	Diaphragm and extradiaphragmatic inspiratory muscles	Invasive Simple	Confirmation or refinement of the diagnosis of respiratory muscle weakness when non-invasive assessments provide equivocal results P_{ga}/P_{es} ratio can provide information about diaphragm function	Medium
$P_{di,twitch}$	M and F: 20 cmH ₂ O	Diaphragm	Invasive Complex	Confirmation or refinement of the diagnosis of diaphragmatic weakness Prediction of prolonged mechanical ventilation and mortality in the intensive care unit	High

Cite this article as: Poddighe D, Van Hollebeke M, Rodrigues A, *et al.* Respiratory muscle dysfunction in acute and chronic respiratory failure: how to diagnose and how to treat? *Eur Respir Rev* 2024; 33: 240150 [DOI: 10.1183/16000617.0150-2024].

Maximal respiratory pressure reference equations in healthy adults and cut-off points for defining respiratory muscle weakness

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Luz González-Doniz PhD MSc PT^{a 18 #} 

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⇒ Setting and cohort

14 geographically distributed centers
across Spain



- ✓ **Healthy** non-smokers
- ✓ Age 18-80 years old
- ✓ Stratified by sex and age groups



N=610

⇒ Methodology

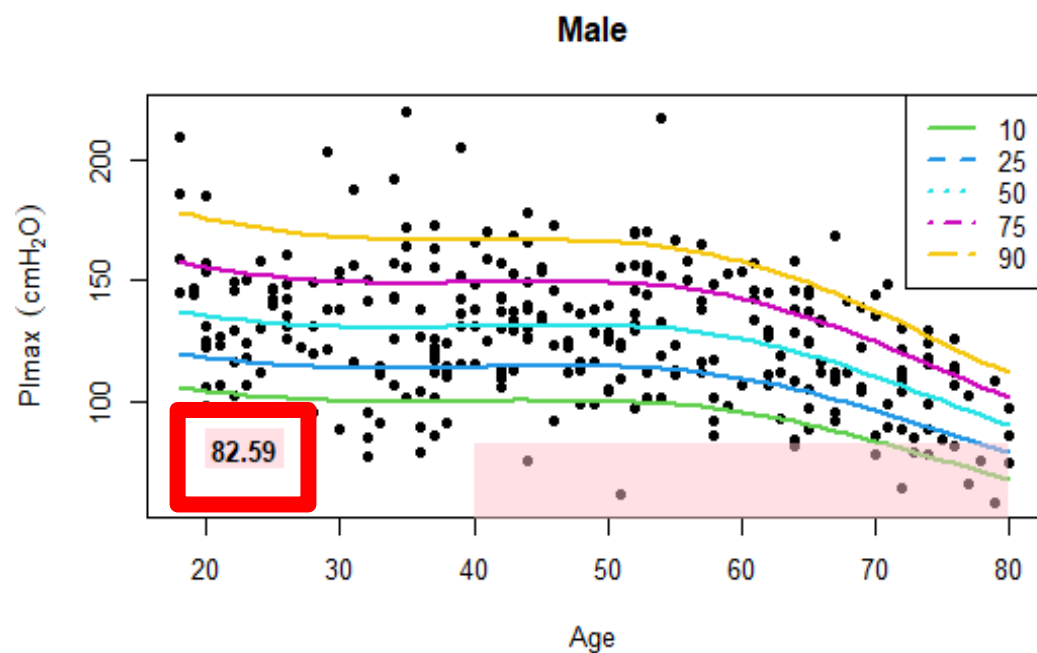
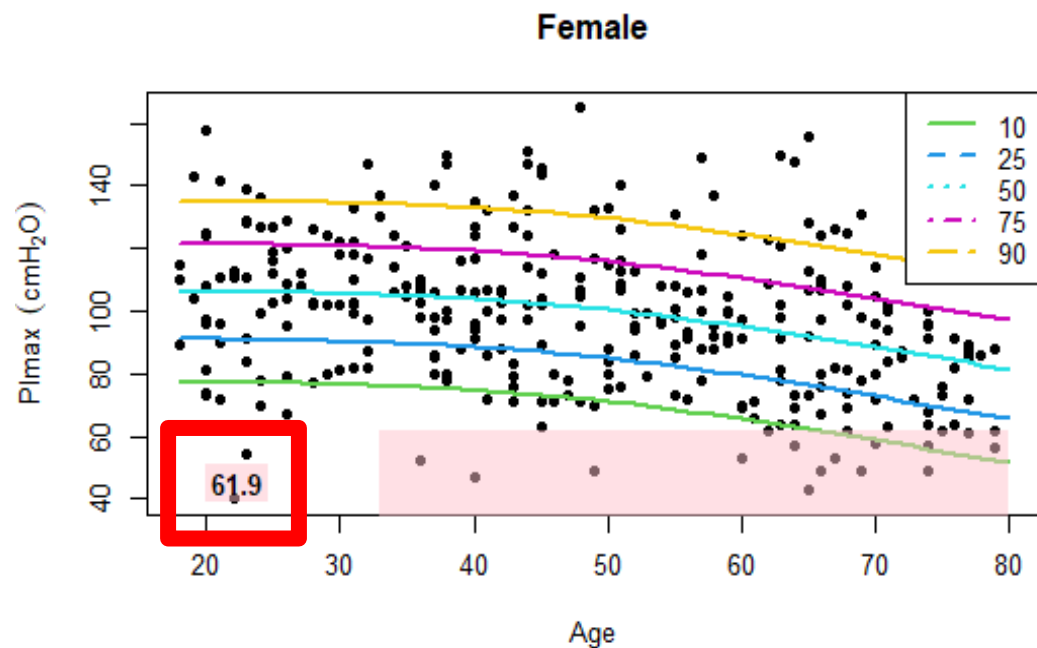
Measurements



PI_{max}/PE_{max}

**SEPAR protocol in agreement with
ATS/ERS guidelines**

- ✓ Flanged mouthpiece
- ✓ Pressures sustained 3-5 sec
- ✓ Min 6 acceptable manoeuvres, 3 of them with variability <5%



Results

Reference equations



$$P_{\text{Imax}} = 61.48 + 0.66 * \text{age} + 1.55 * \text{BMI} - 0.01 * \text{age}^2$$



$$P_{\text{Imax}} = 98.60 + 1.18 * \text{age} + 0.76 * \text{BMI} - 0.02 * \text{age}^2$$



$$P_{\text{Emax}} = 74.75 + 1.67 * \text{age} + 1.75 * \text{BMI} - 0.02 * \text{age}^2$$



$$P_{\text{Emax}} = 58.11 + 3.71 * \text{age} + 2.64 * \text{BMI} - 0.04 * \text{age}^2$$

Cut-offs

Inspiratory muscle weakness



62 cmH₂O



83 cmH₂O

Expiratory muscle weakness

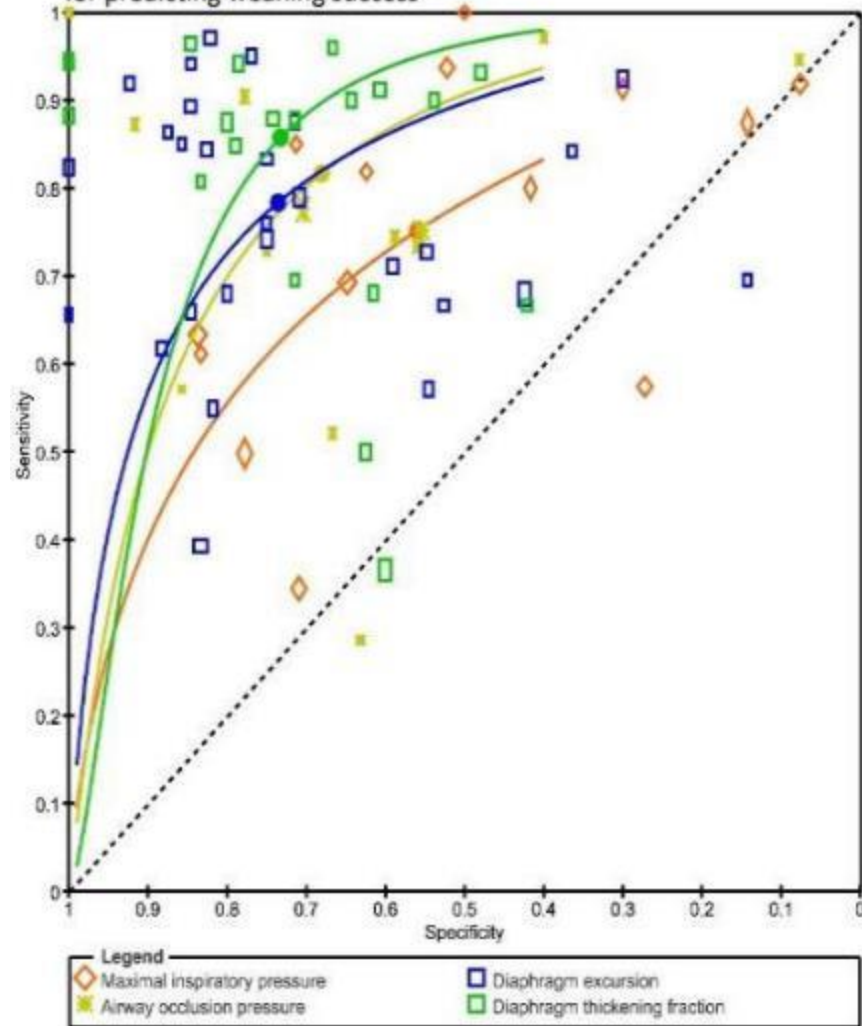


81 cmH₂O



109 cmH₂O

Figure 1. Summary receiver operating characteristic (SROC) curves for predicting weaning success



Poddighe et al. *Critical Care* (2024) 28:70
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13054-024-04823-4>

Critical Care

RESEARCH

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Accuracy of respiratory muscle assessments to predict weaning outcomes: a systematic review and comparative meta-analysis

Diego Poddighe^{1,2†}, Marine Van Hollebeke^{1,2†}, Yasir Qaiser Choudhary¹, Débora Ribeiro Campos³, Michele R. Schaeffer¹, Jan Y. Verbakel^{4,5}, Greet Hermans^{2,6}, Rik Gosselink^{1,2,7} and Daniel Langer^{1,2*}

Conclusions DTF and DE are superior to PImax and DTF seems to have the highest accuracy among all included respiratory muscle assessments for predicting weaning success. Further studies aiming at identifying the optimal threshold of DTF to predict weaning success are warranted.

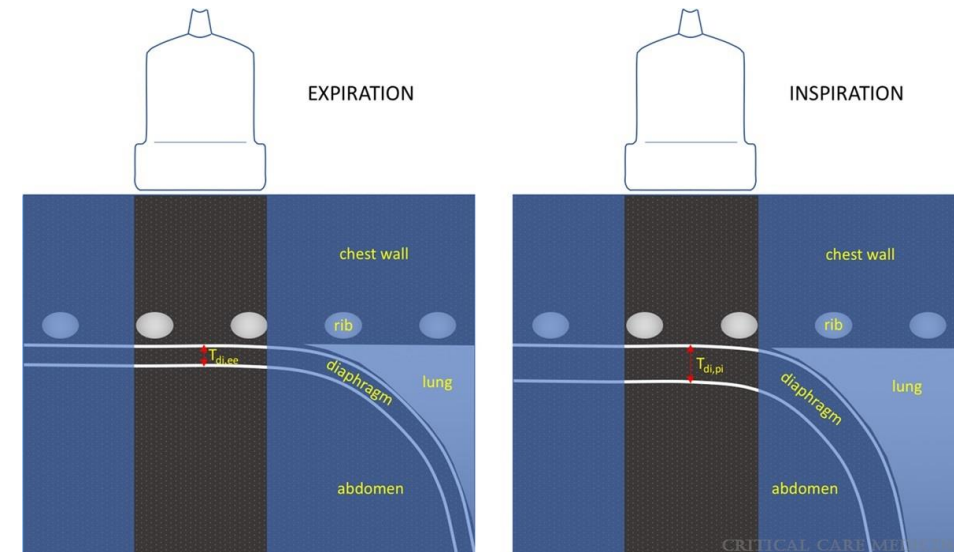
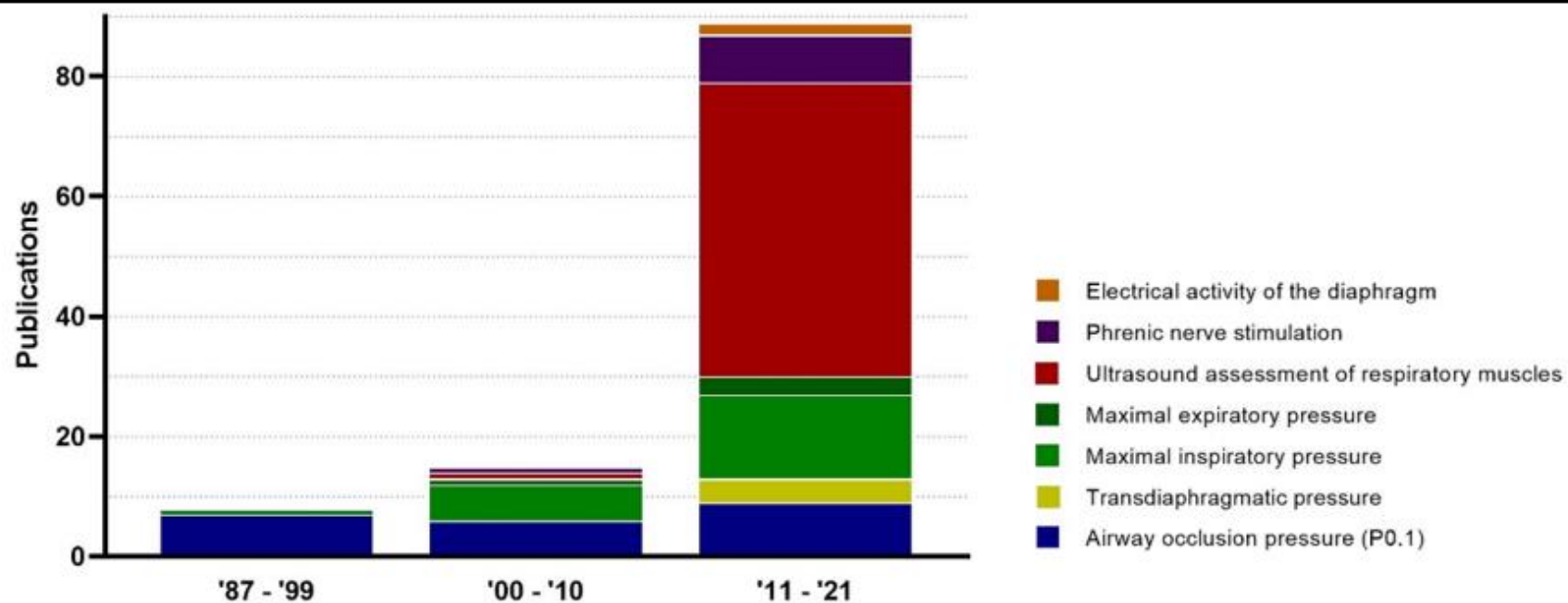


Figure 2: Published articles per assessment method over time

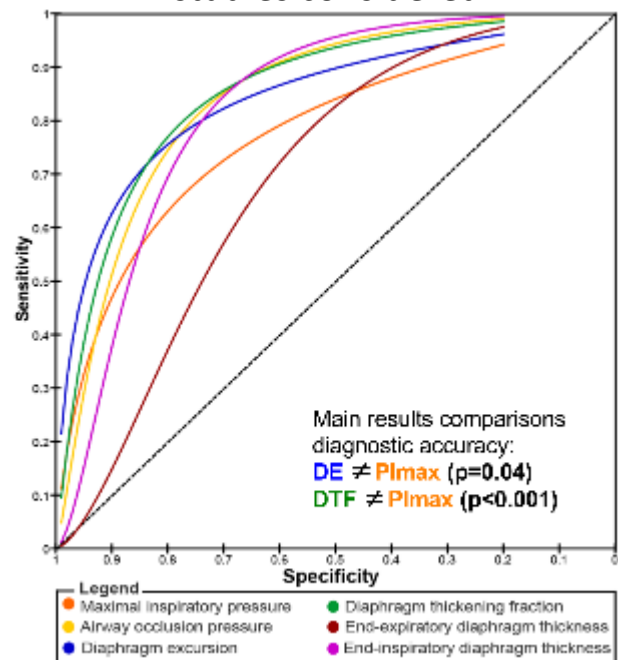


Investigated assessments of interest according to the decade of publication



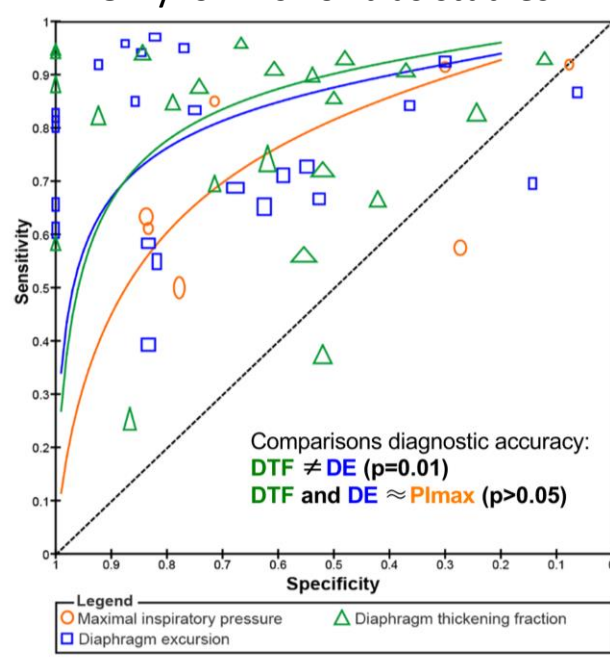
Results

All studies considered



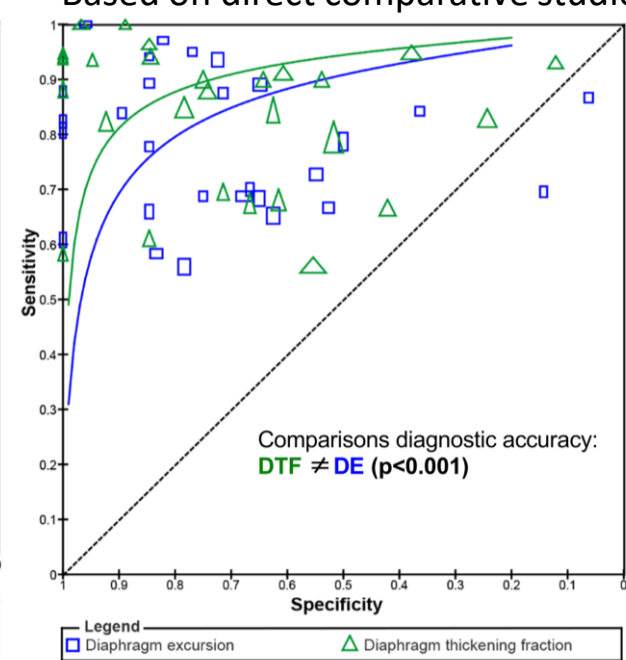
Assessment	Sensitivity at 80% specificity	95%CI
Pimax	63%	47-77%
DE	75%	67-82%
DTF	77%	61-87%
P0.1	74%	40-93%
TdI _{ei}	69%	13-97%
TdI _{es}	37%	13-70%

Only low risk of bias studies

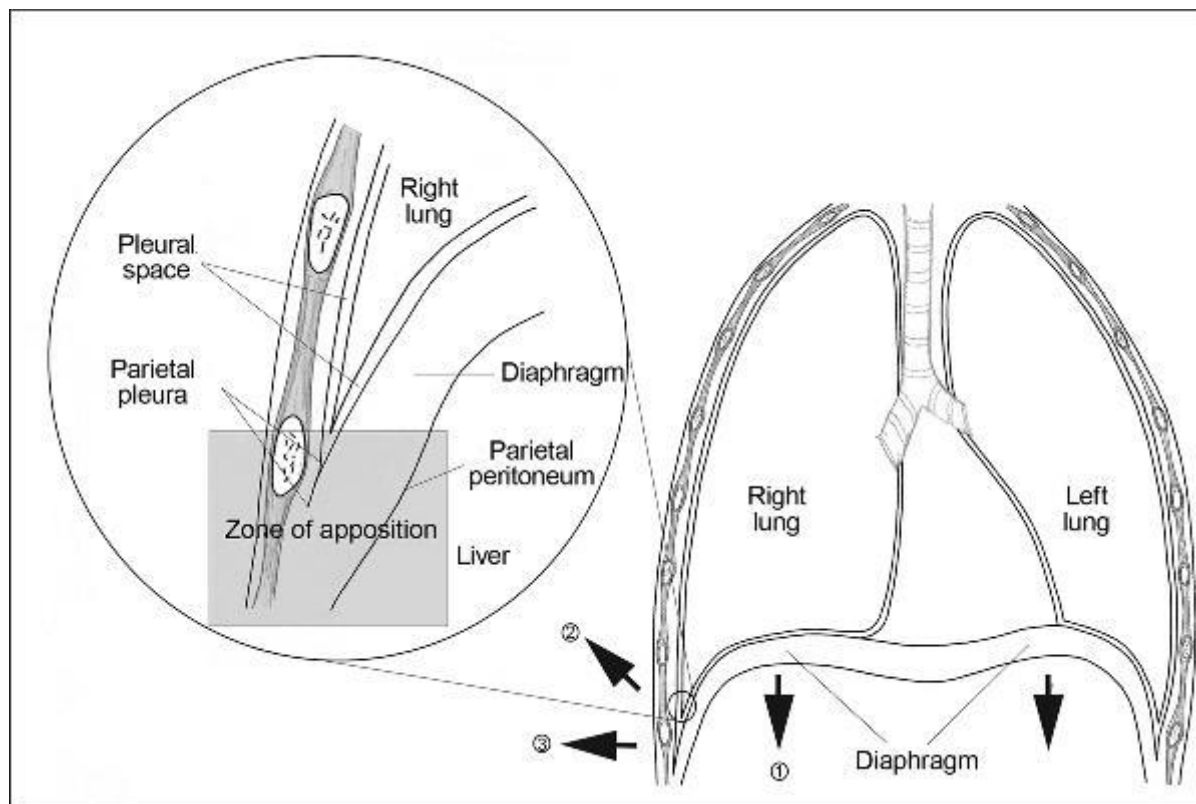
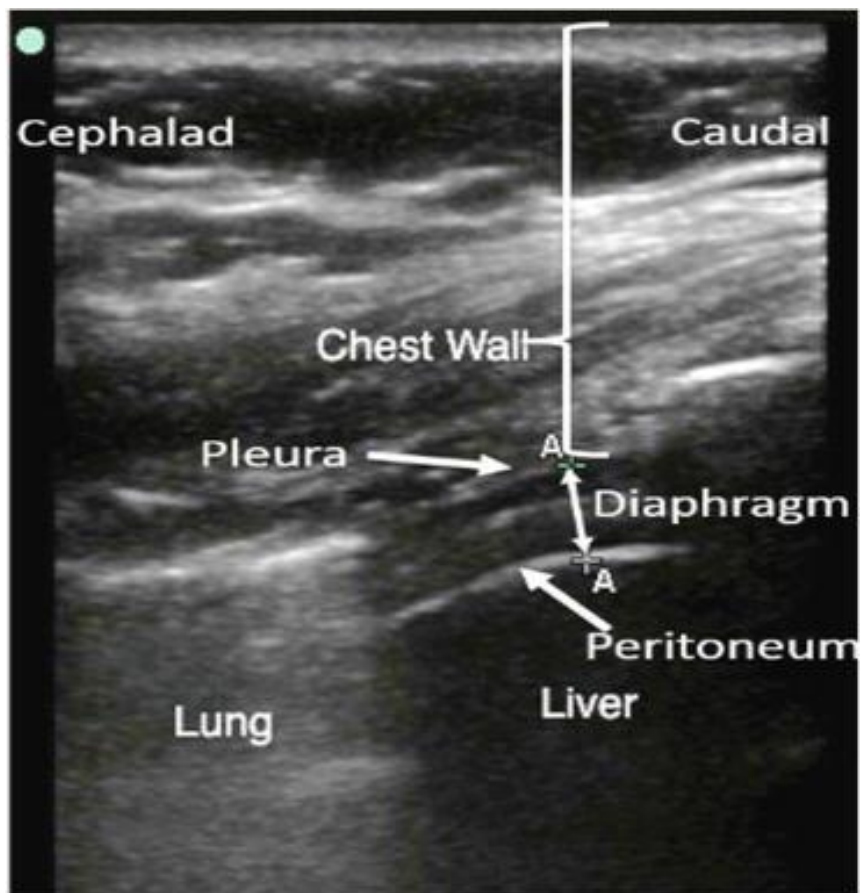


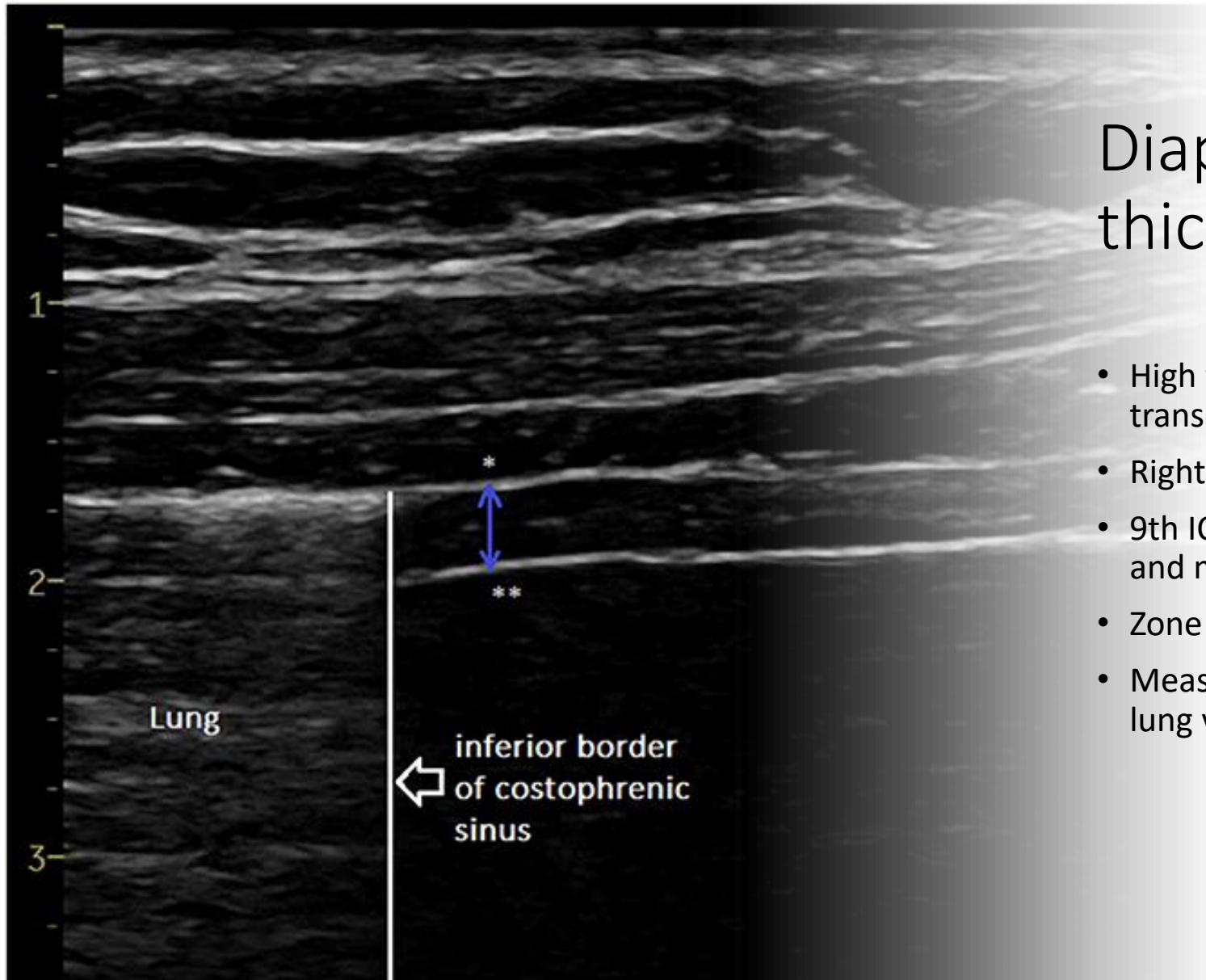
Assessment	Sensitivity at 80% specificity	95%CI
Pimax	61%	44-75%
DE	76%	64-85%
DTF	78%	63-88%

Based on direct comparative studies



Assessment	Sensitivity at 80% specificity	95%CI
DE	79%	68-87%
DTF	88%	78-93%





Diaphragm thickness

- High frequency linear transducer, B-mode
- Right hemidiaphragm
- 9th IC space between anterior and mid-axillary line
- Zone of apposition
- Measurement at end-expiratory lung volume

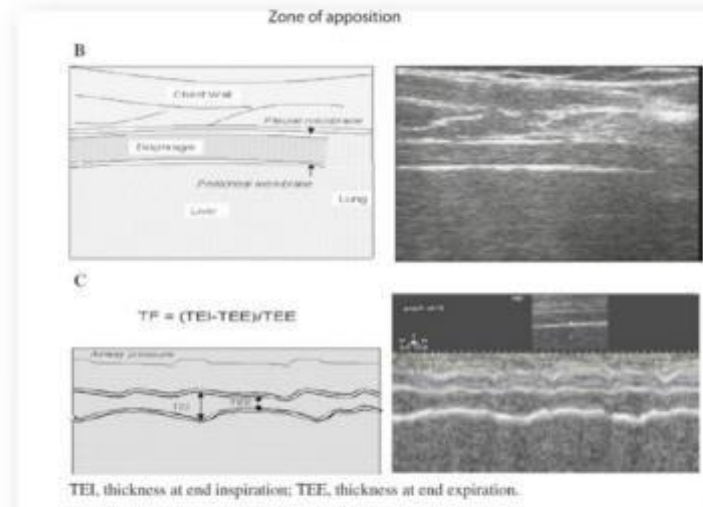
Diaphragm thickening fraction (tidal)

- High frequency linear transducer, M-mode
- Only in spontaneously breathing patients

Diaphragmatic thickening fraction

DTF = % of thickness increase during inspiration

$$DTF = \frac{EIT - EET}{EET}$$



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How I perform diaphragmatic ultrasound in the intensive care unit

Editorial | Published: 29 October 2024

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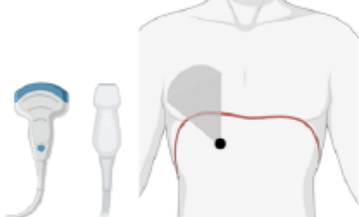
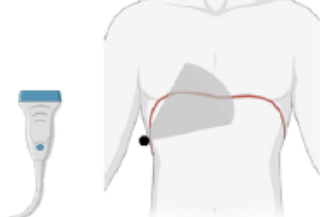
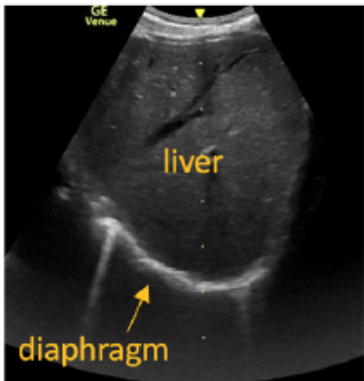
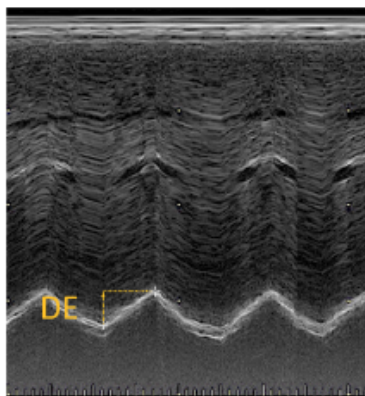
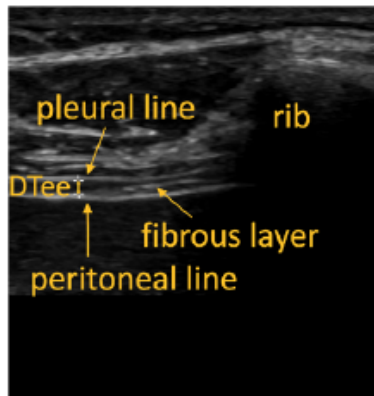
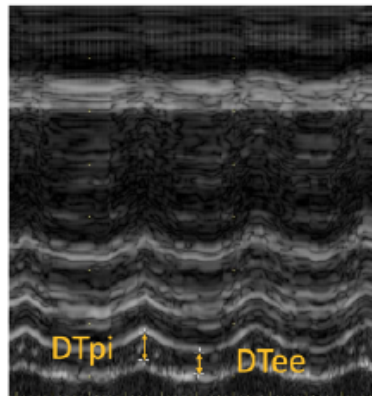
[Greet Hermans](#) , [Alexandre Demoule](#) & [Leo Heunks](#)

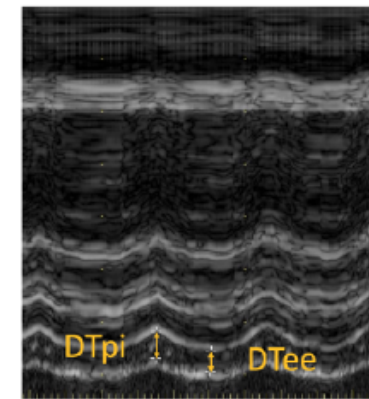
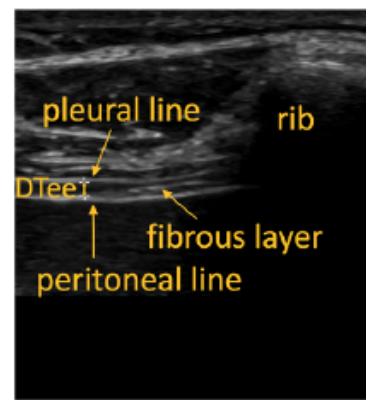
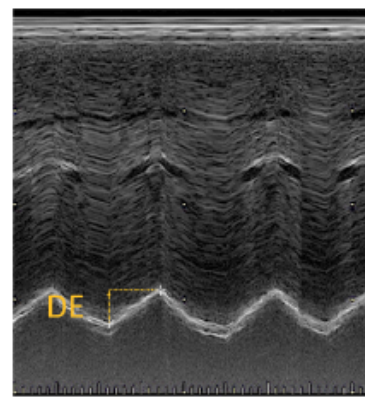
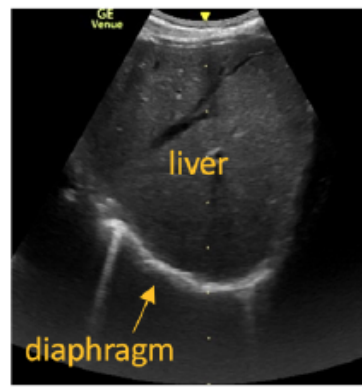
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SUBCOSTAL APPROACH		INTERCOSTAL APPROACH	
1. Baseline conditions Patient positioning		1. Baseline conditions Patient positioning	
	Place the patient in a semi-recumbent position (30-45°)		Place the patient in a semi-recumbent position (30-45°)
Ventilator conditions¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adequate respiratory drive (eg P0.1 >2cmH₂O)(no or minimal sedation)- No (or minimal tolerable) ventilator support (intubated or extubated)		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adequate respiratory drive- No (or minimal tolerable) ventilator support (intubated or extubated)	
2. Probe and positioning		2. Probe and positioning	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 2-5 MHz, abdominal or cardiac transducer- The probe is positioned subcostally on the mid-clavicular line, angle directed medially, dorsally and cranially to reach the posterior third of the diaphragm- Right side is easiest and sufficient unless unilateral involvement is suspected		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 7-12 MHz, linear transducer- The probe is positioned at the antero- or mid-axillary line between the 8th and 11th intercostal space, perpendicular to the chest wall at the zone of apposition, in line with the intercostal space- Right side is easiest and sufficient unless unilateral involvement is suspected
3. Image acquisition		3. Image acquisition	
B mode	M Mode	B mode	M Mode
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adjust depth to optimally capture excursion- Adjust gain to optimize contrast with surrounding structures- Adjust focus is used to optimize image quality- Position the M line perpendicular to the diaphragm movement, focusing on the area with the greatest displacement- Adjust sweep speed to obtain at least 3 respiratory cycles within 1 frame		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adjust depth center the diaphragm- Adjust gain to optimize contrast with surrounding structures- Adjust focus is used to optimize image quality- Position the M line perpendicular to the diaphragm- Adjust sweep speed to obtain at least 3 respiratory cycles within 1 frame	



- Adjust depth to optimally capture excursion
- Adjust gain to optimize contrast with surrounding structures
- Adjust focus is used to optimize image quality
- Position the M line perpendicular to the diaphragm movement, focusing on the area with the greatest displacement
- Adjust sweep speed to obtain at least 3 respiratory cycles within 1 frame

- Adjust depth center the diaphragm
- Adjust gain to optimize contrast with surrounding structures
- Adjust focus is used to optimize image quality
- Position the M line perpendicular to the diaphragm
- Adjust sweep speed to obtain at least 3 respiratory cycles within 1 frame

4. Measurements

- Measure DE during tidal breathing in M-mode
- Place the markers at the lowest (foot) and the highest point (apex) of the inspiratory slope and measure the distance between both on the vertical axis

- Measure thickness at end inspiration (DTpi) and end-expiration (DTee) of the same respiratory cycle in the B mode or M mode
- Place the calipers perpendicular to the fiber direction closest at the internal margin of the pleural and peritoneal lining without including them
- Calculate DTF as $(DTpi - DTee) * 100 / (DTee)$
- To achieve representative results, obtain at least 3 measurements with a difference of $\leq 10\%$

5. Normal values in healthy individuals¹⁴

DE: seated, tidal breathing, end-expiration (values as mean \pm SD)
 right: male: 2.0 \pm 0.5 cm; female: 1.9 \pm 0.5 cm
 left: male: 2.2 \pm 0.6 cm; female: 1.9 \pm 0.5 cm

Thickness: seated, tidal breathing, end-expiration (values as mean \pm SD)
 right: male: 2.1 \pm 0.4 mm; female: 1.9 \pm 0.4 mm
 left: male: 2.0 \pm 0.4 mm; female: 1.7 \pm 0.3 mm

DTF: seated, tidal breathing, end-expiration (values as mean \pm SD)
 right: male: 32 \pm 15%; female: 35 \pm 16%
 left: male: 30 \pm 14%; female: 33 \pm 15%

6. Relevant thresholds/related to outcome

DE:
 DE <10-15 mm during tidal breathing: diaphragm dysfunction⁴

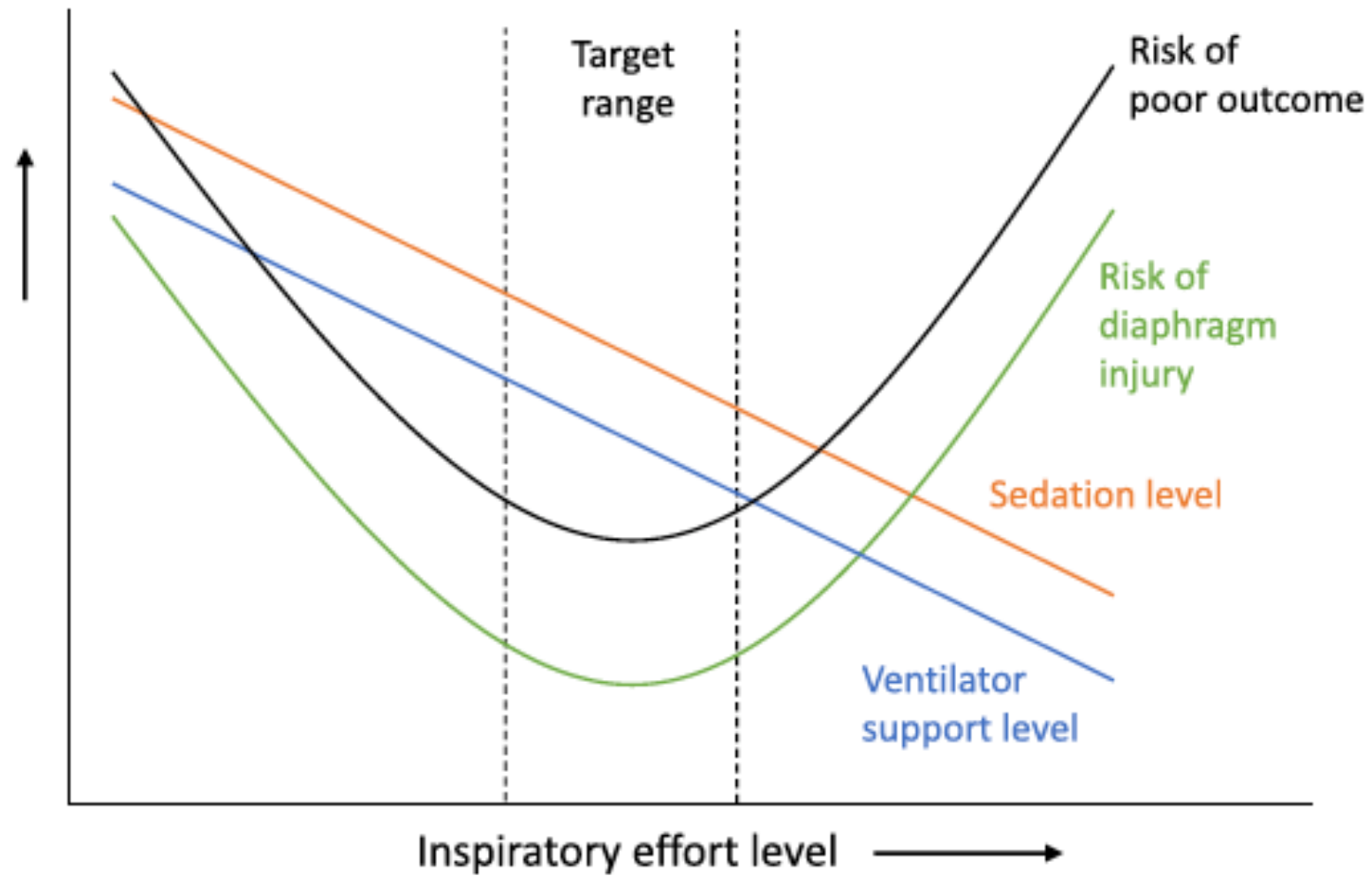
DTF:
 DTF_{max} <20%: diaphragm dysfunction⁴
 DTF <25-33%: predicts weaning failure⁹
 DTF <20%: predicts NIV failure¹⁰

are not required for other situations, such as detection of asynchrony.

Abbreviations: DTpi: diaphragm thickness at peak inspiration; DTee: diaphragm thickness at end-expiration; DTF: diaphragm thickening fraction; DTF_{max}: diaphragm thickening fraction during maximal inspiratory maneuver; DE: diaphragm excursion.

Parts of this figure were produced with Biorender

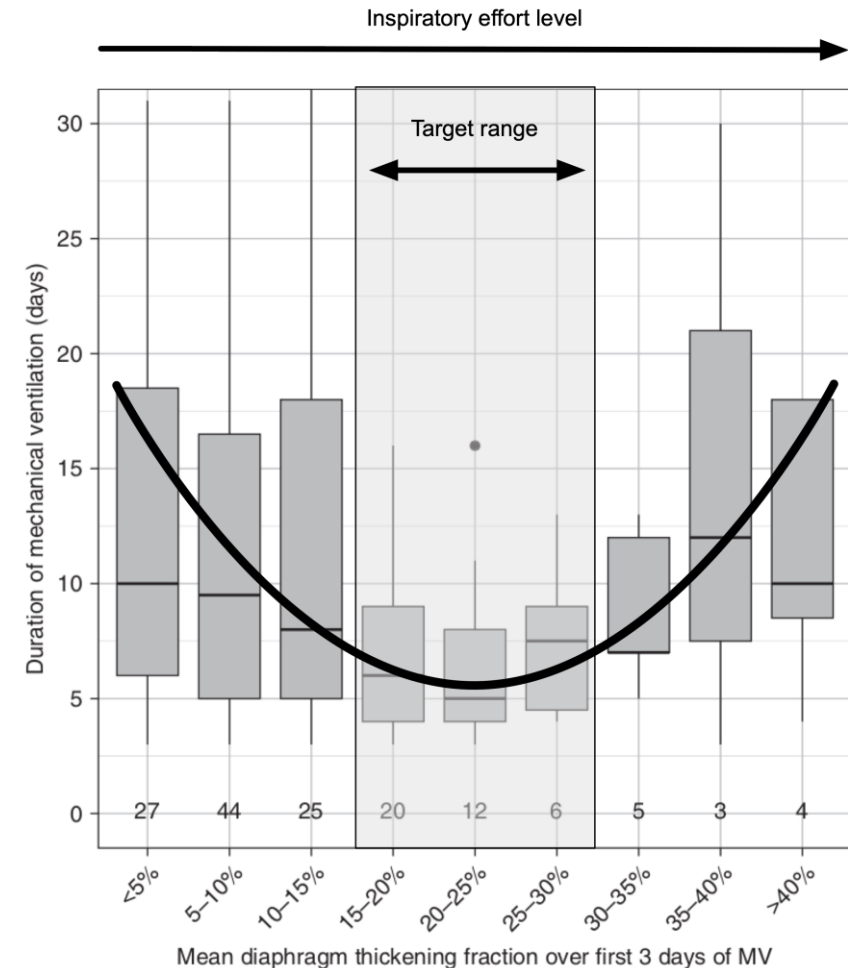
CONCEPTUAL MODEL OF RESPIRATORY MUSCLE PROTECTIVE MECHANICAL VENTILATION



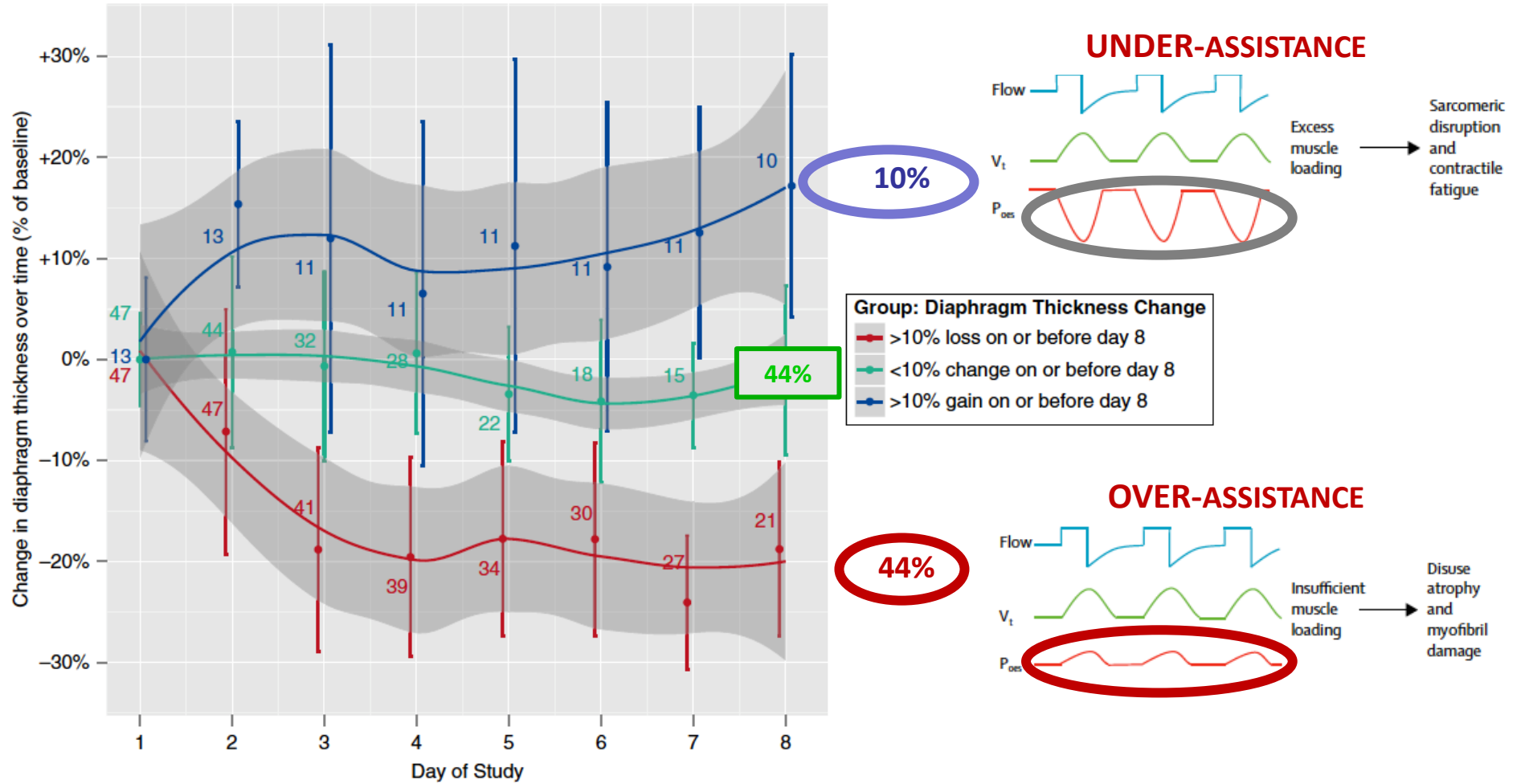
Thickening fraction 15-30% =
shortest duration of mechanical
ventilation in comparison with lower
or higher thickening fraction values

TFdi < 10% = Overassist

TFdi > 40% = Underassist



Diaphragm thickness in mechanically ventilated patients



Goligher et al. AJRCCM 2015; 192: 1080

REVIEW

Open Access



Analysis and applications of respiratory surface EMG: report of a round table meeting

A. H. Jonkman¹, R. S. P. Warnaar², W. Baccinelli³, N. M. Carbon⁴, R. F. D'Cruz⁵, J. Doorduyn⁶, J. L. M. van Doorn⁶, J. Elshof⁷, L. Estrada-Petrocelli⁸, J. Graßhoff⁹, L. M. A. Heunks¹⁰, A. A. Koopman¹¹, D. Langer¹², C. M. Moore³, J. M. Nunez Silveira¹³, E. Petersen¹⁴, D. Poddighe¹², M. Ramsay⁵, A. Rodrigues¹⁵, L. H. Roesthuis¹⁰, A. Rossel¹⁶, A. Torres¹⁷, M. L. Duiverman⁷ and E. Oppersma^{2*}

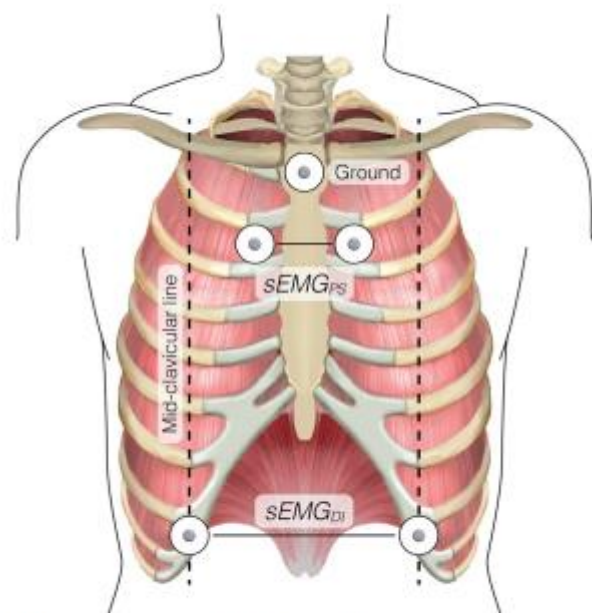



Fig. 1 Electrode positioning for bilateral parasternal (sEMG_{ps}) and diaphragm (sEMG_{di}) configuration, redrawn from [107]

RESEARCH

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Recruitment pattern of the diaphragm and extradiaphragmatic inspiratory muscles in response to different levels of pressure support

L. H. Roesthuis¹, J. G. van der Hoeven¹, H. W. H. van Hees², W.-J. M. Schellekens³, J. Doorduyn⁴ and L. M. A. Heunks^{5*} 



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Brief research report

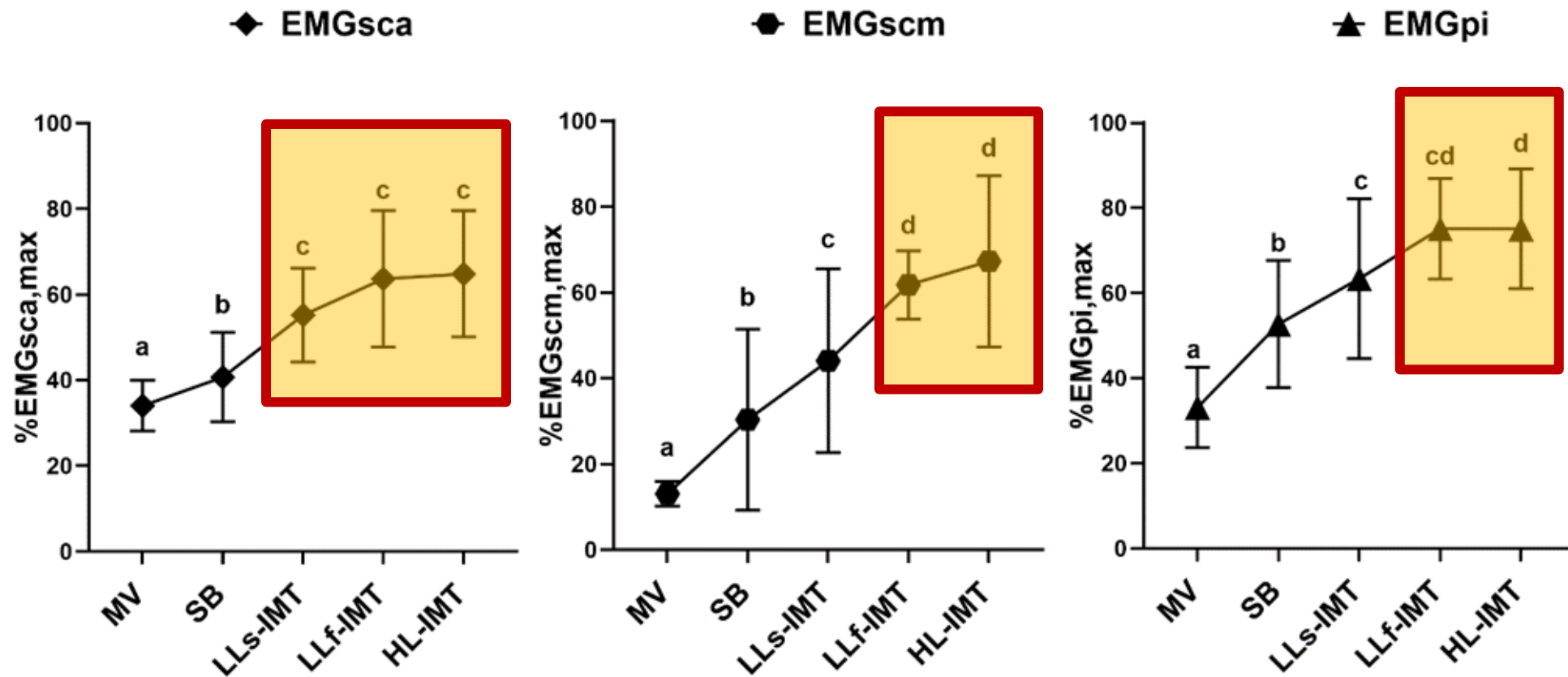
Inspiratory effort and respiratory muscle activation during different breathing conditions in patients with weaning difficulties: An exploratory study



Diego Poddighe, PT, MSc ^{a, b, *}, Marine Van Hollebeke, PT, PhD ^{a, b}, Beatrix Clerckx, PT, MSc ^b, Luc Janssens, MSc ^c, Geert Molenberghs, PhD ^{d, e}, Lisa Van Dyck, MD, PhD ^b, Jan Muller, MD ^b, Jan Gunst, MD, PhD ^{b, f}, Philippe Meersseman, MD, PhD ^g, Marijke Peetermans, MD, PhD ^g, Greet Hermans, MD, PhD ^{f, g}, Rik Gosselink, PT, PhD ^{a, b}, Daniel Langer, PT, PhD ^{a, b}

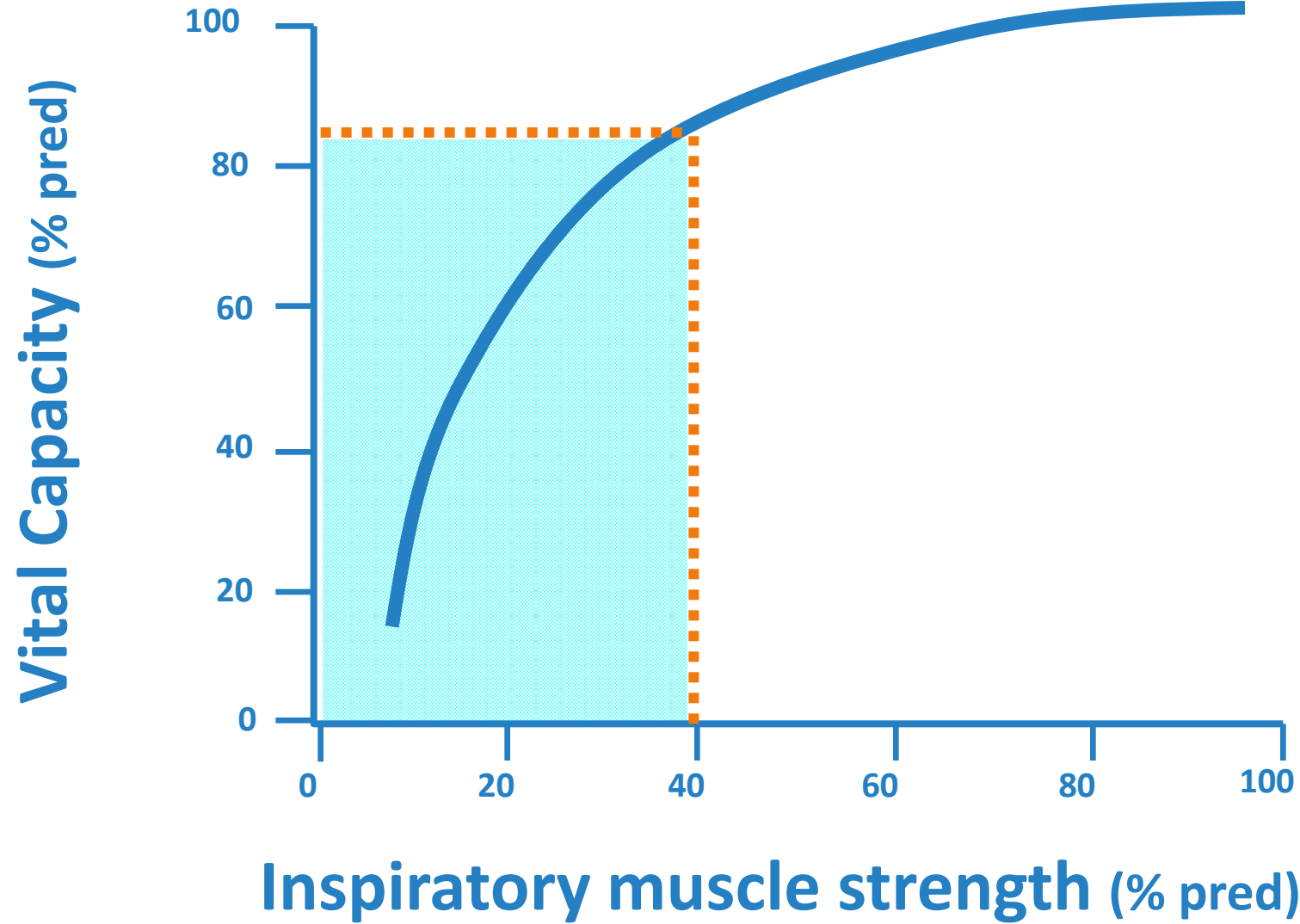
^a KU Leuven, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, Research Group for Rehabilitation in Internal Disorders, B-3000, Leuven, Belgium; ^b University Hospitals Leuven, Department of Intensive Care Medicine, Leuven, Belgium; ^c KU Leuven, Faculty of Engineering Technology, Leuven, Belgium; ^d I-BioStat, Department of Public Health and Primary Care, KU Leuven, B-3000, Leuven, Belgium; ^e I-BioStat, Hasselt University, B-3500, Hasselt, Belgium; ^f Laboratory of Intensive Care Medicine, Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium; ^g University Hospitals Leuven, Department of General Internal Medicine, Medical Intensive Care Unit, Leuven, Belgium

Respiratory surface EMG during respiratory muscle loading



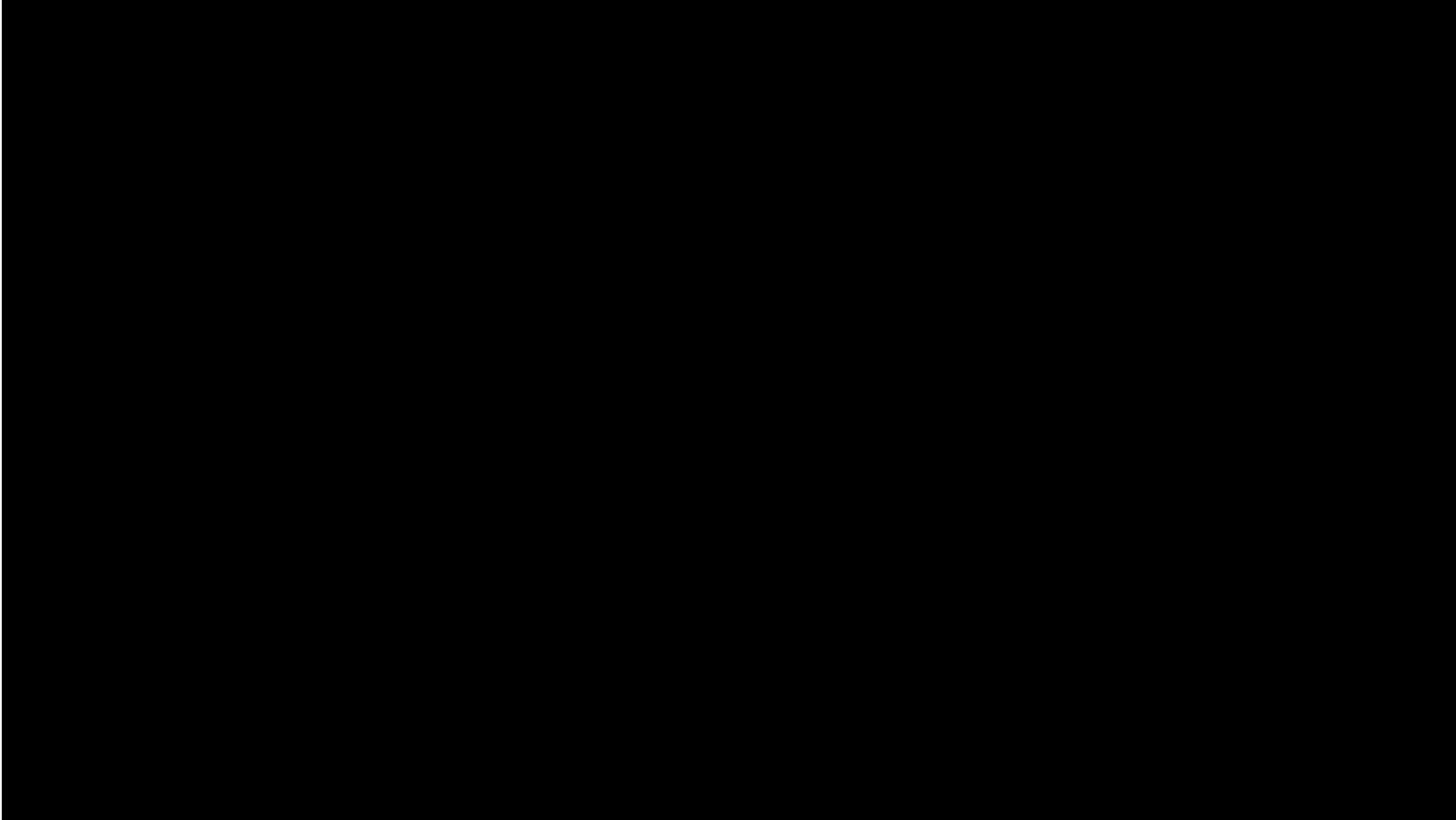


-
- **PULMONARY FUNCTION (FVC)**
 - **STRENGTH ($P_{I\max}$, $P_{E\max}$)**

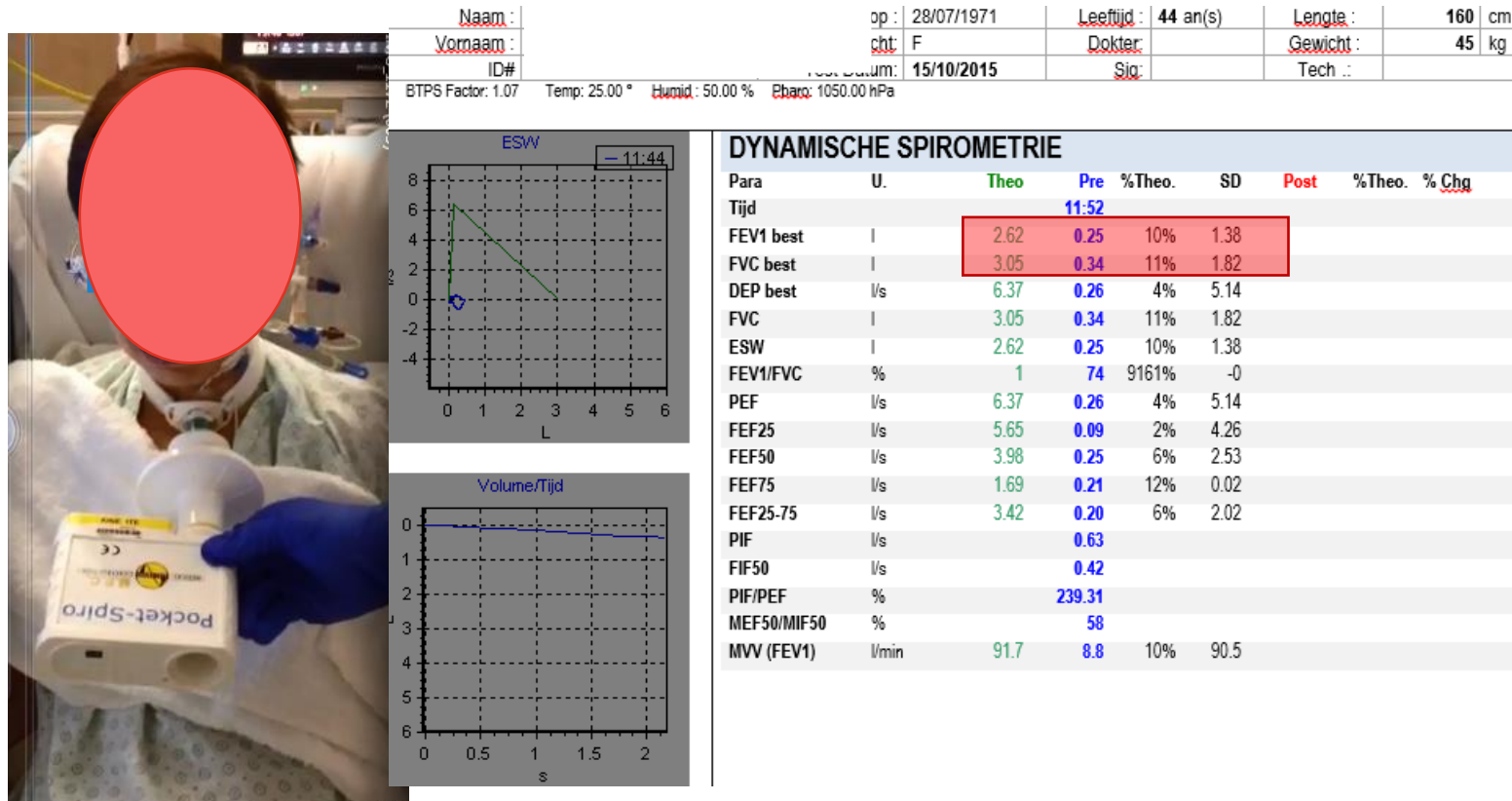


De Troyer et al. Thorax 1980, 35: 603- 610.

Assessment of pulmonary function



Assessment of pulmonary function



ASSESSMENT OF RESPIRATORY MUSCLE STRENGTH



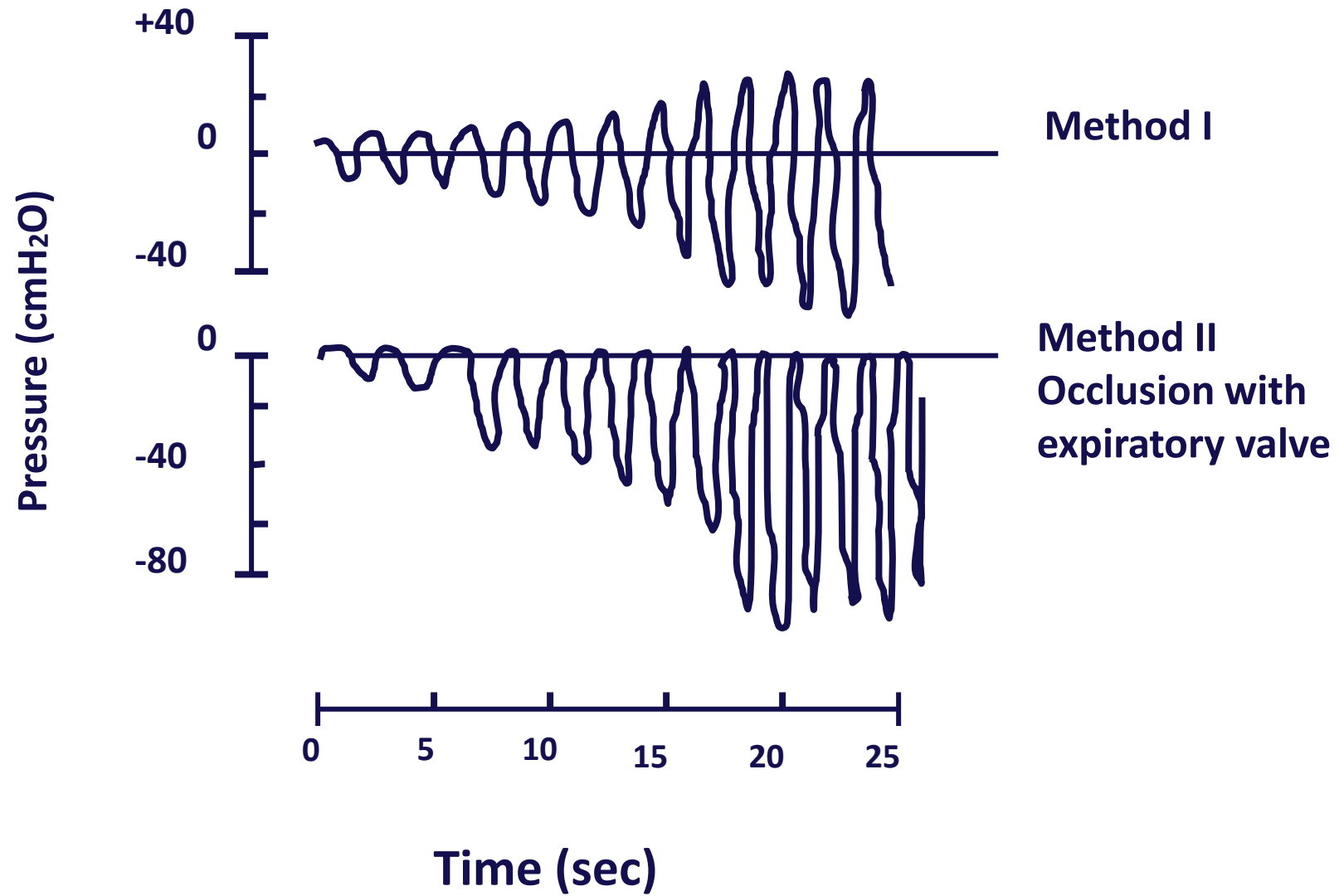
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- Presence of inspiratory muscle weakness ?
- Guidance for inspiratory muscle loading !





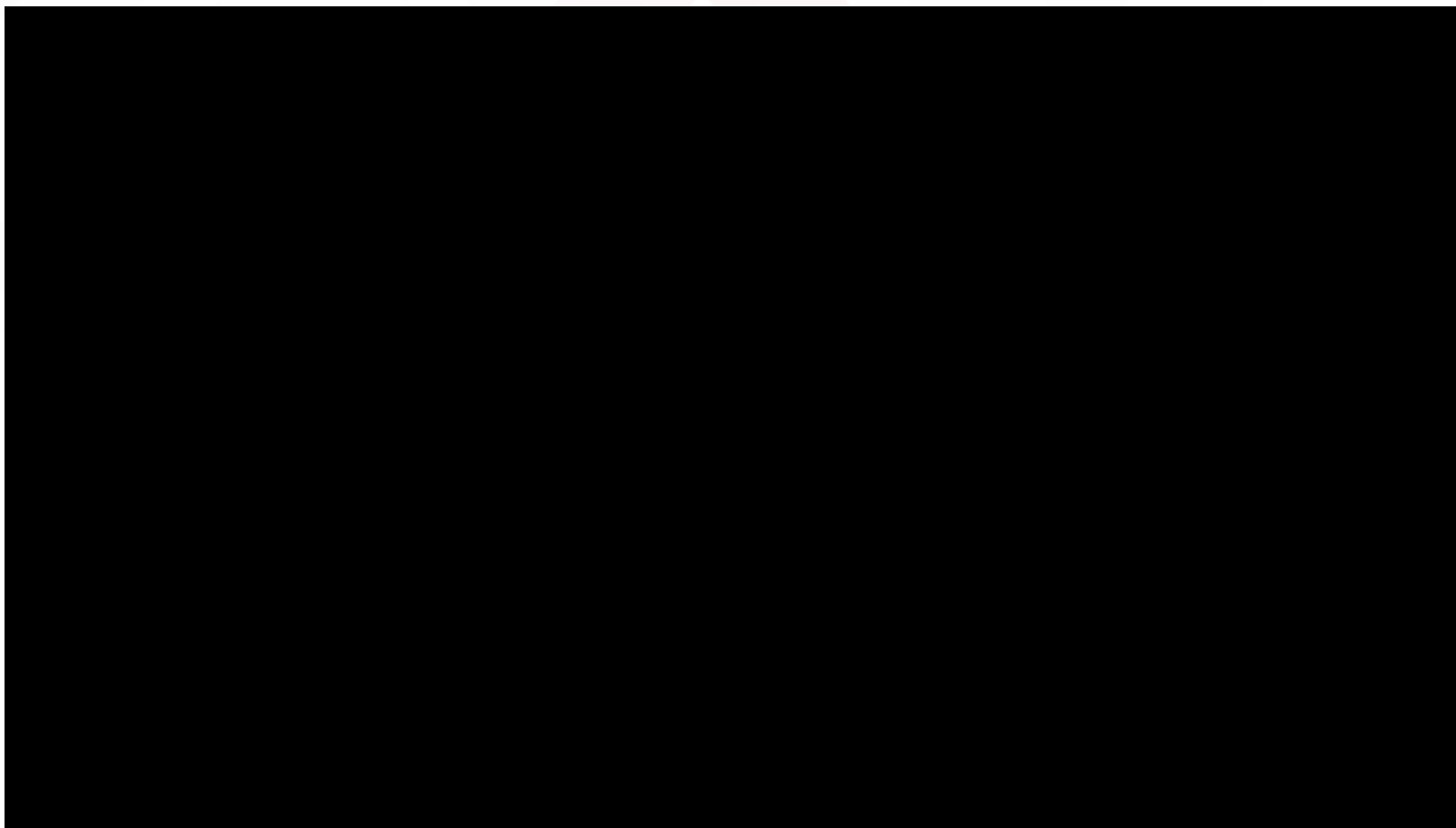




Assessment of respiratory muscle strength



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Maximal Inspiratory Pressure

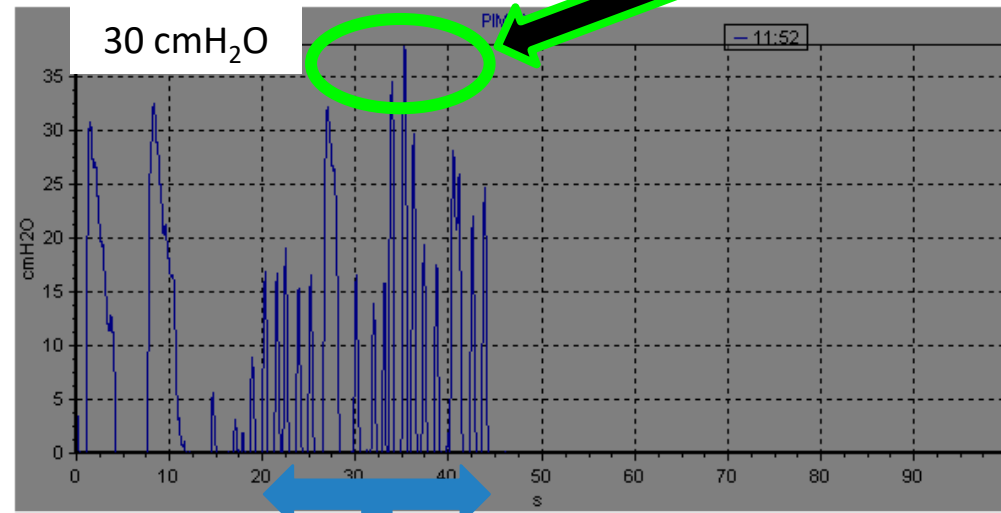


Naam : Geboren op : 1971.07.28 Leeftijd : 44 Lengte : 160
Voornaam : Geslacht : F Dokter : Gewicht : 45
ID# Test Datum : 20151015 sig/dag : Medicatie :

MOUTH PRESSURE

Para	E.	Theo	1	%Theo.	2	%Theo.	3	%Theo.	4	%Theo.
P _{lmax}	cmH ₂ O	86.47	30.76	36%						
P _E max	cmH ₂ O	113.95	0.00	0%						
P _{lmax} Peak	cmH ₂ O		39.53							

Peak pressure
during
PS

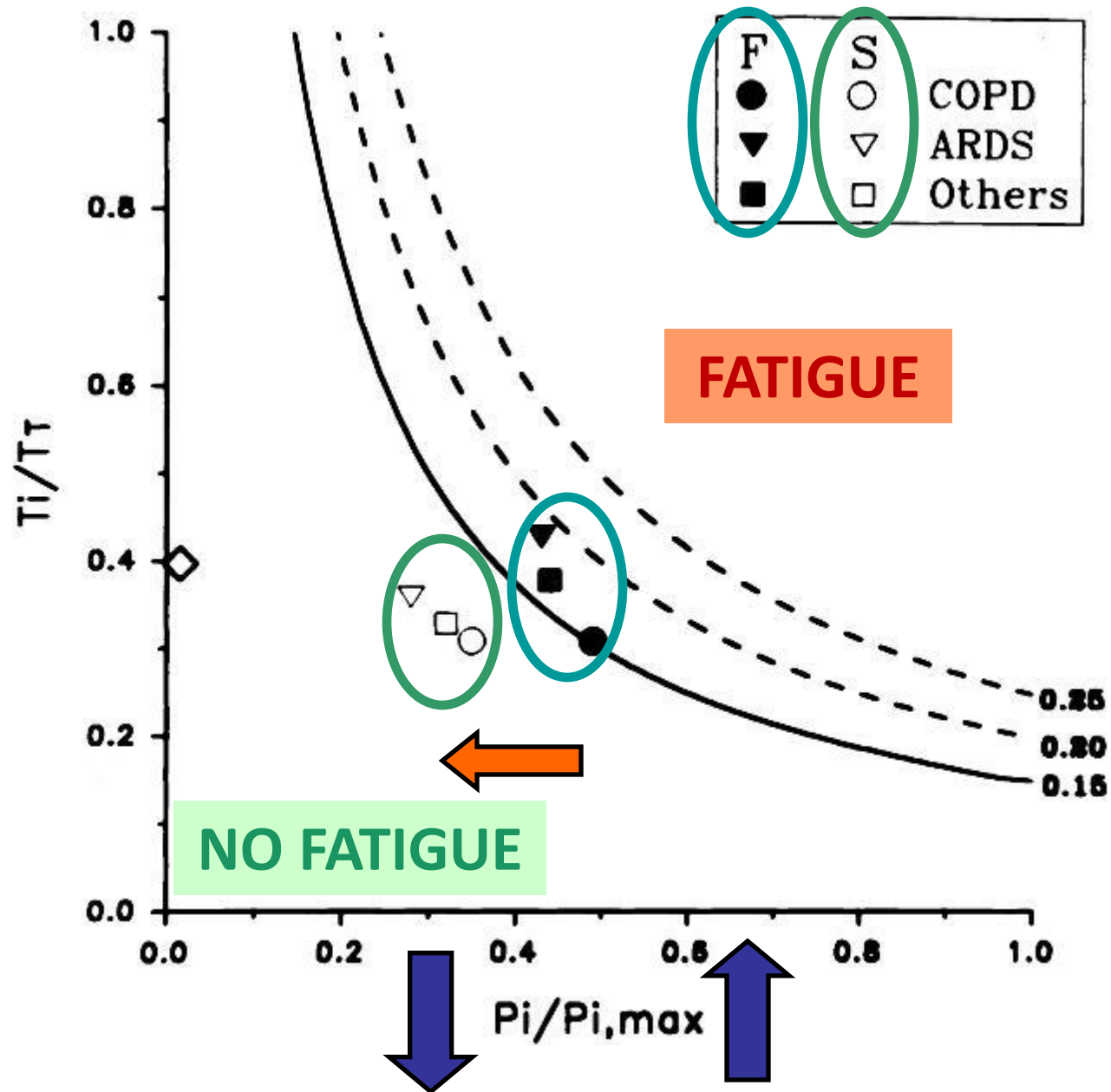


PS 24 cmH₂O
TV 350ml

P_i/P_{lmax}:
24/30 (80%)

Occlusion: 25s

UNSUSTAINABLE!
Even with Ti/T_{tot} 0.2 TTI
would be 0.16

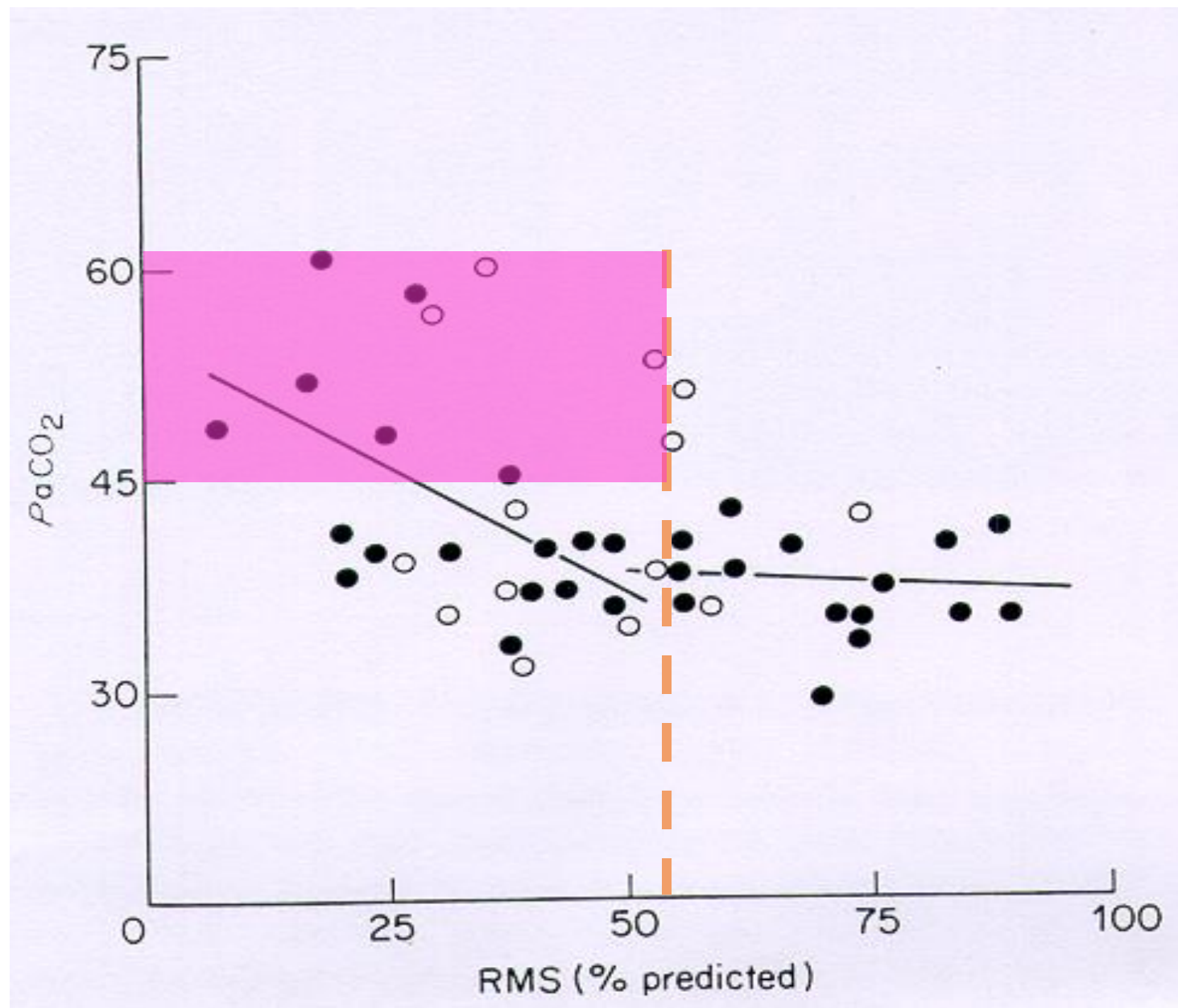


Inspiratory Muscle Dysfunction Mediates and Predicts a Disease Continuum of Hypercapnic Failure in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Jens Spiesshoefer^{a,b} Simon D. Herkenrath^{c,d} Marcel Tremblé^c
Anja Pietzke-Calcagnile^c Lars Hagmeyer^{c,d} Binaya Regmi^a
Sandhya Matthes^c Peter Young^e Matthias Boentert^{f,g}
Winfried J. Randerath^{c,d}

Plmax: clinical
relevance

- Assessment of respiratory muscle function encompassed:
 - body plethysmography
 - maximum inspiratory pressure (MIP)
 - diaphragm ultrasound
 - transdiaphragmatic pressure recordings following cervical magnetic stimulation of the phrenic nerves (twPdi) and a maximum sniff manoeuvre (Sniff Pdi).
- Only MIP reflected the extent of hypercapnia across all three stages.
- MIP values below -48 cmH₂O predicted nocturnal hypercapnia (area under the curve = 0.733, $p = 0.052$).



Green and Laroche, Resp Med,1990, 1373 - 1387.



OPEN

Respiratory muscle strength can improve the prognostic assessment in COPD

Rebeca Nunes Silva¹, Cássia da Luz Goulart¹, Claudio R. de Oliveira²,
Renata Gonçalves Mendes¹, Ross Arena³, Jonathan Myers⁴ & Audrey Borghi-Silva^{1✉}

Plmax: clinical
relevance

- Patients severely affected by COPD presenting $MIP \leq 55$ and/or $MEP \leq 80$ cmH₂O are at increased risk of mortality.
- MIP and MEP substantially improve the mortality risk assessment when combined with FEV₁, VO₂peak and 6MWD in patients with COPD.

Take Home Messages



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- Respiratory muscle dysfunction can be cause and consequence of respiratory failure.
- It is often reversible and should be diagnosed and treated.
- Evaluating respiratory muscle function is valuable for diagnosing, phenotyping, setting up and assessing treatment efficacy in patients with ARF and CRF.
- EMG and MUS play an increasingly important role alongside established invasive and noninvasive pressure assessment techniques.
- While MUS is already frequently applied in clinical practice, EMG remains currently underused.
- Both are useful tools for quantifying respiratory muscle effort and can be useful for titrating ventilatory support, optimising muscle stimulation during training interventions and guiding treatment decisions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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**If you have any questions please
share your thoughts and ideas!**

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