

# The investigation of various titration techniques aimed at determining the most effective positive end expiratory pressure (PEEP) for individuals suffering from acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (AECOPD)

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<b>Registration date</b> 17/04/2024	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 15/04/2024	<b>Condition category</b> Respiratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

## Plain English summary of protocol

### Background and study aims

Incorrectly adjusting the positive end expiratory pressure (PEEP) in patients experiencing acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (AECOPD) can result in two outcomes: either inadequate PEEP (known as intrinsic PEEP or iPEEP) when set too low, or an increase in lung volume when set above iPEEP. Thus, adjusting PEEP is akin to personalized medicine, aiming to recruit the small airways, alleviate iPEEP, reduce the work of breathing (WOB), and enhance patient-ventilator interaction (PVA), such as addressing ineffective triggering and trigger delay.

This research seeks to investigate the best method for titrating PEEP in patients with AECOPD to decrease iPEEP, lower respiratory effort, minimize trigger delay, and enhance synchronization between the patient and the ventilator.

### Who can participate?

AECOPD patients aged 18-85 years.

### What does the study involve?

A total of 30 AECOPD patients were enrolled and optimal PEEP titration was performed using different methods (EIT, esophageal pressure, end-expiratory obstruction, etc.) We compare the PEEPtot, PEEPi, trigger delay,  $\Delta P_{es}$ , asynchrony index under the optimal PEEP obtained by different methods.

### What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

This study is free of charge, and patients can obtain accurate respiratory mechanical parameters to help guide the Settings of ventilator parameters The placement of esophageal pressure may

cause a small amount of bleeding and discomfort in the nasal mucosa of the subjects, which is an additional risk for this study. However, because the esophageal pressure tube is only placed for a short time in this study, other related complications (such as gastritis, gastric bleeding, perforation, etc.) are generally not encountered.

Where is the study run from?

Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine (China)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

June 2022 to December 2024

Who is funding the study?

Investigator initiated and funded

Who is the main contact?

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## Contact information

### Type(s)

Public, Scientific, Principal investigator

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## Additional identifiers

### Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

Nil known

### ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

Nil known

### Protocol serial number

2022091055651336

## Study information

### Scientific Title

Study on optimal PEEP titration in patients with acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

### **Study objectives**

There are many methods for titration of optimal PEEP in patients with AECOPD, and we wanted to compare the advantages and disadvantages of different titration methods to obtain optimal PEEP and the clinical manifestations

### **Ethics approval required**

Ethics approval required

### **Ethics approval(s)**

approved 12/09/2022, Medical Ethics Committee of Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine (Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, 3 Qingchun Dong Lu, Shangcheng District, Hangzhou, 310016, China; +86 86006811; 594961420@qq.com), ref: 2022, No. 0332

### **Study design**

Observational cohort study

### **Primary study design**

Observational

### **Study type(s)**

Quality of life, Safety, Efficacy

### **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

The reasonable setting of PEEP in AECOPD patients can prevent the poor effect caused by setting too low, and the excessive lung inflation caused by setting too high

### **Interventions**

A cohort study was used in this study. Patients were divided into an invasive ventilation group and a non-invasive ventilation group according to clinical treatment. This study did not interfere with this treatment regimen.

Invasive ventilation group: A total of 10 patients were included to verify the significance and accuracy of PEEPi measured by electrical impedance technique (EIT), esophageal pressure monitoring and end-expiratory obstruction in guiding optimal PEEP setting.

Non-invasive ventilation (NIV) group: A total of 20 patients were included to verify the significance of EIT, esophageal titration and setting optimal PEEP for automatic PEEPi monitoring of Mindray SV70 respirator in improving human-machine synchronization.

The patients were ventilated at a supine position with mechanical ventilation, then a multifunctional nasogastric tube was placed, and then EIT was connected. Once the patient was used to the experimental setting and appeared to be relaxed, measurements were performed: PEEP titration was started, subsequently increased 1 cmH<sub>2</sub>O every 10 minutes, until EIT showed that EELI was significantly elevated. Then we obtained the respiratory mechanical parameters of optimal PEEP under different titrations and compared them clinically

### **Intervention Type**

Other

## Primary outcome(s)

### In NIV group

1. The patients were ventilated at supine position with mechanical ventilation settings as follows: S/T mode, RR12 bpm, Pressure support (PS) was set at 6 cmH<sub>2</sub>O, and then progressively modified, according to tidal volume (V<sub>te</sub>/kg of PBW), in order to target a V<sub>te</sub>/kg of 6 ~8 mL/kg PBW and a spontaneous RR lower than 24 breaths/min, FiO<sub>2</sub> was increased to target a SpO<sub>2</sub> ≥90%; The oronasal facemask was finely adjusted to target a leak flow lower than 20 L/min. The inspiratory trigger was set at medium and respiratory cycling was set at medium of the inspiratory peak flow.

2. A multifunctional nasogastric tube was placed, and then EIT was connected. Once the patient was used to the experimental setting and appeared to be relaxed, measurements were performed: PEEP titration was initially set at 4 cmH<sub>2</sub>O (because that the lowest PEEP of NIV is currently 4 cmH<sub>2</sub>O), and subsequently increased by 1 cm H<sub>2</sub>O every 10 minutes, until to EIT showed that EELI was significantly elevated. All measurements were performed during a relatively stable spontaneous breathing pattern of 10 minutes and results were averaged for each assessment step.

### 3. Data recording

3.1. Esophageal pressure measurements: The ΔP<sub>es</sub>, PEEPi<sub>dyn</sub>, PEEPt<sub>tot</sub>, trigger delay, asynchrony index measured by esophageal pressure during PEEP titration were recorded offline.

3.2. EIT measurements: ΔEELI. The value of ΔEELI was the average of the change in EELI for any 10 breaths per PEEP (compared with PEEP 4cmH<sub>2</sub>O).

We defined the optimal PEEP as "The PEEPt<sub>tot</sub> curves traced during PEEP titration were recorded offline, and the inflection point before the steep rise of the curve was selected as the best PEEP point; if not, 4cmH<sub>2</sub>O was selected as the optimal PEEP." We observed the performance of PEEPi<sub>dyn</sub>, ΔP<sub>es</sub>, trigger delay, asynchrony index, and ΔEELI at optimal PEEP.

### Invasive mechanical ventilation group:

#### 1. Spontaneous breathing phase

the patients were ventilated at supine position with mechanical ventilation settings as follows: PCV mode, RR12 bpm, Pressure support (PS) was set to target a V<sub>te</sub>/kg of 6 ~8 mL/kg PBW and a spontaneous RR lower than 24 breaths/min, FiO<sub>2</sub> was increased to target a SpO<sub>2</sub> ≥90%. A multifunctional nasogastric tube was placed, and then EIT was connected.

Then measurements were performed: PEEP titration was initially set at 0 cmH<sub>2</sub>O, and subsequently increased 2 cmH<sub>2</sub>O every 10 minutes, until to EIT showed that EELI was significantly elevated.

All measurements were performed during a relatively stable spontaneous breathing pattern of 10 minutes and results were averaged for each assessment step. We chose 80% of PEEPi<sub>dyn</sub> as the optimal PEEP based on esophageal pressure (measured at PEEP0). We chose PEEP at the lowest RVD as the optimal PEEP.

#### 2. Deep sedation phase

Then placed the patient under deep sedation, we performed three end-expiratory occlusions and take the average as PEEPi.

### 3. Data recording

3.1. Esophageal pressure measurements: The ΔP<sub>es</sub>, trigger delay, and asynchrony index measured by esophageal pressure during PEEP titration were recorded offline.

3.2. EIT measurements: ΔEELI, GI.

We compare the trigger delay, ΔP<sub>es</sub>, asynchrony index, GI under the optimal PEEP obtained by these three methods.

## Key secondary outcome(s)

There are no secondary outcome measures

**Completion date**

31/12/2024

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Diagnostic criteria for AECOPD met according to The 2018 GOLD definition needing noninvasive ventilation within 3 days
2. Age older than 18 years and younger than 85 years
3. Signed informed consent able to be obtained.

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 years

**Upper age limit**

85 years

**Sex**

All

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Hemodynamically unstable
2. Gastrointestinal bleedings
3. Severe neurological disease
4. End-stage malignant disease
5. Interstitial lung disease
6. Chest wall deformities
7. Suffering from other organ failure
8. Cancer
9. Contraindication to use of EIT
10. Inability to cooperate with noninvasive ventilation.

**Date of first enrolment**

01/06/2022

**Date of final enrolment**

31/12/2024

## Locations

## Countries of recruitment

China

## Study participating centre

Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine

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## Sponsor information

### Organisation

Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital

### ROR

<https://ror.org/00ka6rp58>

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Other

### Funder Name

Investigator initiated and funded

## Results and Publications

### Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The current data sharing plans for this study are unknown and will be available at a later date

### IPD sharing plan summary

Data sharing statement to be made available at a later date

### Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Participant information sheet</a>	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes