



RESPIRATORY MUSCLE DYSFUNCTION IN CHRONIC DISEASE STATES: CLINICAL IMPORTANCE AND IMPLICATIONS FOR CARDIOPULMONARY REHABILITATION

ISCVPR ANNUAL MEETING
INDIANAPOLIS, IN
THURSDAY APRIL 25TH, 2024

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SESSION LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learning objective 1: Compare different techniques used to assess respiratory muscle function and understand the metrics used to define respiratory muscle dysfunction.

Learning objective 2: Identify the prevalence and clinical importance of respiratory muscle dysfunction in different cardiopulmonary disease states.

Learning objective 3: Evaluate the potential role for specific respiratory muscle training as a rehabilitative strategy in patients undertaking phase II cardiopulmonary rehabilitation.

Learning objective 4: Recognize the practical considerations for including respiratory muscle function assessment and specific inspiratory muscle training in the phase II cardiopulmonary rehabilitation setting.

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INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS & DYSFUNCTION: CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE & HOW TO MEASURE IT

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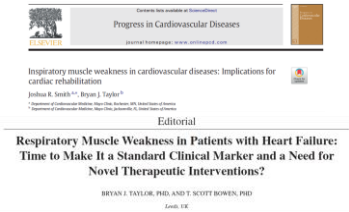
NO DISCLOSURES

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WHAT IF I SAID...

THE ASSESSMENT OF INSPIRATORY MUSCLE FUNCTION SHOULD BE STANDARD IN ALL PATIENTS ENROLLED IN PHASE II CR OR PR.



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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learning objective 1: Identify the key muscles of breathing; understand their basic structure and function.

Learning objective 2: Define respiratory muscle dysfunction and weakness. Identify the clinical importance of inspiratory muscle dysfunction in different cardiopulmonary disease states.

Learning objective 3: Compare different techniques used to assess inspiratory muscle function and understand the metrics used to define respiratory muscle dysfunction.

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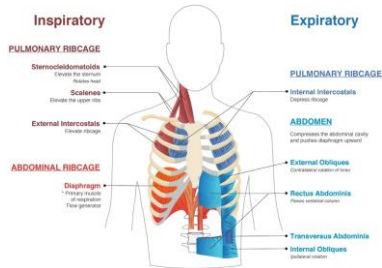
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1 THE RESPIRATORY MUSCLES

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THE RESPIRATORY MUSCLES



Welch et al., Curr Opin Physiol, 10 (2019), 102-109

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2 INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS & DYSFUNCTION

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WEAKNESS & DYSFUNCTION

ANY PROCESS THAT INTERFERES WITH DIAPHRAGMATIC INNERVATION, CONTRACTILE MUSCLE FUNCTION, OR MECHANICAL COUPLING TO THE CHEST WALL.

-  **Aging, sarcopenia**
General muscle atrophy, fiber type shift (II → I), contractile protein wasting
-  **Paralysis & elevation**
Unilateral or bilateral; neurologic or trauma (phrenic nerve)
-  **Accelerated in CHF, COPD, etc.**
Increased oxidative stress, increased proteolysis
-  **Diaphragm weakness, dysfunction**
Decreased muscle mass, contractility (*thickening*), excursion (*motility*)
-  **Lung hyperinflation**
Mechanical weakening of the diaphragm (e.g., COPD)

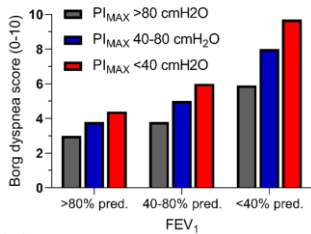
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WHAT IS THE CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS & DYSFUNCTION?

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WEAKNESS & DYSFUNCTION: CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE

GREATER BREATHLESSNESS DURING EXERCISE WITH LOWER INSPIRATORY MUSCLE STRENGTH



Killian & Jones, Clin Chest Med, 9 (1988): 237-248

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INVASIVE, COSTLY, TIME-CONSUMING,
REQUIRES EXPERT TRAINING &
COMPLICATED ANALYSIS; *NOT WELL
SUITED TO ROUTINE ASSESSMENT IN CR &
PR...*

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**ASSESSING THE
DIAPHRAGM
MAXIMAL
INSPIRATORY
PRESSURE**



- Simple
- Non-invasive
- Quick
- Cost-effective

Smith & Taylor, Prog Cardiovasc Dis, 70 (2022): 49-57

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**MAXIMAL INSPIRATORY PRESSURE
PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- Volitional**
Patient encouragement required
- Posture**
Seated, upright, no 'holding on'
- Length-tension relationship**
Typically recommended MIP is measured at RV
- Practice & warm-up**
Learn correct technique; warm-up improves reliability
- 'Sustained' effort**
MIP recorded as highest over 1 s (maintain for ~3-4 s)
- Acceptable reproducibility**
Highest value from 3 efforts that vary by ≤10%

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MAXIMAL INSPIRATORY PRESSURE

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS; WHAT IS NORMAL?

CAUTION WHEN USING PREDICTIVE EQUATIONS WHEN CONSIDERING WHAT IS NORMAL
 RODRIGUES ET AL., CHEST, 152 (2017); 32-39...

- PREVALENCE OF WEAKNESS RANGED FROM 33.4 TO 66.9% (6 EQNS)
- THE CHOICE OF MIP REFERENCE VALUES STRONGLY IMPACTS ON THE PREVALENCE OF WEAKNESS

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MAXIMAL INSPIRATORY PRESSURE

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS; WHAT IS NORMAL?

Age, y	MEN		WOMEN	
	Studies/sample size	MIP, cmH ₂ O (95% CI)	Studies/sample size	MIP, cmH ₂ O (95% CI)
18-29	6/96	128 (116-140)	6/92	97 (89-105)
30-39	6/69	129 (119-139)	6/66	89 (85-94)
40-49	6/72	117 (105-129)	6/71	93 (78-107)
50-59	5/61	108 (99-118)	5/60	78 (75-85)
60-69	5/65	93 (85-101)	5/66	75 (67-83)
70-83	5/63	76 (66-86)	5/59	65 (58-73)

Pessoa et al., Can Respir J, 21 (2014); 42-501562; 249-261

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MAXIMAL INSPIRATORY PRESSURE

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS; WHAT IS NORMAL?

Age (yrs)	Pimax (cmH ₂ O)		
	Men*		Women*
< 40	63	Associated with "higher" likelihood of inspiratory muscle weakness	58
40-60	55		50
61-80	47		43
> 80	42		38

MIP of ≥80 cmH₂O (males) or ≥70 cmH₂O (females) thought to exclude clinically significant inspiratory muscle weakness

Pessoa et al., Can Respir J, 21 (2014); 42-501562; 249-261

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INTERIM SUMMARY

- Inspiratory muscle weakness & dysfunction is associated with dyspnea, exercise intolerance, & prognosis in CVD and chronic lung disease
- Maximal inspiratory pressure is the most viable method for standard assessment of inspiratory muscle function in CR & PR

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INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS IN CR/PR: PREVALENCE AND REHABILITATIVE STRATEGIES

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DISCLOSURES

- No disclosures

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OVERVIEW

- Prevalence of inspiratory muscle weakness in CR and PR populations?
- Impact of exercise-based CR and PR on inspiratory muscle function
- Addition of inspiratory muscle training on inspiratory muscle function in the CR/PR setting
- Practical guidance for inspiratory muscle training in the CR/PR setting

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1 PREVALENCE OF INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS

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WHAT IS THE PREVALENCE OF INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS IN CR & PR?

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INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS IN CR & PR

Study	Population	N=	Measure (vs CTL)	Prevalence
Hamazaki, 2020	HFrEF	445		MIP <70% pred; ~43%
Hamazaki, 2020	HFpEF	578		MIP <70% pred; ~39%
Miyagi, 2018	HF/pEF	77	Ultrasound; dia. thickness @ TLC	<4.0 mm; ~44%
Meyer, 2001	HFrEF	244	MIP: 77 ± 34 vs. 107 ± 38 cmH ₂ O	
Fernandes, 2018	HTxp	23	MIP: 60 ± 30 cmH ₂ O (~48-55% pred)	

Inspiratory muscle weakness is associated with all-cause and CV mortality in HFrEF and HFpEF.

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INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS IN CR & PR

Study	Population	N=	Measure (vs CTL)	Prevalence
Stein, 2009	CABG	20	MIP: 65 ± 16 cmH ₂ O (60% pred.)	
Morsch, 2009	CABG	108	MIP: 66 ± 29 cmH ₂ O	
Palaniswamy, 2010	Valve	20	MIP: 51 ± 10 cmH ₂ O (~49% pred.)	

The values above are pre-surgery. CABG and heart valve surgeries are associated with a ~17-36% reduction in inspiratory muscle strength and can persist for several weeks to months.

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INSPIRATORY MUSCLE WEAKNESS IN CR & PR

Study	Population	N=	Measure (vs CTL)	Prevalence
Kofod, 2019	COPD	97	MIP: 63 vs. 76 cmH ₂ O	MIP <50% pred; ~10% MIP <60 cmH ₂ O; ~40%
Basso-Vanelli, 2016	COPD	25	MIP: 64 ± 17 cmH ₂ O (67% pred.)	

Evidence that inspiratory muscle weakness in COPD is associated with hyperinflation and contributes to hypercapnia, dyspnea, and exercise intolerance in these patients.

Gosselink et al., Eur Respir J, 37 (2011): 416-425

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2 REHABILITATIVE STUDIES

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CAN EXERCISE TRAINING IN THE CR/PR SETTING IMPROVE INSPIRATORY MUSCLE FUNCTION?

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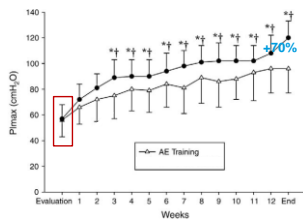
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AEROBIC TRAINING AEROBIC EXERCISE IN *HFREF*

Supervised exercise training

- > 3 times per week for 12 weeks
- > Target intensity was heart rate at first ventilatory threshold
- > Duration was 20 min and progressed to 45 min

Other studies have reported a smaller MIP increase (~15%) with baseline MIP likely significantly contributing to the degree of MIP improvement



Winkelmann et al., Am Heart J, 158 (2009); 768

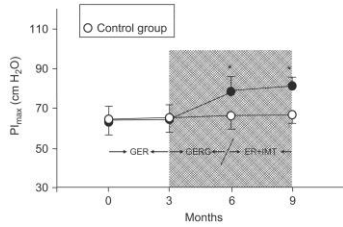
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AEROBIC TRAINING AEROBIC EXERCISE IN COPD

Supervised PR program

- > 3 times per week for 12 weeks
- > General exercise reconditioning program
- > Duration was 1.5 hours including endurance exercise and strength training

These findings are consistent with other studies finding minimal increases in MIP with PR in patients with COPD



Magadle et al., Respir Med, 101 (2007); 1500-1505

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EFFECT OF EXERCISE TRAINING & INSPIRATORY MUSCLE TRAINING (IMT) ON INSPIRATORY MUSCLE FUNCTION AND EXERCISE CAPACITY

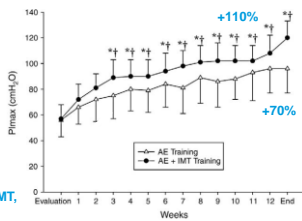
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AEROBIC/INSPIRATORY MUSCLE TRAINING AEROBIC EXERCISE VS. AEROBIC EXERCISE PLUS IMT IN HFREF

Inspiratory muscle training

- > 7 days per week for 12 weeks (1 session supervised and 6 sessions at home)
- > 30% of MIP
- > Duration was 30 min per session

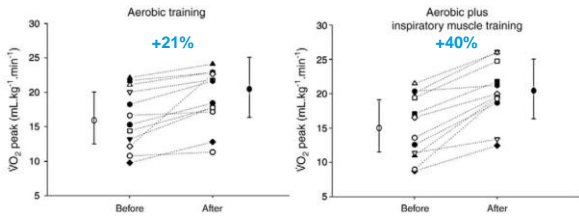
Other studies in HFREF without inspiratory muscle weakness have found no additional benefit in inspiratory muscle strength with IMT, but these patients did exhibit greater improvements in quality of life and dyspnea than exercise training alone.



Winkelmann et al., Am Heart J, 158 (2009); 768

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AEROBIC/INSPIRATORY MUSCLE TRAINING
AEROBIC EXERCISE VS. AEROBIC EXERCISE PLUS IMT IN HFREF

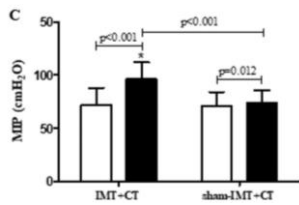


Winkelmann et al., Am Heart J, 158 (2009); 768

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AEROBIC/INSPIRATORY MUSCLE TRAINING
AEROBIC EXERCISE VS. AEROBIC EXERCISE PLUS IMT
FOLLOWING CABG SURGERY

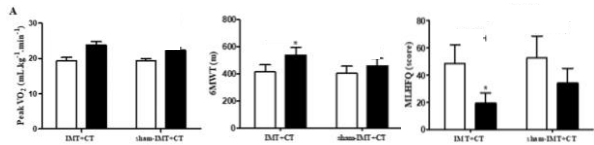
- Inspiratory muscle training
- > 2 days per week for 12 weeks
 - > 50% to 80% of MIP (progressive increase from week 1 to week 8)
 - > 5 sets of 10 repetitions with 1 min of rest between each set



Santos et al., Int J Cardiol, 279 (2019); 40-46

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AEROBIC/INSPIRATORY MUSCLE TRAINING
AEROBIC EXERCISE VS. AEROBIC EXERCISE PLUS IMT
FOLLOWING CABG SURGERY



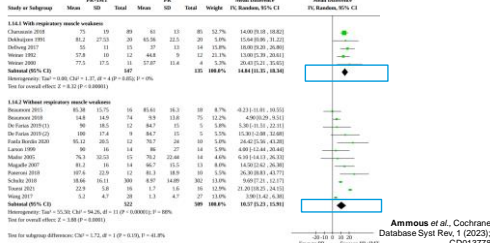
Aerobic training in the CR setting combined with IMT resulted in greater improvements in VO₂peak, 6-minute walk, and quality of life following CABG surgery.

Santos et al., Int J Cardiol, 279 (2019); 40-46

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AEROBIC/INSPIRATORY MUSCLE TRAINING AEROBIC EXERCISE VS. AEROBIC EXERCISE PLUS IMT IN COPD

Effect of exercise reconditioning plus IMT vs. exercise reconditioning alone on MIP



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3 PRACTICAL GUIDANCE

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INSPIRATORY MUSCLE TRAINING PRACTICAL GUIDANCE



- ✓ **Adjunct therapy**
Inspiratory muscle function, breathlessness, exercise capacity (?)
- ⌚ **Three primary modalities**
Hyperpnea, 'fixed' resistive loading, pressure threshold loading*
- Ⓞ **Consider baseline MIP**
Intervention most effective in those with existing inspiratory muscle weakness (MIP <60 cmH₂O)

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CASE PRESENTATION: DIAPHRAGM DYSFUNCTION AFTER AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT

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PHASE II CR FOLLOWING AVR: CASE PATIENT

54-YEAR-OLD MALE



History

- Hypertension
- Hyperlipidemia
- Sleep apnea
- CA calcification
- Bicuspid aortic valve, severe stenosis



Medications

- Atorvastatin
- Metoprolol Succinate
- Warfarin
- Amlodipine
- Lisinopril
- Chlorthalidone
- Famotidine



Procedure

Mechanical aortic valve replacement via right mini thoracotomy



Phase II CR

25 total sessions over 15 weeks with 5 week 'break' due to work & family commitments

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PHASE II CR FOLLOWING AVR: CASE PATIENT

54-YEAR-OLD MALE

	Rest	6MWT
Weight, lbs	288	
BMI, kg/m ²	35.1	
Heart rate, bpm	75	90
BP, mmHg	156/64	198/84
SpO ₂ , %	97	95
RPE		9
Distance, ft		1,402
Speed, mph		2.6
METS		3
ECG	NSR, no ectopy	NSR, no ectopy

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CLINICAL COURSE

- Complaints of dyspnea after surgery, thought to be related to post-op deconditioning
- Pt was able to complete 30 min of seated aerobic exercise during his rehab sessions with minimal complaints of dyspnea
- Dyspnea worsened during resistance training
- Coached patient in proper breathing technique during resistance training without any symptom improvement

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PHASE II CR FOLLOWING AVR: CASE PATIENT

54-YEAR-OLD MALE

- Patient was absent from rehab for 5 weeks due to family/work commitments
- Returned with persistent/worsening dyspnea, especially during resistance exercise prompted review of medical history with emphasis on the patients' pulmonary history
- Multifactorial breathlessness in setting of obesity, weight gain, post-operative deconditioning
- Weight gain after CR 'break' (296 lbs, +8 lbs)

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PHASE II CR FOLLOWING AVR: CASE PATIENT

54-YEAR-OLD MALE



Iatrogenic right hemidiaphragm paralysis & elevation

Injury to the phrenic nerve during cardiac surgery



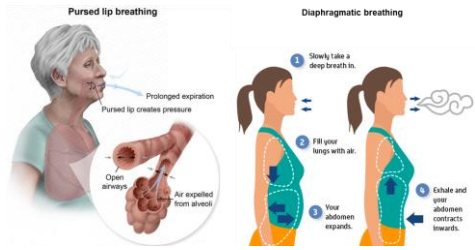
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HOW DID WE MANAGE THE PATIENT IN CR?

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PHASE II CR FOLLOWING AVR: CASE PATIENT 54-YEAR-OLD MALE



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PHASE II CR FOLLOWING AVR: CASE PATIENT 54-YEAR-OLD MALE



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**QUESTIONS
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