

# Administration of supplemental oxygen enables multiple DIBHs in patients with left-sided breast cancer

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# Deep inspiration breath holds (DIBH)

- Radiotherapy of left sided breast cancer during DIBHs
- 5% of patients are not able to perform (repeated) DIBHs<sup>1</sup>
  - Radiation treatment during free breathing (FB)
  - Often resulting in less cardiac tissue sparing
- **Solution: administration of supplemental oxygen**



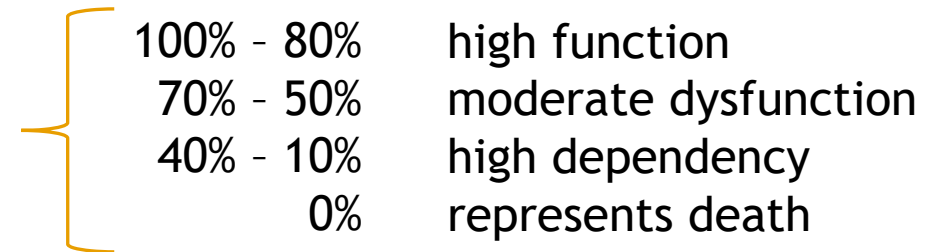
# Aim

to evaluate the duration of room-air based DIBHs  
and DIBHs based on supplemental oxygen  
in patients with left-sided breast cancer  
who were unable to perform 25 s DIBHs when breathing room air



# Patient / Treatment characteristics

- Age (years)
- Height & weight => BMI
- Smoking status (never/previous/current)
- Karnovsky score (KFS)
- COPD (yes/no)
- (Ever) had bleomycin or amiodarone (yes/no)

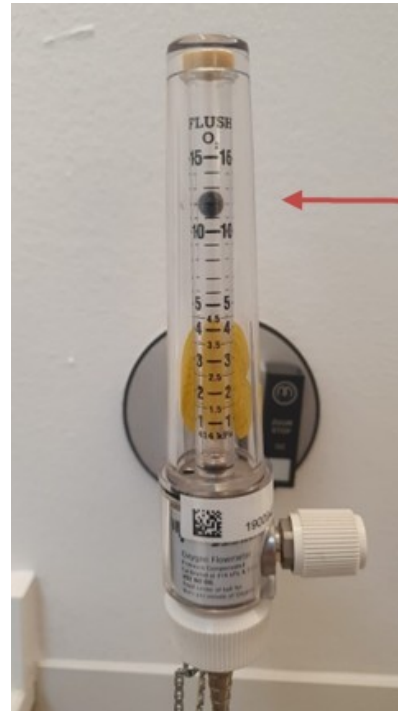




# Supplemental oxygen

Protocols (planning CT & treatment)

- High concentration adult non-rebreather oxygen mask
- Flow rate 12 L/min



Intersurgical EcoLite™ (Wokingham, UK)



# DIBH durations

- DIBH durations during planning CT
- Patients with  $< 25$  s DIBH durations were offered supplemental oxygen

Room-air based  
(21%O<sub>2</sub>)



DIBH durations with supplemental oxygen

DIBH durations paired Wilcoxon test  
(significance level;  
 $p < 0.05$ )



# Patient / Treatment characteristics

N=27 women with left-sided breast cancer included over 3.5 years

- Median age 65 years (range 47-85 years)
  - Median BMI 26 (range 17-40)
  - 11/27 previous or current smokers
  - Median KFS 80% (range 50-100%)
  - None had COPD
  - None had (ever) had bleomycin / amiodaronè
- |            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| 100% - 80% | high function        |
| 70% - 50%  | moderate dysfunction |
| 40% - 10%  | high dependency      |
| 0%         | represents death     |



# Supplemental oxygen

- Flow rate 5 to 12 L/min
- Estimated delivered oxygen concentration 60% to 100%
- Oxygen was supplied within standard treatment time slots
- RTTs did not experience additional workload



# DIBH durations

N = 19 / 27

- Room-air based

Median 20 s (range 13-25 s)

- With supplemental oxygen

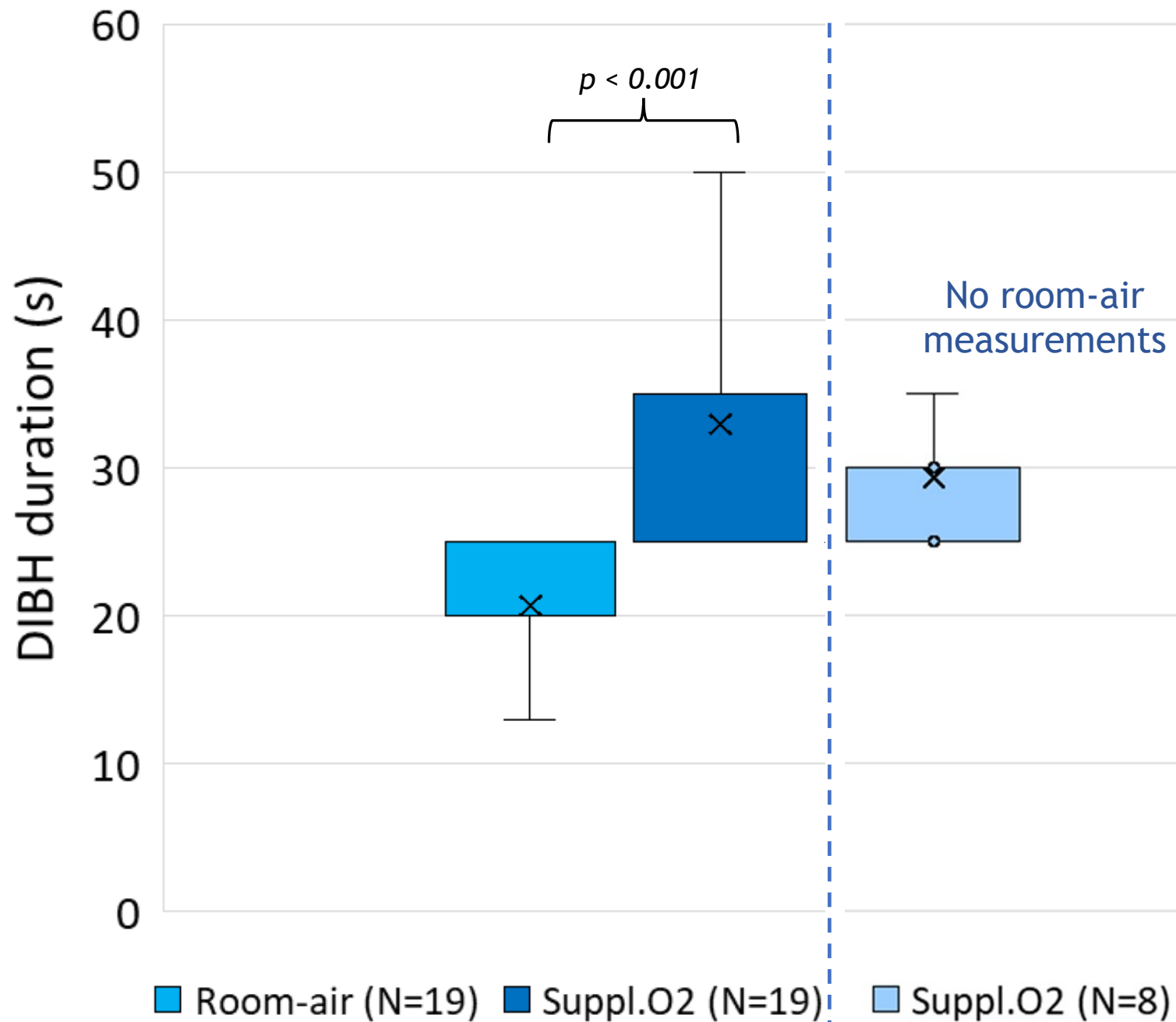
Median 35 s (range 25-50 s)

N = 8 / 27

- No room-air measurements

- With supplemental oxygen

Median 30 s (range 25-35 s)





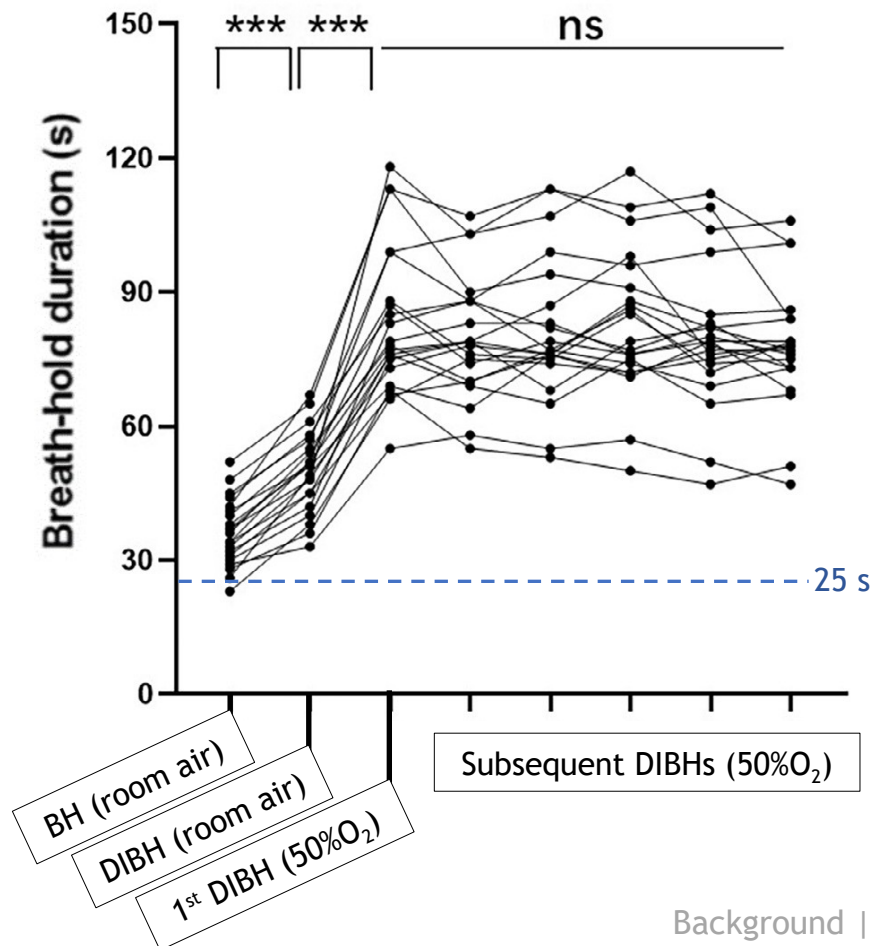
# Discussion

- Risk of administration high oxygen concentrations (up to 100%) ?
  - Severe COPD (stage 'GOLD IV')
  - In combination with current/previous treatment with bleomycin or amiodarone**when administered for > 6 hours (also at a few minutes a day?)**
- Use *Venturi* mask to ensure exact and predictable oxygen concentrations
- Supplemental oxygen concentrations of 35% to 50% might be sufficient to enable (repeated) DIBHs



# DIBH with 50%O<sub>2</sub> using a Venturi mask

Breath-hold duration of 21 patients undergoing RT<sup>2</sup>



As in previous talks

- Birmingham
- San Francisco



Oxygen Concentration

24%
28%
31%
35%
40%
60%



# Conclusion

Administration of supplemental oxygen to patients with left-sided breast cancer:

- enabled them to repeatedly breath-hold for the required duration of 25 s
  - even doubled DIBH durations
  - did not extend treatment time slots
  - did not increase the workload of RTTs
  - potentially prevents treatment during free breathing
- 
- should be administered via a Venturi mask to patients who are not able to breath-hold