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CARDIOPULMONARY FUNCTION TEST: WHAT MAKES SENSE

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LEEDS THORACIC SURGERY St.James's Institute of Oncology St.James's University Hospital Leeds. United Kingdom www.leedsthoracicsurgery.com Exercise testing is increasingly used to assess the aerobic reserve of lung resection candidates.

These tests have the capability to assess the entire oxygen transport system and to detect possible deficits that may predispose to postoperative complications.

Therefore, the potential exists to evaluate much of the cardiopulmonary system with just one test (Olsen GN. Chest 1989; 95: 218-225)

Types of exercise tests

Test low-tech:

- 6-min walking test
- Shuttle test
- Stair climbing test

Test high tech:

• VO2/VCO2 measurement (Cycle, treadmill)

Cardiopulmonary exercise test

- Performed in a controlled environment.
- Continuous monitoring of various parameters.
- Easy standardization and good reproducibility of results.
- PeakVO2 is the single most important parameter as a direct measure of exercise capacity.
- CPET does not only allow assessment of over-all cardiopulmonary reserves, but in case of a limitation of exercise capacity, to find the reason for this, such as pulmonary, cardiovascular, or musculo-skeletal limitations.



VO2max and postop morbidity

Exercise Capacity as a Predictor of Postoperative Complications in Lung Resection Candidates

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Am J Respir Crit Care Med 1995





The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS NHS Trust

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Exercise capacity and extent of resection as predictors of surgical risk in lung cancer

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Table 3. - Results of stepwise logistic regression analysis

Parameter	Step	Coeff	SEM	Improvement Chi-squared	p-value
Constant factor	0	2.9883	1.2	-	-
V'O2,max·kg body weight ⁻¹ % pred	1	-0.0573	0.014	19.7	< 0.0001
Resection %	2	0.0343	0.015	5.3	0.02

Table 4. – Probabilities of postoperative complications based on exercise tests and lung resection according to stepwise logistic regression analysis

V'O2,max·kg body weight ⁻¹ % pred	SE/ wedge	LE	BLE	PE
120	0.03	0.04	0.07	0.11
110	0.04	0.07	0.12	0.17
100	0.08	0.11	0.19	0.27
90	0.13	0.19	0.29	0.39
80	0.21	0.29	0.42	0.53
70	0.31	0.42	0.56	0.67
60	0.45	0.56	0.69	0.78
50	0.59	0.69	0.80	0.86

6 of 7 pts with VO2<60% had compl (86%) 11 of 17 with VO2 < 15 ml/kg/min had compl (65%) 8 of 65 with VO2 > 90% had compl (12%)



Respiratory complications by peakVO2 (204 anatomic resections)



Brunelli A et al. CHEST 2009

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Mortality and peakVO2 (204 anatomic resections)



Brunelli A et al. CHEST 2009

Stratification of outcomes by peakVO2



Brunelli A et al. CHEST 2009



Benzo R et al. Respir Med 2007

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	Area under the curve	SE	Lower–upper bound	p-value	Cut-off	Sensitivity %	Specificity %
Total morbidity							
V'02 kg ⁻¹	0.717	0.045	0.651-0.777	0.0001	12.8	51	85
V′O₂ kg ⁻¹ PBW	0.710	0.045	0.643-0.771	0.0001	15.8	64	69
V'02% pred	0.657	0.045	0.589-0.722	0.0010	58	75	48
ASA score	0.593	0.039	0.523-0.661	0.0156	3	71	48
ppo FEV1	0.565	0.045	0.495-0.633	0.7880	64	65	49
Cardiovascular complication	ns						
V'02 kg-1	0.708	0.065	0.640-0.771	0.0011	13.6	63	72
V'O2 kg-1 PBW	0.738	0.054	0.671-0.798	0.0001	16.2	75	61
V'O2 % pred	0.633	0.061	0.562-0.700	0.0029	53	64	61
ASA score	0.630	0.046	0.560-0.695	0.0080	3	79	47
ppo FEV1 % pred	0.492	0.066	0.422-0.562	0.9030	80	29	79
Pulmonary complications							
V'O2 kg-1	0.723	0.057	0.654-0.784	0.0001	12.3	56	86
V'O ₂ kg ⁻¹ PBW	0.691	0.065	0.580-0.718	0.0020	12.1	45	94
V'02% pred	0.616	0.066	0.544-0.684	0.0169	37	30	95
ASA score	0.597	0.044	0.527-0.664	0.0269	3	73	47
ppo FEV1	0.545	0.051	0.480-0.614	0.3716	64	73	50

Licker M et al. Eur Respir J 2011



Licker M et al. Eur Respir J 2011



r² = 0.011

150

180

120

ό L 0

60

90

Weight (kg)



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Effect of pre-operative training in lung cancer patients

Short term aerobic training. 4-6 sessions/week, 4-6 weeks + pt education and breathing techniques

Jones L Cancer 2007, 20 pts

Increase in peak VO2max (2.3 ml/kg/min) Increase in 6MWT (40 m) No changes in PFTs

Bobbio A EJCTS 2008, 12 pts

Increase in peak VO2 (2.8mL/kg/min)No improvement of PFT

Divisi D EJCTS 2013, 27 pts

Increase in peak VO2 (6.3 ml/kg/min)
Increase in PaO2 (22 mmHg)
Increase in PFTs (FEV1, FEV1/FVC)

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7.4.3. In patients with lung cancer being considered for surgery and deemed at high risk (as defined by the proposed functional algorithm, ie, PPO FEV₁ or PPO DLCO < 60% and $\dot{V}O_2max < 10$ ml/kg/min or < 35%), preoperative or postoperative pulmonary rehabilitation is recommended (Grade 1C).

Brunelli A et al CHEST 2013;143(5 Suppl):e166S



Beyond VO2max: VE/VCO2

EJCTS 2010

Exercise ventilatory inefficiency and mortality in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease undergoing surgery for non-small-cell lung cancer

Roberto Torchio^{a,*}, Marco Guglielmo^a, Roberto Giardino^b, Francesco Ardissone^b, Claudio Ciacco^a, Carlo Gulotta^c, Aleksandar Veljkovic^d, Massimiliano Bugiani^e

> 95% confidence Odds ratio z p > zinterval Risk of death $V'_{\rm E}/V'_{\rm CO_2}$ slope 1.24 1.06 - 1.442.77 0.0060 BMI 0.75 0.55 - 1.04-1.730.0830 Risk of complications $V'_{O_2 peak}$ 0.01 - 0.58-2.390.0170 0.05 1.00 - 1.37BMI 1.17 1.97 0.0490

VE/VCO2 slope < 34: 98% survival probability VE/VCO2 slope≥34: 5.5% probability of death



c-index 0.87

VALS O

Minute Ventilation-to-Carbon Dioxide Output $(\dot{V}_E/\dot{V}_{CO_2})$ Slope Is the Strongest Predictor of Respiratory Complications and Death After Pulmonary Resection

Alessandro Brunelli, MD, Romualdo Belardinelli, MD, Cecilia Pompili, MD, Francesco Xiumé, MD, Majed Refai, MD, Michele Salati, MD, and Armando Sabbatini, MD



VE/VCO2 is a predictor of respiratory complications either in pts with VO2<15 and VO2>15 mL/kg/min



VE/VCO2 is a predictor of respiratory complications either in pts with and without COPD



VE/VCO2 > vs. < 35: RC 22% vs 7.6%; death 7.6% vs. 0.2%



CPET and cardiac risk

European Heart Journal (2003) 24, 1304-1313





Exercise-induced myocardial ischaemia detected by cardiopulmonary exercise testing

Romualdo Belardinelli^a*, Francesca Lacalaprice^a, Flavia Carle^b, Adelaide Minnucci^b, Giovanni Cianci^a, GianPiero Perna^a, Giuseppe D'Eusanio^a







VO2max AND survival



PREDICTORS	HR	P value
Age>70	2.3	0.005
VO2max<60%	2.4	0.001

P=0.0004

Brunelli A et al. Ann Thorac Surg 2014; 98:238



Brunelli A et al. Ann Thorac Surg 2014; 98:238



VO2max AND quality of life after surgery

Quality of life after lung resection is not associated with functional objective measures

Postop QoL scale	VO₂max ≥15 mL/kg/min [155]	VO₂max ≤15 mL/kg/min [66]	P-value
PCS	49.7 [7.6]	47.7 [8.1]	0.1
MCS	49.1 [10.4]	46.3 [12.3]	0.2
PF	50 [7.6]	44.5 [9.7]	<0.0001
RP	45 [11.4]	44 [12.5]	0.6
BP	51.1 [10.5]	52.6 [9.9]	0.3
GH	49.1 [8.6]	46.5 [9.7]	0.09
VT	56.1 [8.9]	52.1 [10.7]	0.006
SF	48.6 [10]	46.6 [10.3]	0.2
RE	46.5 [12.7]	45.1 [13.2]	0.4
MH	48 [10.2]	43.9 [13.5]	0.04

Pompili C et al. Eur Respir J 2013

Proportion of patients with postoperative low Physical or Mental QoL scores



Individual objective components of health, such as VO2max, when they are extrapolated from the patients contextual framework, may constitute only the basis of self-rating, which can be subsequently modified by the context of the evaluation



CPET in the guidelines



EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF THORACIC SURGEONS

Recommendations:

ESTS

1- Cardio-pulmonary exercise tests are performed in controlled environment,

reproducible and safe. PeakVO2 measured during an incremental exercise on treadmill

or cycle should be regarded as the most important parameter to consider, as a measure

of exercise capacity and highly predictive of postoperative complications.

Level of evidence 2++; Grade of recommendations B

2- The following basic cut-off values for peak VO2 should be considered :

peakVO2>75% of predicted value or 20mL/min/kg qualifies for pneumonectomy

peakVO2 < 35% or 10 mL/min/kg indicates high risk for any resection.

Evidence is thin to recommend cut-off values for lobectomy

Level of evidence 2++; Grade of recommendations C



European Respiratory Society



CHEST

Supplement

DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF LUNG CANCER, 3RD ED: ACCP GUIDELINES

3.2.1.3. In patients with lung cancer being considered for surgery, with either a PPO $FEV_1 < 30\%$ predicted or a PPO DLCO < 30% predicted performance of a formal cardiopulmonary exercise test (CPET) with measurement of maximal oxygen consumption (\dot{Vo}_2max) is recommended (Grade 1B).



3.9.2. In patients with lung cancer being considered for surgery and a $\dot{V}o_2max < 10ml/kg/min or < 35\%$ predicted it is recommended that they are counseled about minimally invasive surgery, sublobar resections or nonoperative treatment options for their lung cancer (Grade 1C).

Physiologic Evaluation of the Patient With Lung Cancer Being Considered for Resectional Surgery

Diagnosis and Management of Lung Cancer, 3rd ed: American College of Chest Physicians Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines

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CPET and VATS lobectomy: is VO2max still a reliable indicator?







Mortality in High Risk patients



Burt BM et al. JTCVS 2014; 148:19-28

1684 lobectomies patients with VO2max available in ESTS database 281 VATS lobectomies



Low VO2max (<15 ml/kg/min) was not associated with increased surgical risk after VATS lobectomy, challenging the traditional operability criteria