



*Mechanical ventilation in radiotherapy for intrathoracic tumours:
a hypothesis under pressure?*

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Conflict of interest disclosure

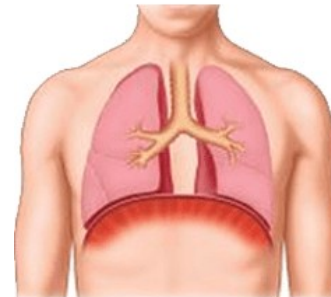
	COI status	Names of companies / organizations
Post of executive / consultant		None
Grant / Research funding		None

Continuous and Bi-level positive airway pressure for motion mitigation of intra-thoracic tumors treated with radiotherapy (SISTER-study)

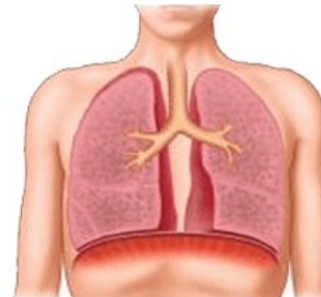
- Aim: find the optimal CPAP/BiPAP setting that results in the largest reduction of target motion

Hypothesis

1. Hyperinflation
 - Flattening of diaphragm → reduction of tidal volumes
 - Displacing OAR away from tumor
2. BiPAP with small pressure difference and high back-up frequency
 1. May enable complete control over patient's breathing
 2. Smaller tidal volumes
 3. Stable breathing pattern



Normal Lungs



Hyperinflated Lungs

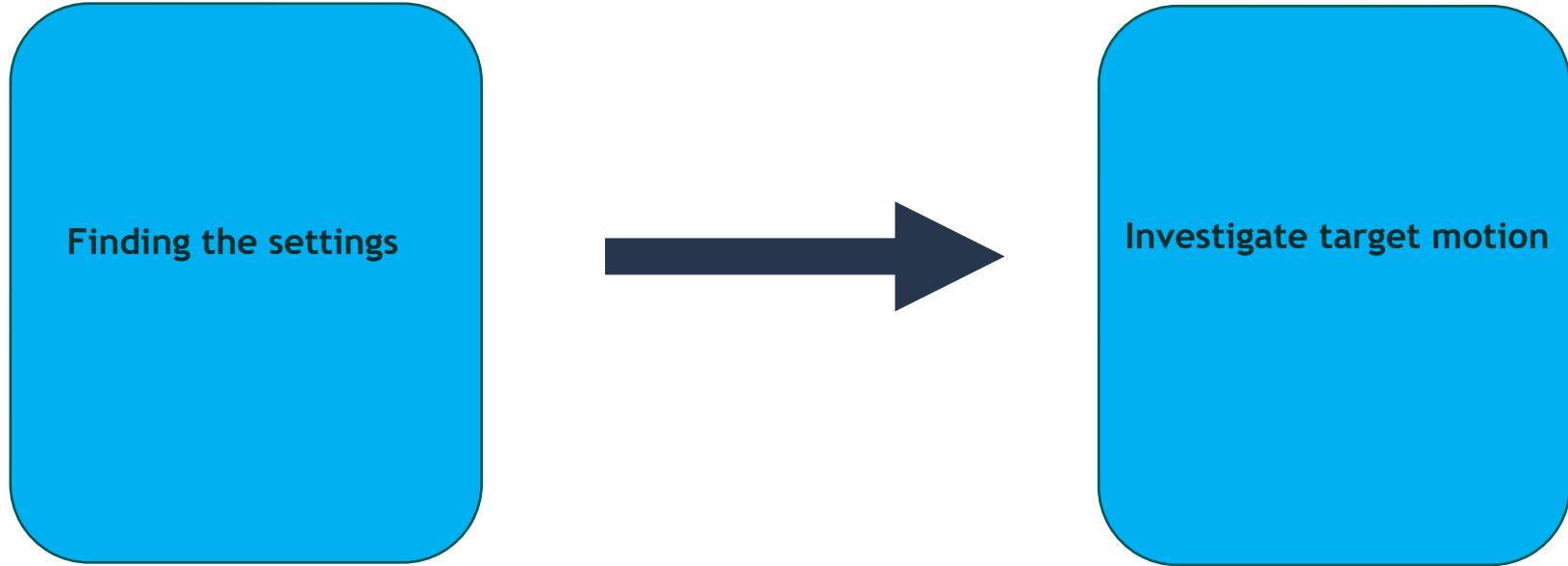
UMCG Center for home ventilation

→ Philips Respironics BiPAP A40 Pro

- Easy in use
- Readily available
- Wide experience and in-hospital support



Study: 2 phases



Design: phase 1

Inclusion

- 5 pts lung cancer
- 5 pts esophageal cancer or malignant lymphoma

Apply different settings

- CPAP 5 cmH₂O
- CPAP 10 cmH₂O
- CPAP 15 cmH₂O
- BiPAP 14/10 cmH₂O with low frequency
- BiPAP 14/10 cmH₂O with high frequency

Measurements

- Tolerability/Comfort
- Safety
 - CO₂ level
 - Oxygen saturation
 - Heart rate
- Breathing amplitudes
- Breathing variability

VAS



Phase 1: measure pulmonary volume changes

- EIT: Electrical impedance tomography
 - Increase/decrease of gas within the lung can be determined



- **TIV:** tidal impedance variation $\rightarrow \sim$ tidal volume
- **EELZ:** end-expiratory lung impedance $\rightarrow \sim$ end-expiratory lung volume

Results – Phase 1

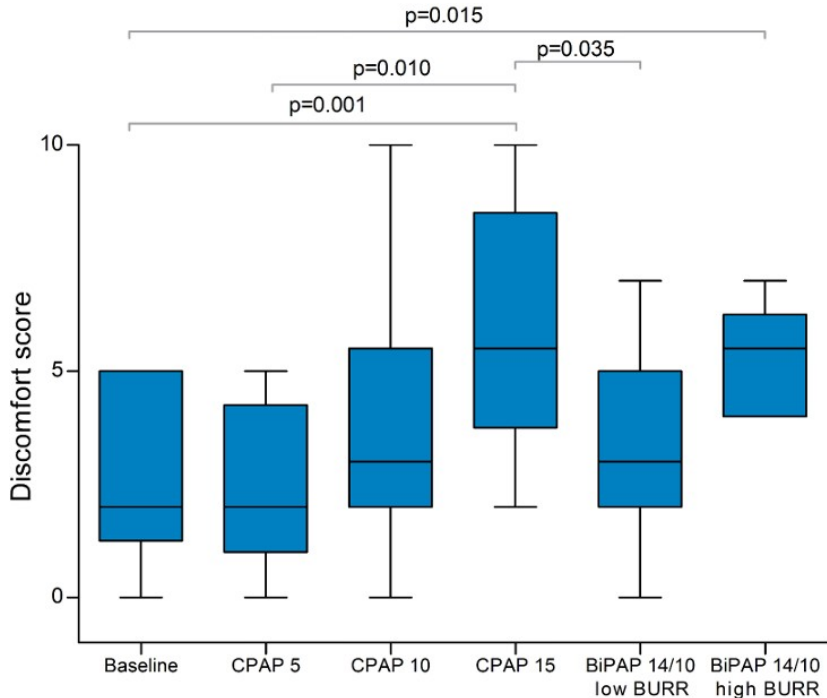
- Stable pCO₂, O₂ and HR for all settings

#	Sex	Age	Radiotherapy due to
1	M	67	Lung carcinoma (cT4N1)
2	M	33	Lymphoma (Hodgkin stadium II)
3	M	56	Lung carcinoma (cT1cN2M1b)
4	M	61	Lung carcinoma (cT4N2M1b)
5	M	70	Lung carcinoma (cT2aN2M0)
6	M	80	Lung carcinoma (cT2aN3M0)
7	M	58	Esophageal carcinoma (cT3N0-1M0)
8	M	34	Lymphoma (Hodgkin stadium IIB)
9	F	23	Lymphoma (Hodgkin stadium IIB)
10	M	20	Lymphoma (Hodgkin stadium IIA)

Results – Phase 1

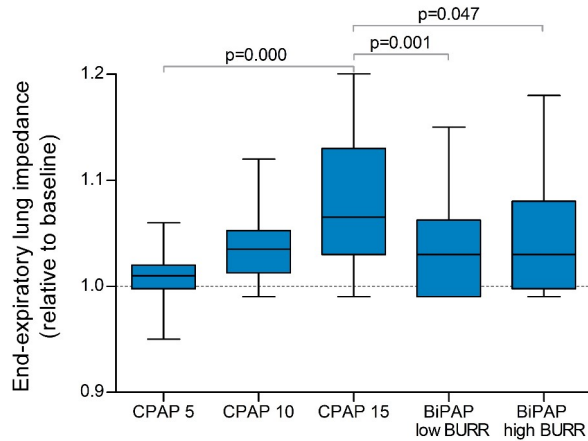
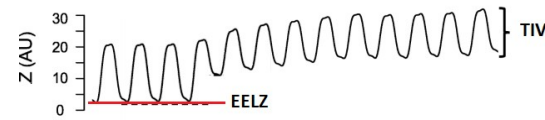
Tolerability and comfort

- 1 patient did not tolerate CPAP 15

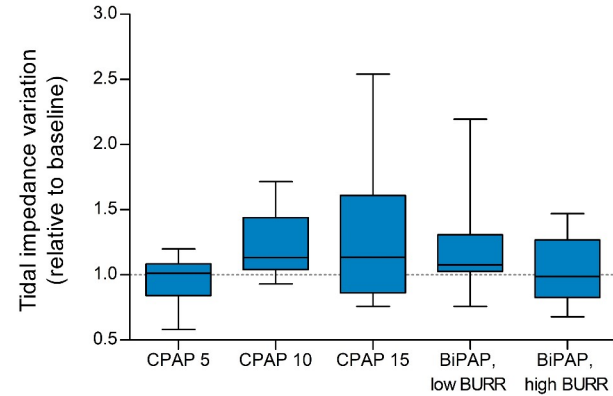


Results Phase 1

Electrical Impedance Tomography measurements



Hyperinflation



Tidal volume =

Results Phase 1 - Summary

- Hyperinflation is present
- This hyperinflation does not lead to lower tidal volumes
- BiPAP with high back-up frequency was selected for phase 2 of the study:
 - Some degree of hyperinflation
 - Relatively small tidal volumes
 - When patient is used to BiPAP, results may improve

Phase 2 - Method

- Eligibility: Lung/oesophageal cancer patients, malignant lymphoma
- Training session to accommodate to BiPAP (no extra O₂); tweak breathing rate
 - Set the ventilator to 2 breaths above patients own breathing rate
- CT for RT planning with/without BiPAP → repeated weekly
 - Radiotherapy is delivered without BiPAP



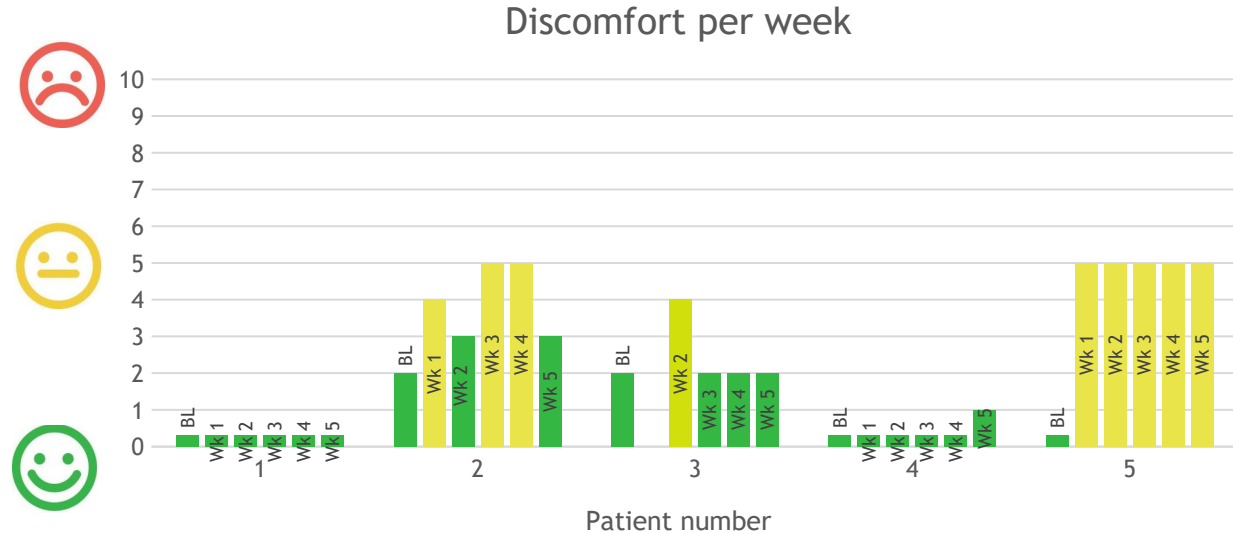
Phase 2 - Results

- All lung cancer patients
- Median age: 63 (range 56-71)
- Median FEV1 (%): 49 (range 29-81)
- COPD: yes 3/5.

Patient	Tumor location	TNM
1	Main bronchus	cT4N2M1a
2	Lower Lobe (R)	cT4N2M0
3	Upper Lobe (R)	cT1aN2M0
4	Lower Lobe (R)	cT2aN1M0
5	Upper Lobe (L)	cT4N1M0

Phase 2 - Results

- Feasibility:
 - 1 patient could not fulfil trainings procedure (withdrawn from study).
- Discomfort scores:

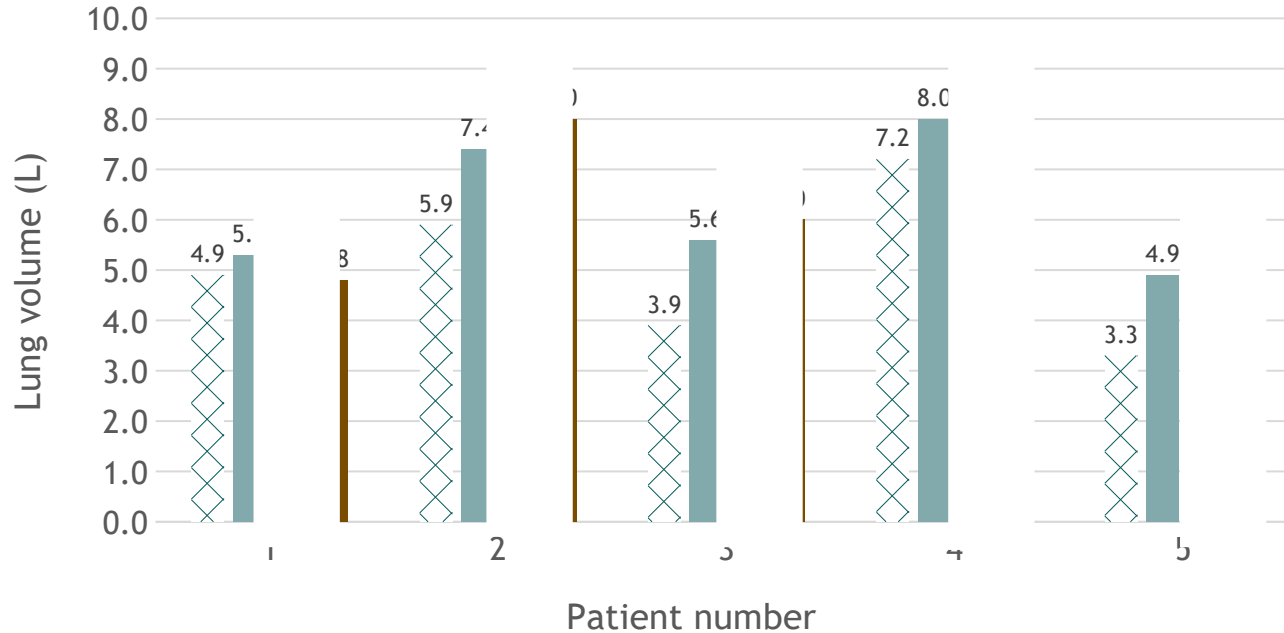


Phase 2 - Results

- Lung volumes and tumour movement extracted from the radiotherapy CTs
 - Baseline and last week of radiotherapy

Phase 2 - Results

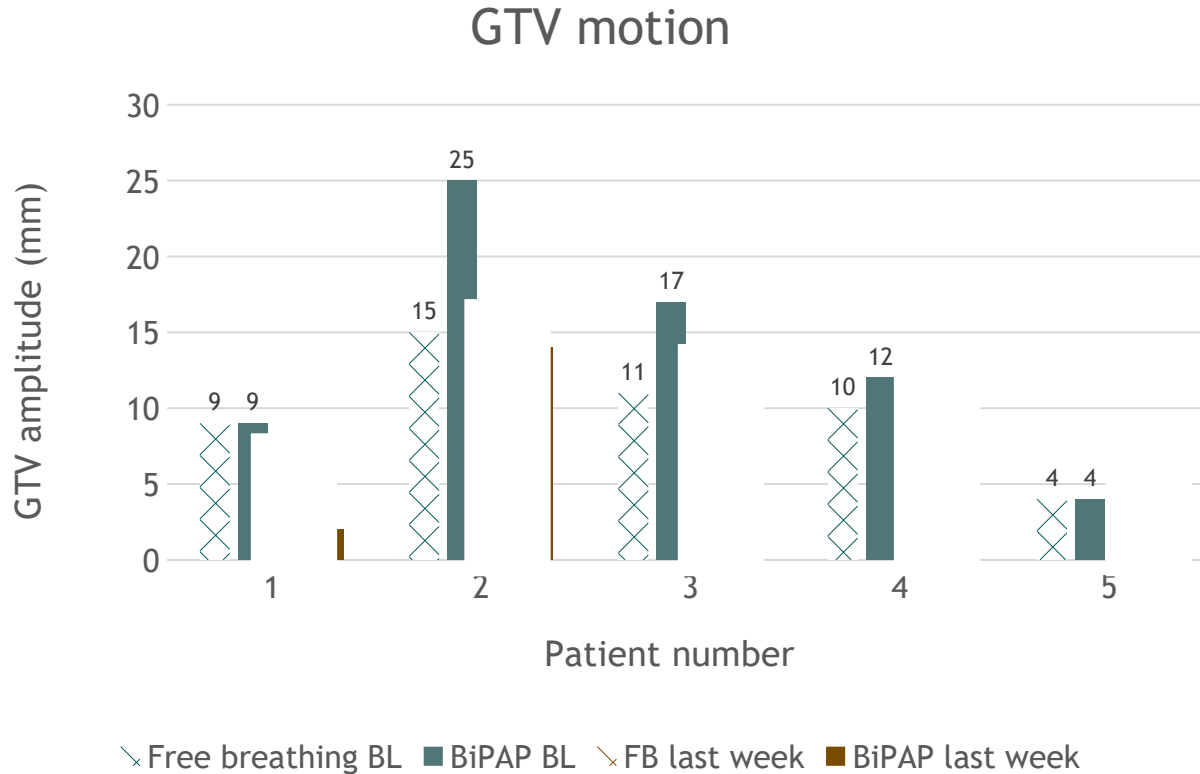
Lung volume



✕ Free breathing BL
 ■ BiPAP BL
 ✕ FB last week
 ■ BiPAP last week

Phase 2 - Results

- Tumour motion



Summary

- BiPAP was well tolerated
- BiPAP ventilation increases lung volume
- So far mixed results regarding reduction in tumour motion
- Future:
 - Include more patients
 - Improve training/instruction of the patient using BiPAP
 - Re-evaluate the settings of the mechanical ventilator
 - Learn a lot at this meeting to improve the outcomes!

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