

# The effects of hydrogen-rich water on exercise performance and lung function

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<b>Registration date</b> 26/10/2023	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 20/11/2023	<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

Research into hydrogen-rich water has demonstrated some positive effects across a number of diseases and sports performance. To date, no research has investigated the effects on physically active asthmatics whereby the benefits might be twofold (improving asthma severity and exercise performance). The aim of this study was to investigate whether short- and long-term hydrogen-rich water can improve cycling performance and lung function in physically active asthmatics and healthy physically active males compared to plain water.

### Who can participate?

Healthy physically active males and those with asthma aged between 18 to 55 years old

### What does the study involve?

All participants will drink hydrogen-rich water and plain water for 2 weeks each in a randomised order. Physiological measures taken will include VO2 max test, finger-tip blood lactate samples, venous blood samples of airway inflammatory markers, breath-by-breath gas analysis, and near-infrared spectroscopy for tissue oxygen saturation and lung function using spirometry. Exercise performance measures taken will include time to complete a 5km cycling time trial.

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

Participants will receive a VO2 max report which gives an indication of current fitness level. Lung function reports will be able to inform participants of current asthma management. To date, there are no known side effects of hydrogen-rich water which will be continually monitored throughout the research study.

### Where is the study run from?

University of Kent (UK)

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

June 2023 to June 2024

Who is funding the study?

1. Osmio Water Technology (UK)
2. University of Kent (UK)

Who is the main contact?

Savannah Sturridge, sas92@kent.ac.uk (UK)

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Public, Scientific, Principal investigator

### Contact name

Miss Savannah Sturridge

### ORCID ID

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### Contact details

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## Additional identifiers

### Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

Nil known

### ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

Nil known

### Protocol serial number

Nil known

## Study information

### Scientific Title

The acute and chronic ingestion of hydrogen-rich water on 5km time trial performance and lung function in physically active individuals

### Study objectives

The acute and chronic ingestion of hydrogen-rich water will lead to a faster 5km cycling time trial in addition to improving lung function and reduce inflammatory markers in physically active males with exercise-induced bronchoconstriction (EIB) compared to plain water.

## **Ethics approval required**

Ethics approval required

## **Ethics approval(s)**

approved 23/05/2023, University of Kent, School of Sport & Exercise Sciences, Research Ethics and Advisory Group (Chipperfield Building, Canterbury, Ct2 7PE, United Kingdom; None available; ssesethics@kent.ac.uk), ref: 27\_20\_23

## **Study design**

Single-centre randomized crossover double-blind study

## **Primary study design**

Interventional

## **Study type(s)**

Other

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

Exercise-induced bronchoconstriction

## **Interventions**

In total, participants will visit on 6 occasions which include the following visits:

Visit 1 - Confirmation of group (indirect bronchoprovocation test - see below for further detail)

Visit 2 - VO<sub>2</sub> max test on a cycle ergometer

Visit 3 - Acute (following a single 1L of randomly assigned first water condition)

Visit 4 - Chronic (following 2 weeks of 1L a day of the randomly assigned first water condition)

Visit 5 - Acute (following a single 1L of randomly assigned second water condition)

Visit 6 - Chronic (following 2 weeks of 1L a day of the randomly assigned second water condition)

Participants will be allocated into a 'healthy' group or the exercise-induced bronchoconstriction (EIB) group using an indirect airway bronchoprovocation challenge (eucapnic voluntary hyperpnoea (EVH) challenge). The EVH challenge is a 6-minute inhalation of a gas mixture containing 21% oxygen, 5% carbon dioxide and balance nitrogen at a high minute ventilation. In participants with EIB, lung function will significantly reduce (10% or more) following an EVH challenge compared to healthy volunteers. On the following visit, participants will complete a VO<sub>2</sub> max test which assesses their current fitness level. Then, participants will be instructed to drink 1 litre a day of either hydrogen-rich water or plain water for 2 weeks. There will be a 1-week washout period then the following 2 weeks they will be instructed to drink the alternative drinking water. The order of drinking water will be randomised using computer randomisation software. At each visit, a 5km time trial will be completed including lung function at baseline. To assess the chronic effect of hydrogen-rich water on airway inflammation, blood samples will be taken within 2 weeks of each condition.

## **Intervention Type**

Supplement

## **Primary outcome(s)**

1. Exercise performance measured using one 5km cycling time trial assessed by completion time. This will be done following a single 1L of the drink (acute) and following 2 weeks of drinking 1L a day of the drink (chronic).
2. Urine levels of 9 $\alpha$ ,11 $\beta$ -prostaglandin and Clara cell protein (CC16) measured in venous blood

samples collected at the end of the two weeks of each water condition using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) method at baseline of that final visit.

### **Key secondary outcome(s)**

To determine whether hydrogen-rich water improves exercise performance and/or the physiological response to exercise, the following measures will be taken:

1. Gas exchange (VO<sub>2</sub>, VCO<sub>2</sub>) measured using a respiratory gas analyser at each 1km of the 5km time trials
2. Perceptual responses measured using the Borg Rating of Perceived Exertion (RPE) scale at each 1km of the 5km time trials
3. Heart rate measured using a heart rate Bluetooth chest band at each 1km of the 5km time trial
4. Blood lactate concentration measured using finger prick blood samples before and after each 5km time trial

To determine whether hydrogen-rich water improves lung function, the following outcome variable will be assessed:

Lung function measured using spirometry following participants drinking 1 litre of water and following 2 weeks (1 litre of water a day)

### **Completion date**

03/06/2024

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

1. Ability to consent to the research
2. Aged 18 to 55 years old
3. Physically active (defined as engaging in at least 75 minutes of high intensity exercise a week)
4. Either a diagnosis of Exercise-Induced Bronchoconstriction or without a diagnosis
5. Normal resting Forced Expiratory Volume in One Second (FEV<sub>1</sub>) defined as >80% predicted value.

### **Participant type(s)**

Healthy volunteer, Patient

### **Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

### **Age group**

Adult

### **Lower age limit**

18 years

### **Upper age limit**

55 years

### **Sex**

Male

## Key exclusion criteria

1. Respiratory infection or hospitalisation related to respiratory conditions in the last 4 weeks
2. Respiratory condition other than an asthma-related condition
3. Chronic medical conditions (e.g., metabolic, neurological, cardiovascular etc)

## Date of first enrolment

29/05/2023

## Date of final enrolment

06/05/2024

## Locations

### Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

### Study participating centre

University of Kent

The Registry

Canterbury

United Kingdom

CT2 7NZ

## Sponsor information

### Organisation

University of Kent

### ROR

<https://ror.org/00xkeyj56>

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

University/education

### Funder Name

University of Kent

### Alternative Name(s)

The University of Kent

**Funding Body Type**

Private sector organisation

**Funding Body Subtype**

Universities (academic only)

**Location**

United Kingdom

**Funder Name**

Osmio Water Technology

## **Results and Publications**

**Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan**

The dataset generated during and/or analysed during the current study will be available upon request from Savannah Sturridge (sas92@kent.ac.uk) after the completion and publication of the study results (de-identified participant data).

**IPD sharing plan summary**

Available on request