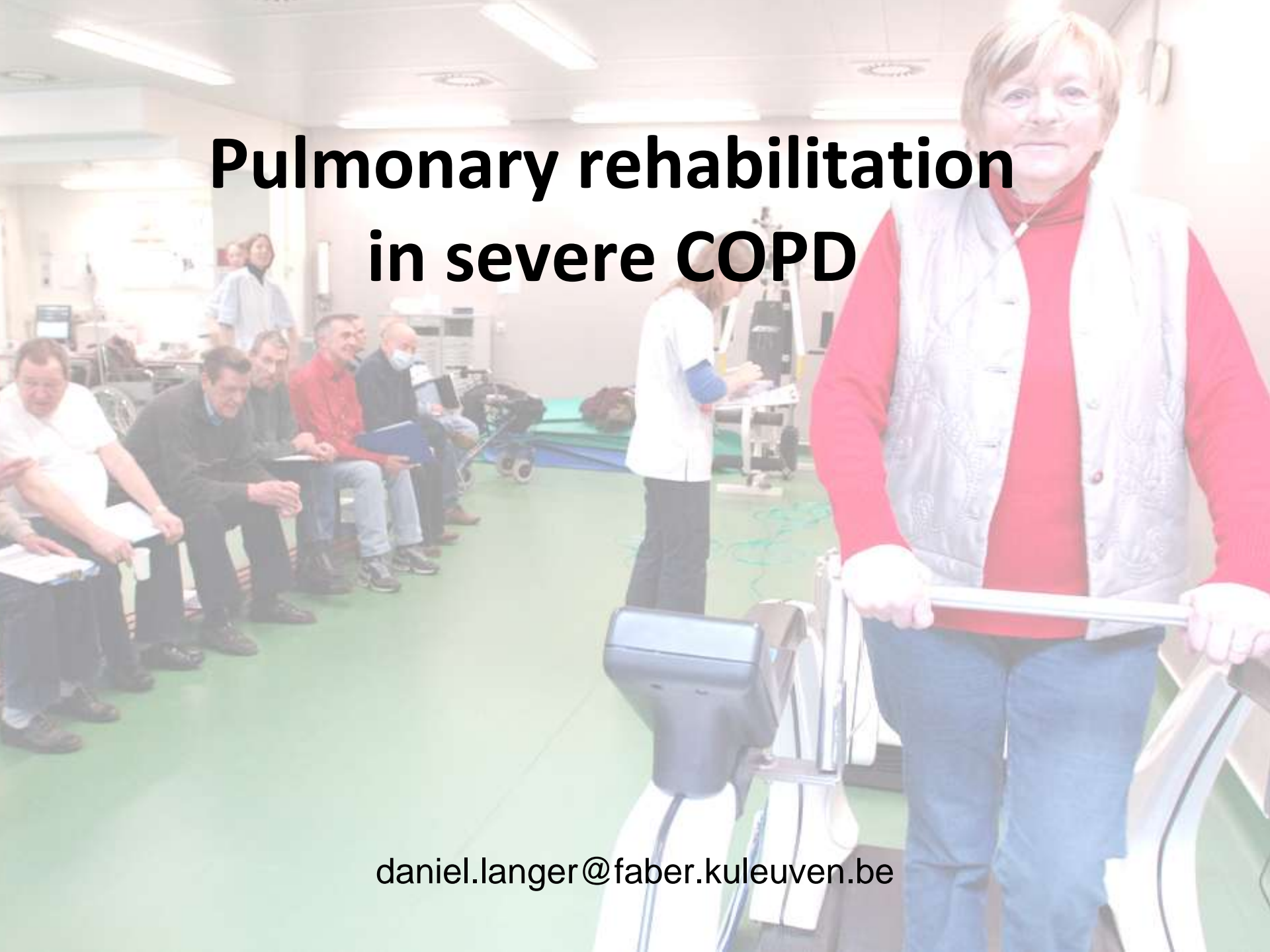


# **Pulmonary rehabilitation in severe COPD**



[daniel.langer@faber.kuleuven.be](mailto:daniel.langer@faber.kuleuven.be)

# Content

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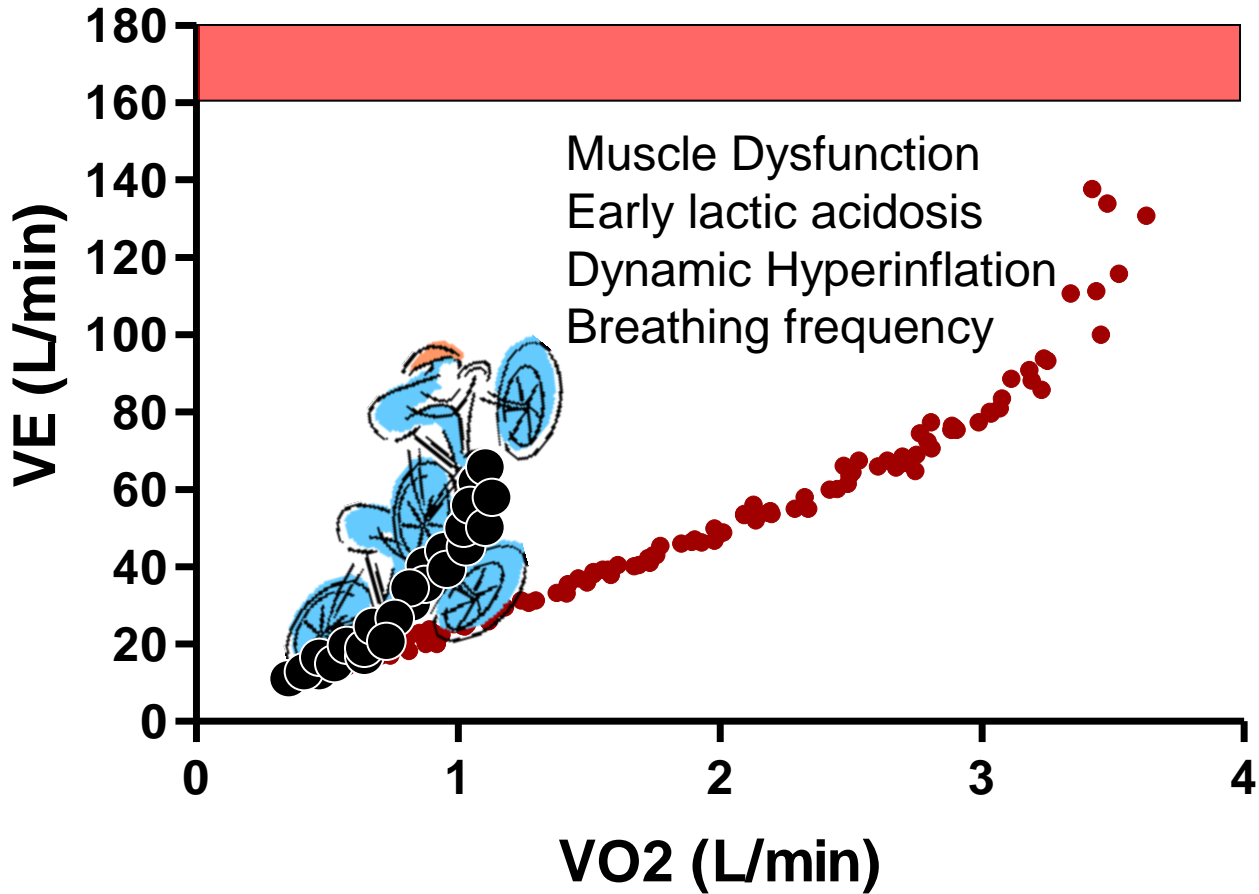
- Rehabilitation (how) does it work ?
- How to train the **ventilatory limited** patient ?

# Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

NHLBI/WHO Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) Definition:

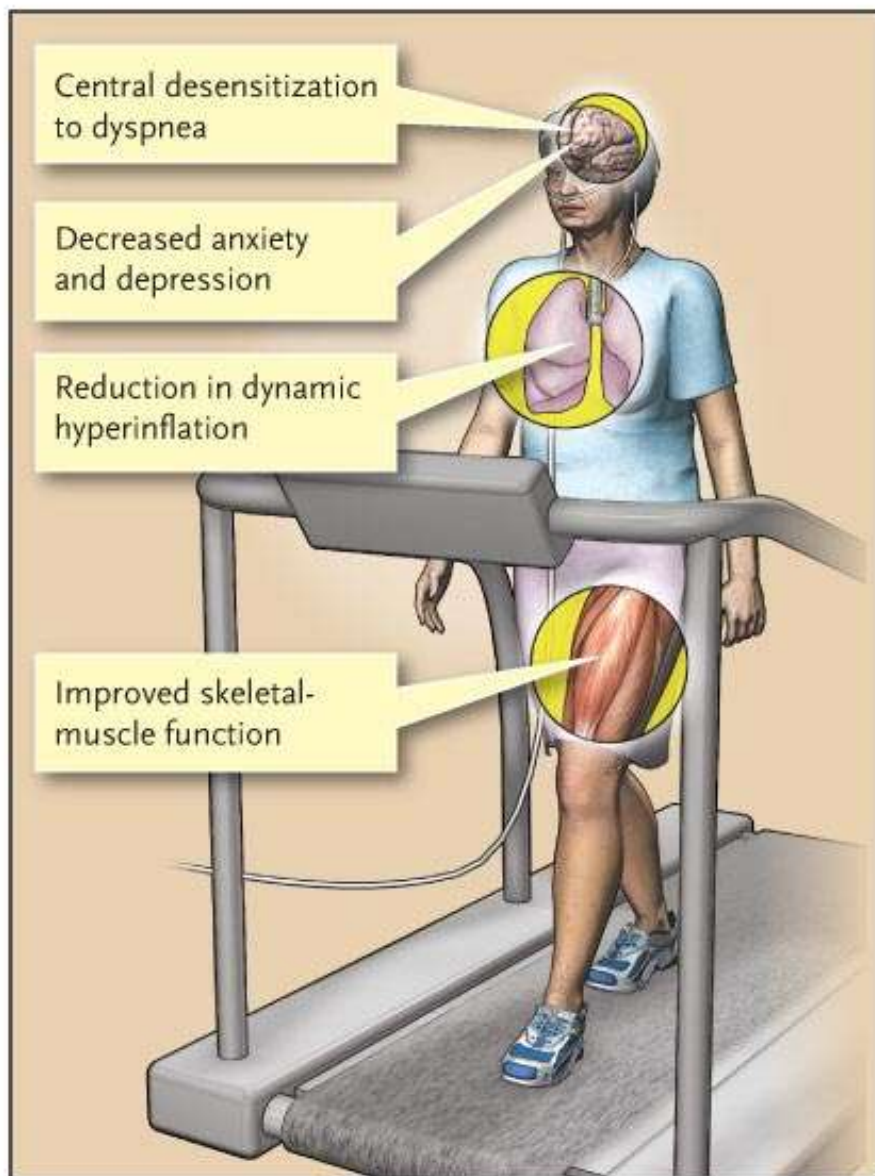
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is characterized by airflow limitation that is not fully reversible.
- It is a preventable and treatable disease with some significant extrapulmonary manifestations.
  - Skeletal muscle dysfunction
  - Weight loss
  - Cardiovascular disease
  - Depression and Fatigue
  - Osteoporosis

# Interaction between pulmonary and extrapulmonary factors



# Targets of Exercise Training

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- Improving aerobic function of ambulation muscles
- Reducing ventilatory requirement and respiratory rate during exercise
- Prolonging expiration time
- Reducing dynamic hyperinflation and dyspnea

Casaburi et al. N Engl J Med 2009

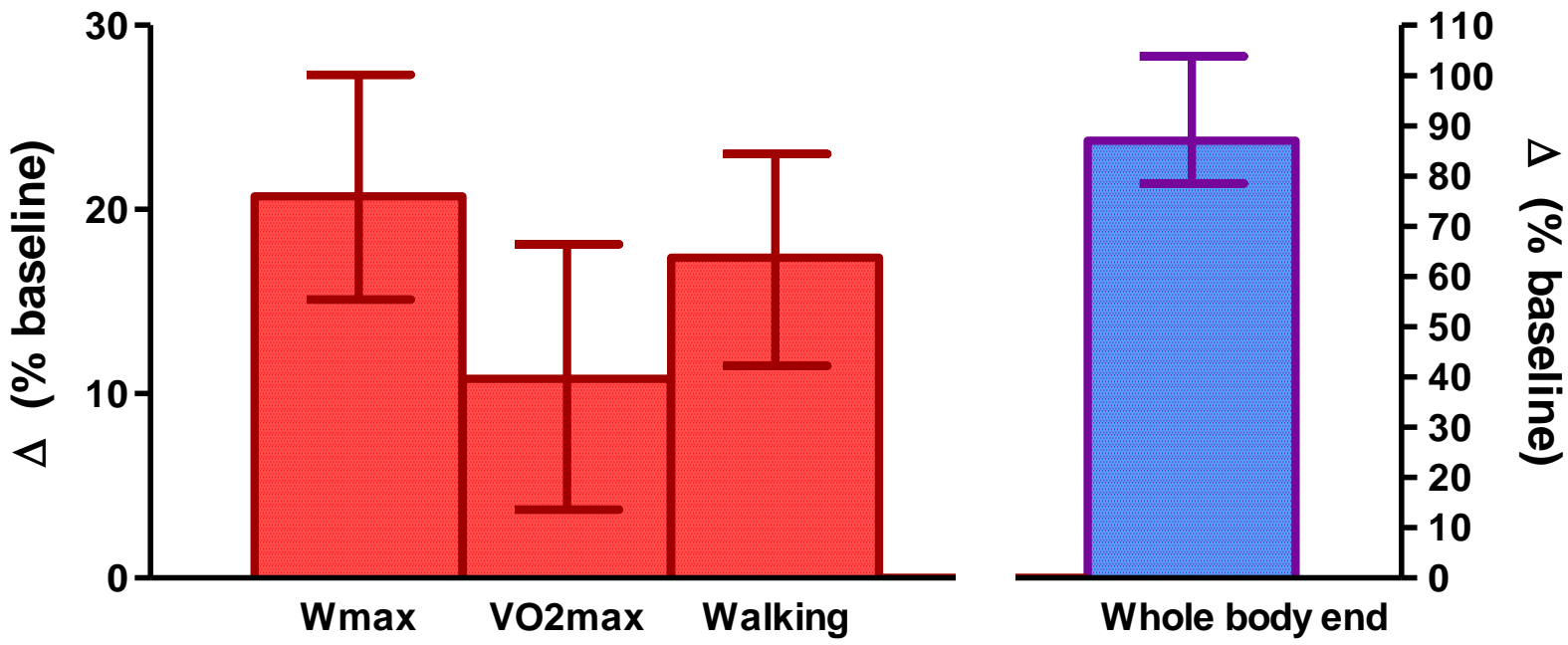
# Content Rehabilitation Program

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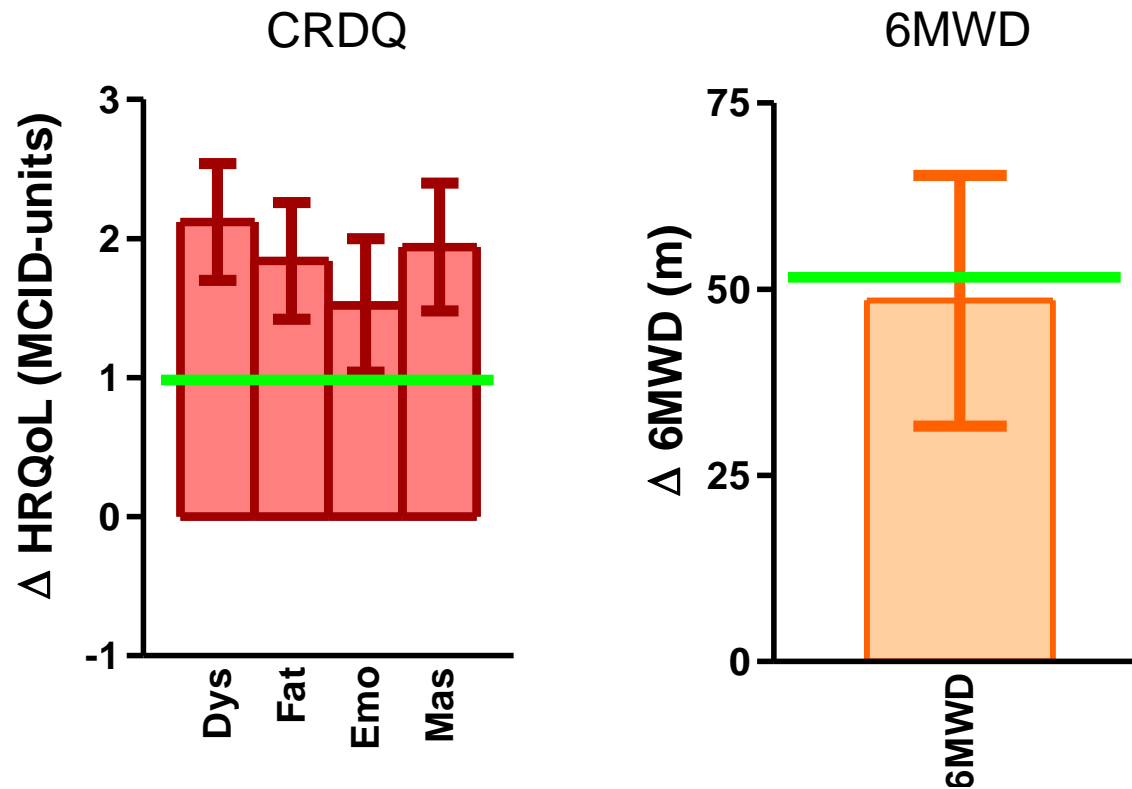
- **Exercise Training**
  - Endurance exercise to improve cardiorespiratory fitness
  - Resistance training to improve muscular strength and endurance (peripheral and respiratory muscles)
- **Supplemental interventions during exercise training**
  - Oxygen
  - Heliox
- **Breathing exercises**
- **Occupational therapy**
- **Nutritional advise**
- **Psychological support**
- **Patient-education / self-management (inactivity)**

# Rehabilitation, the evidence: Exercise tolerance

Exercise tolerance: Weighted mean difference and IQR



# Rehabilitation, the evidence





# Rehabilitation, the evidence: Health care resources

	Controls		Rehabilitation		
Patients admitted n	41		40		NS
Hospital admissions					
Resp	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.3	*
All	2.2	1.5	1.7	1.1	*
Days spent in hosp					
Resp	18.1	19.3	9.4	10.2	*
All	21.0	20.7	10.4	9.7	*
Days per admission	9 ± 7.6		6 ± 3.4		0.1

# Rehabilitation: the evidence

## **Evidence from systematic review of meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials (level Ia)**

- Improvements in exercise tolerance
- Clinically relevant improvement in health related quality of life (HRQoL).

## **Evidence from at least one RCT(level Ib)**

- Reductions in number of days spent in hospital
- Pulmonary rehabilitation is cost effective

# Exercise training, the core of rehabilitation

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How do we train patients with severe airflow obstruction, dynamic hyperinflation and complaints of dyspnea on exertion?



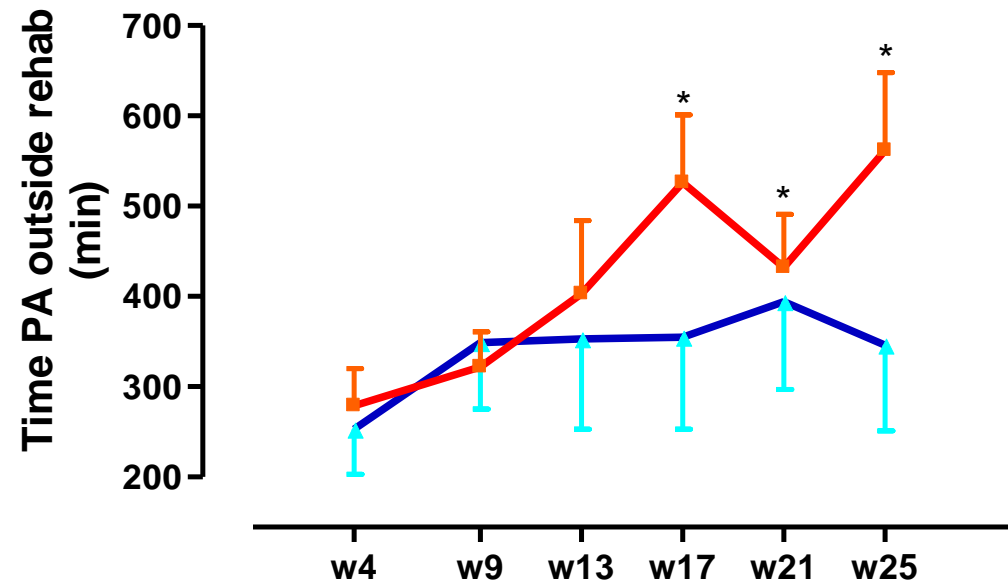
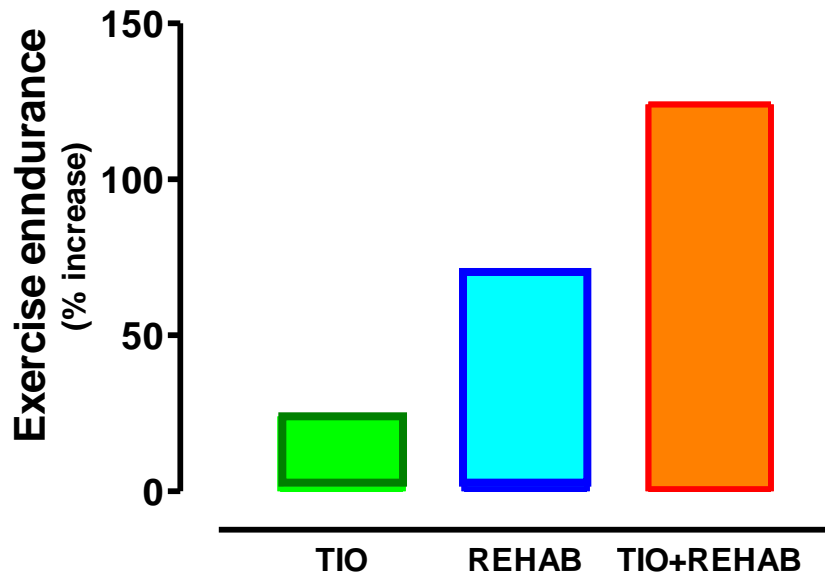
# Knowing exercise limitations to guide training

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How to train the **ventilatory limited** patient ?

- Improve the lung function / maximum ventilatory capacity
- Reduce the ventilatory needs
  - Increase the delivery
  - Reduce the demand

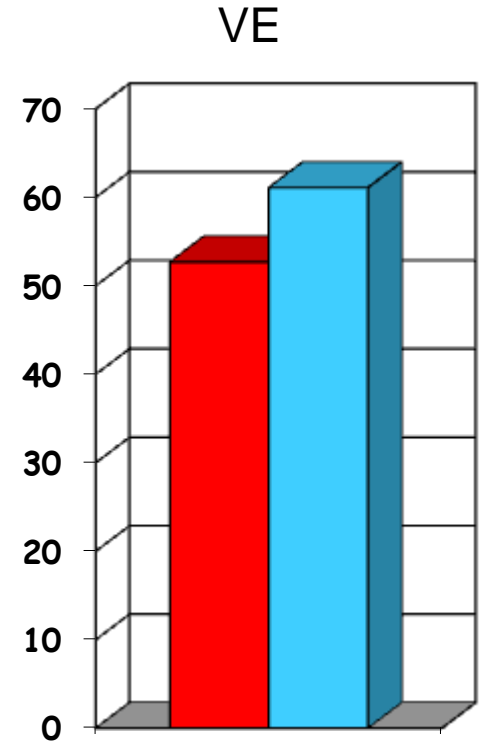
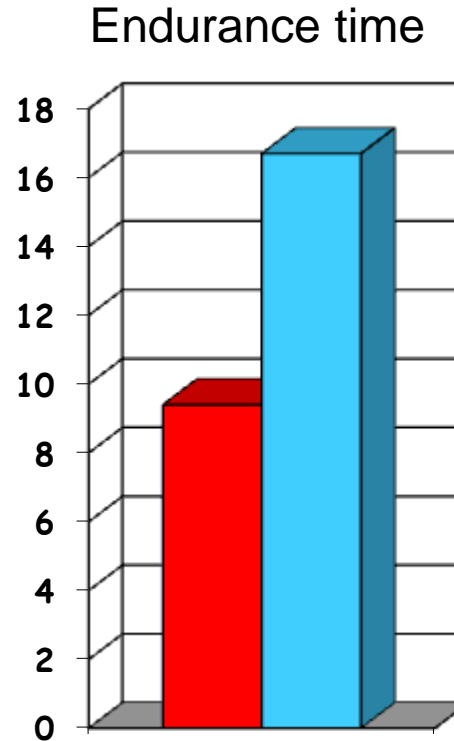
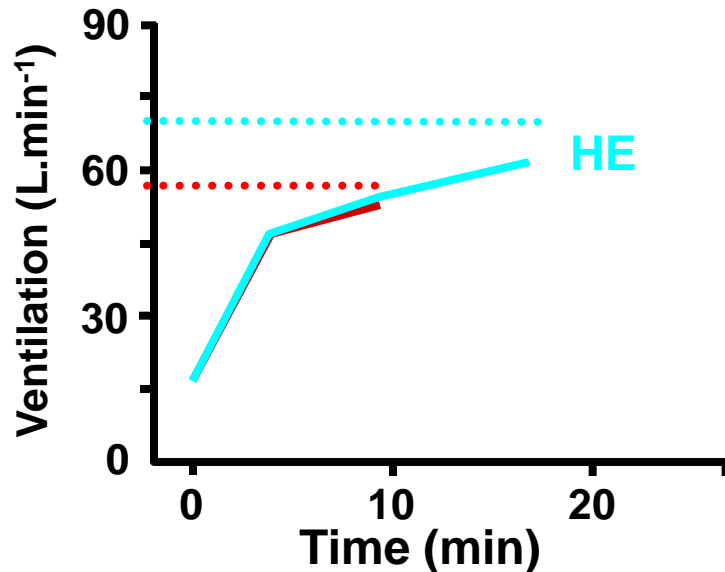
# Improve lung function



# Improve maximal voluntary ventilation

## HeliOx

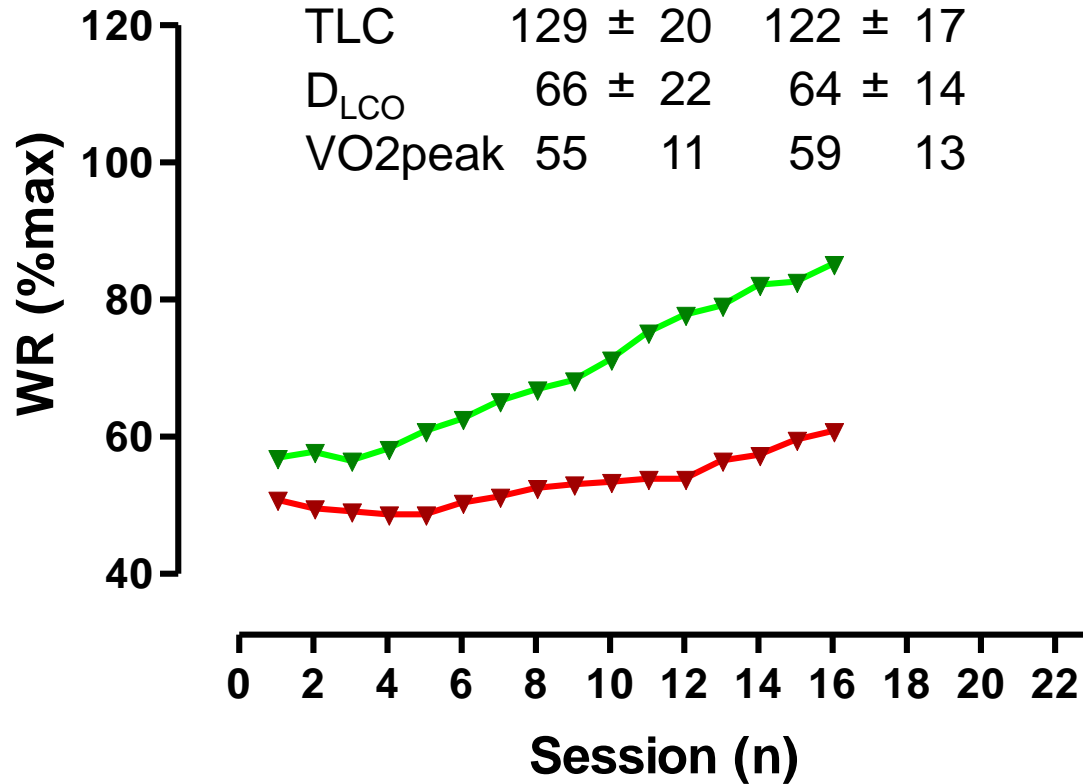
	Air	HeliOx
FEV1	1.54±0.73	1.89±0.73
FVC	3.76±1.13	3.86±1.18



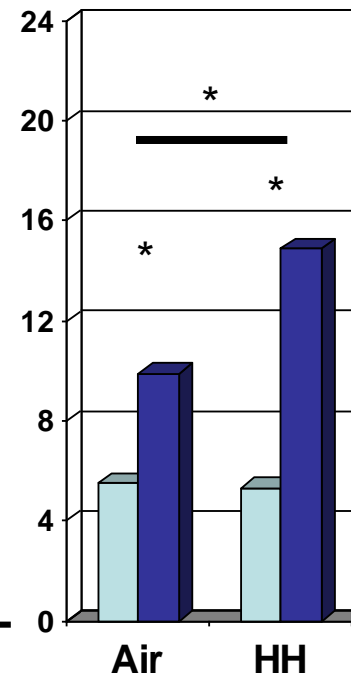
# Training at higher intensity

Air (n=19) He/O<sub>2</sub>(n=19)

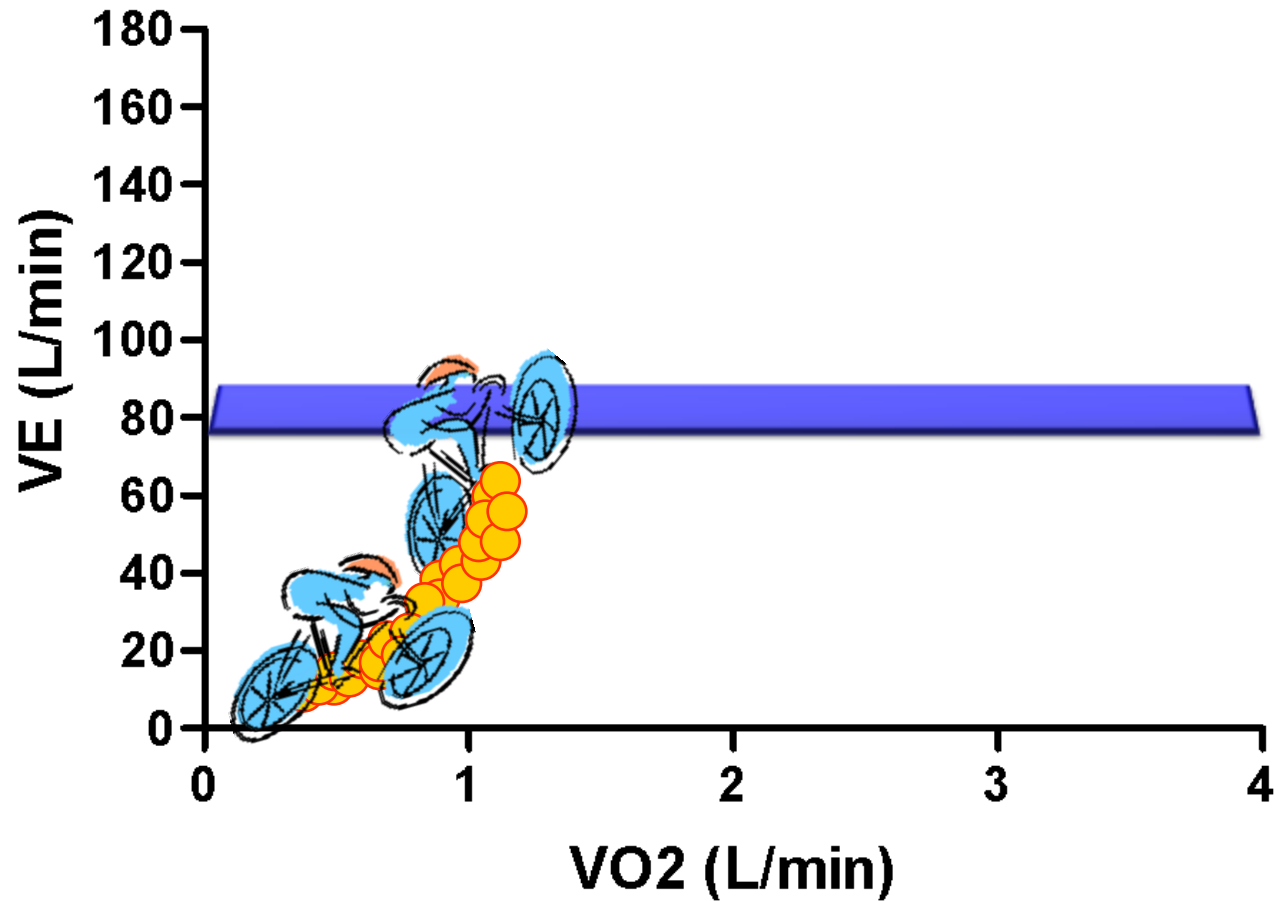
FEV <sub>1</sub>	47 ± 19	46 ± 14		
TLC	129 ± 20	122 ± 17		
D <sub>LCO</sub>	66 ± 22	64 ± 14		
VO <sub>2</sub> peak	55	11	59	13



Endurance time



# Lung Transplantation

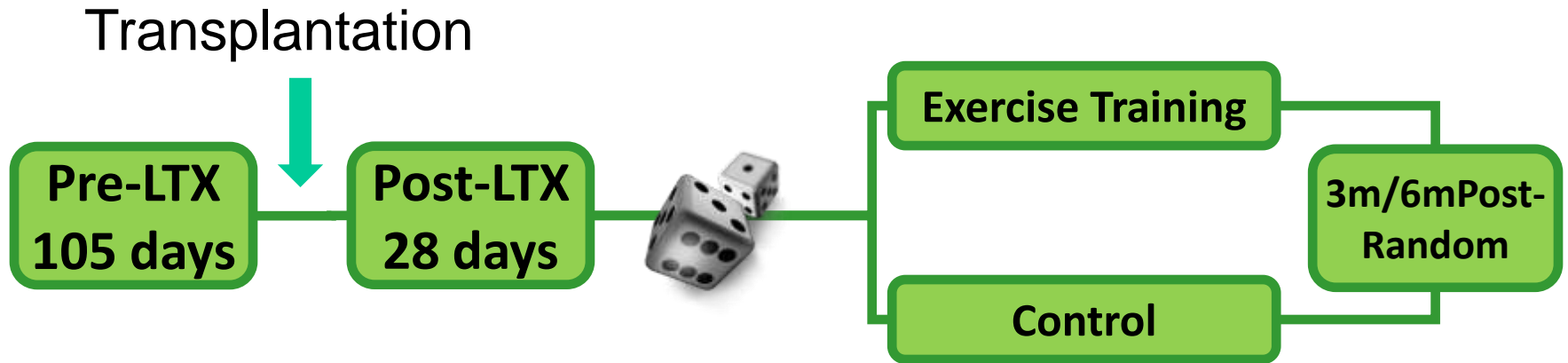




		1yPost-LTX n=22		Healthy n=30
Gender	♂ / ♀	12 / 10		18 / 12
Age	yrs	59 ± 5		58 ± 6
BMI	kg/m <sup>2</sup>	23 ± 4		25 ± 4
FEV <sub>1</sub>	%pred	79 ± 18*		116 ± 18
Q-Force	Nm	100 ± 36*	-40%	164 ± 41
MEP	cm H <sub>2</sub> O	159 ± 44*	-20%	193 ± 47
MIP	cm H <sub>2</sub> O	-76 ± 48	-20%	-97 ± 53
Handgrip	kgF	36 ± 16	-15%	42 ± 10
6MWD	m	483 ± 66*	-30%	690 ± 83
Wmax	%pred	74 ± 22*	-60%	182 ± 57

# Study Design RCT

## Exercise Training after LTX



# Baseline Characteristics

	Post-LTX	
	Training (n=15)	Control (n=13)
Male / Female	8 / 7	7 / 6
Early acute rejection (yes / no)	6 / 7	3 / 9
SLTX / SSLTX	1 / 14	3 / 10
Diagnosis COPD / ILD	12 / 3	11 / 2
Age	56 ± 4	56 ± 7
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	20,7 ± 4,6	21,6 ± 4,2
FEV <sub>1</sub> (% pred)	72 ± 18	74 ± 16

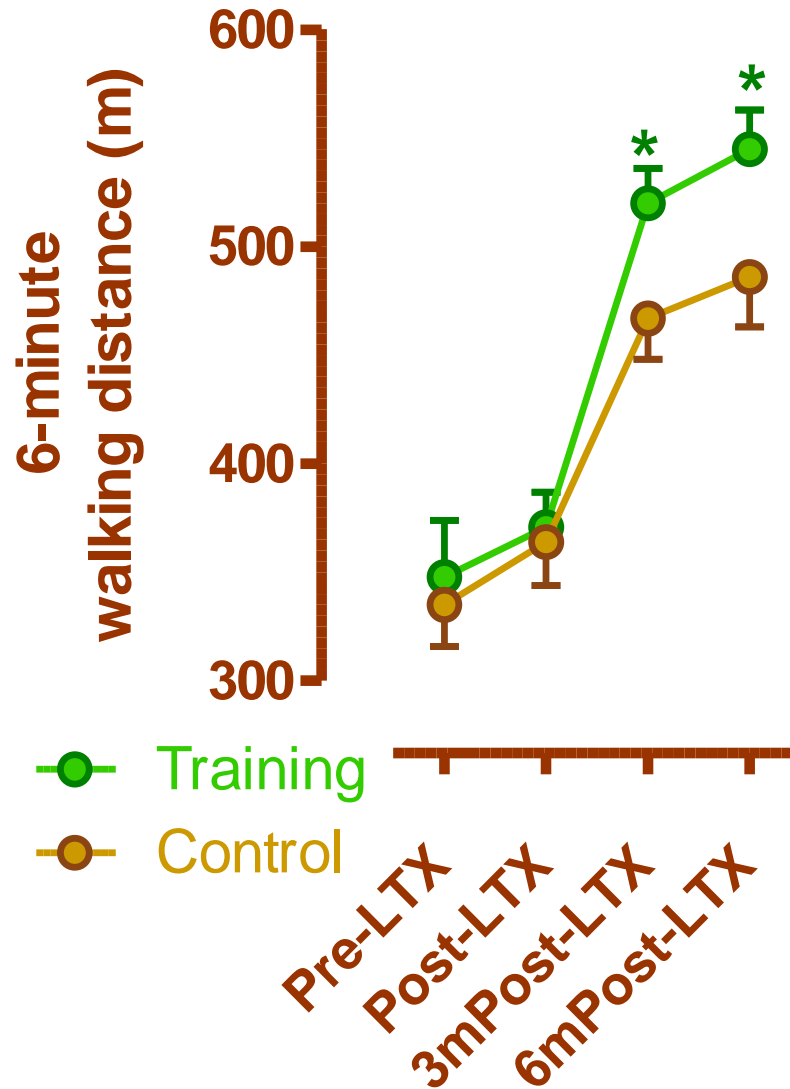
# Exercise Training



- 3 sessions per week



# Results



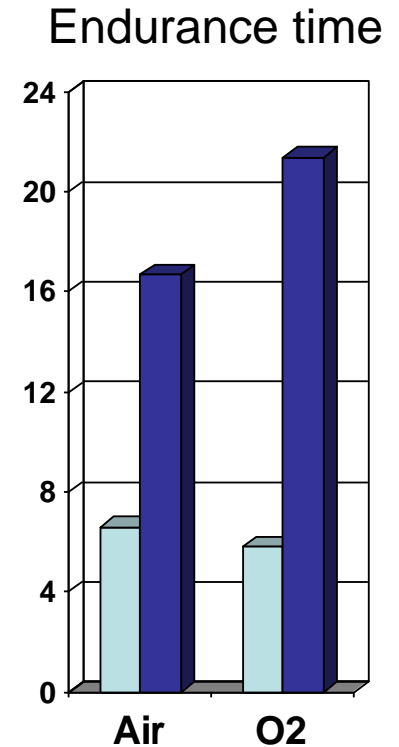
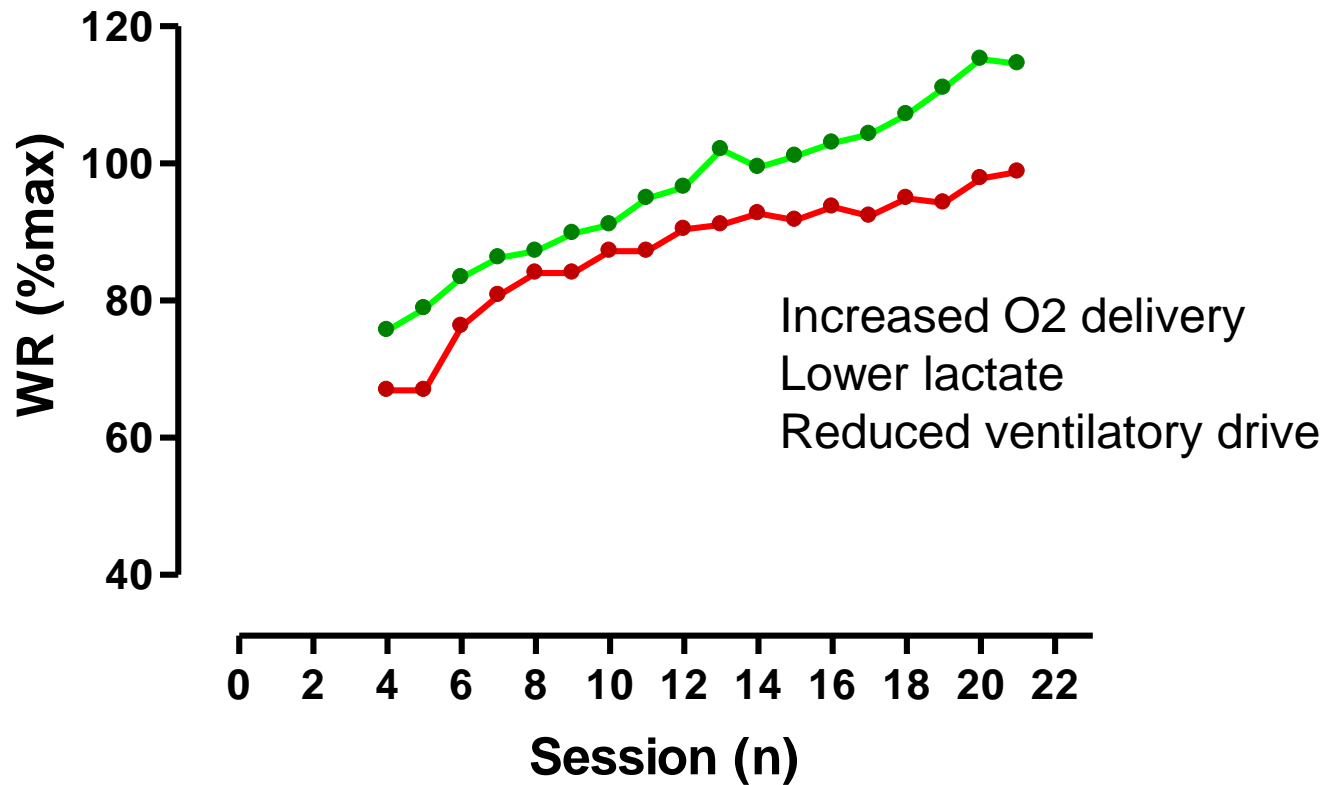
# Knowing exercise limitations to guide training

---

How to train the ventilatory limited patient ?

- Improve the lung function / maximum ventilatory capacity
- Reduce the ventilatory needs
  - Increase the delivery
  - Reduce the demand

# Training at higher intensity



# Knowing exercise limitations to guide training

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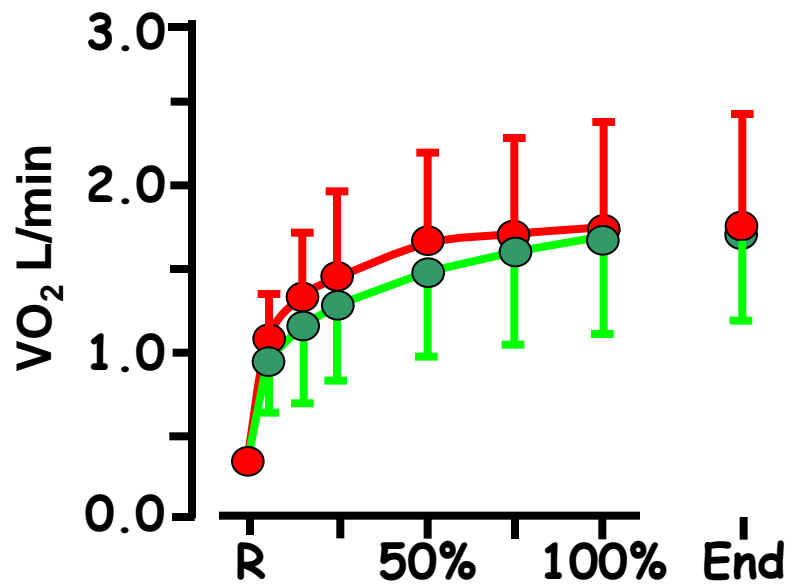
How to train the ventilatory limited patient ?

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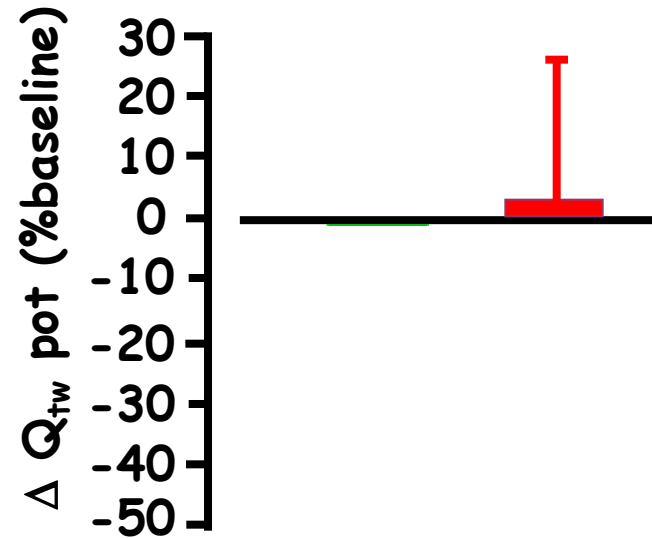


# Reduce the demand

- Enhance the stress to the muscle for a given  $VO_2$  (walking vs cycling)

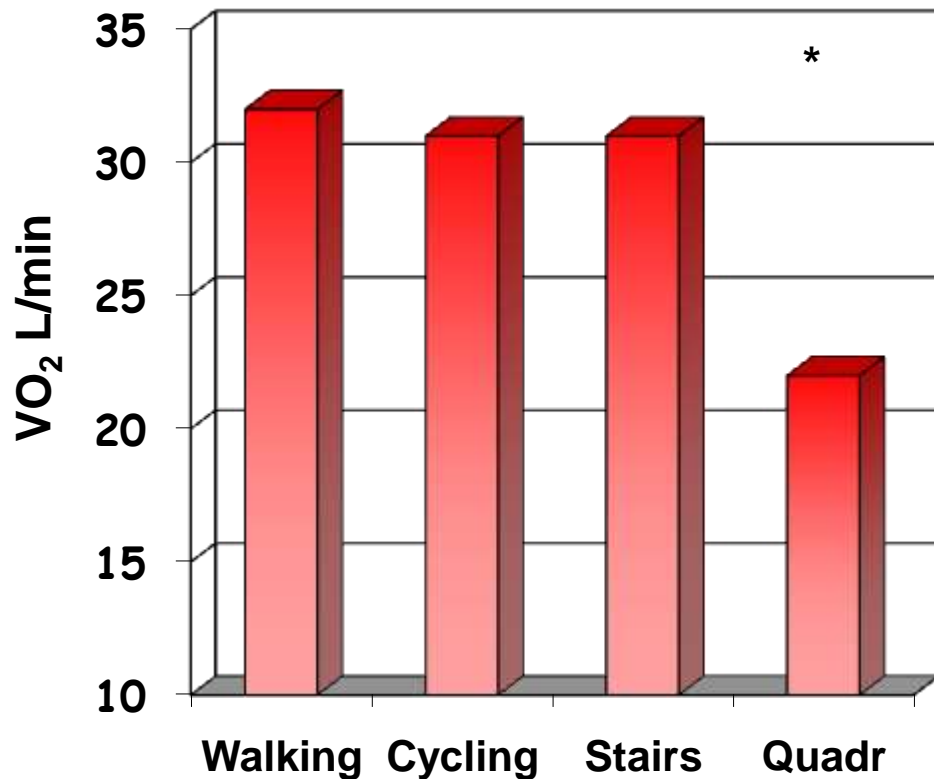


- Cycle @ 80%  $W_{peak}$
- Walk @ 80%  $VO_{2peak}$



# Reduce the demand

- Enhance the stress to the muscle for a given  $VO_2$  (walking vs cycling)
- Reduce the amount of muscle mass at work (**resistance training**, NMES).



$\Delta$  (% initial or points)

50  
40  
30  
20  
10  
0



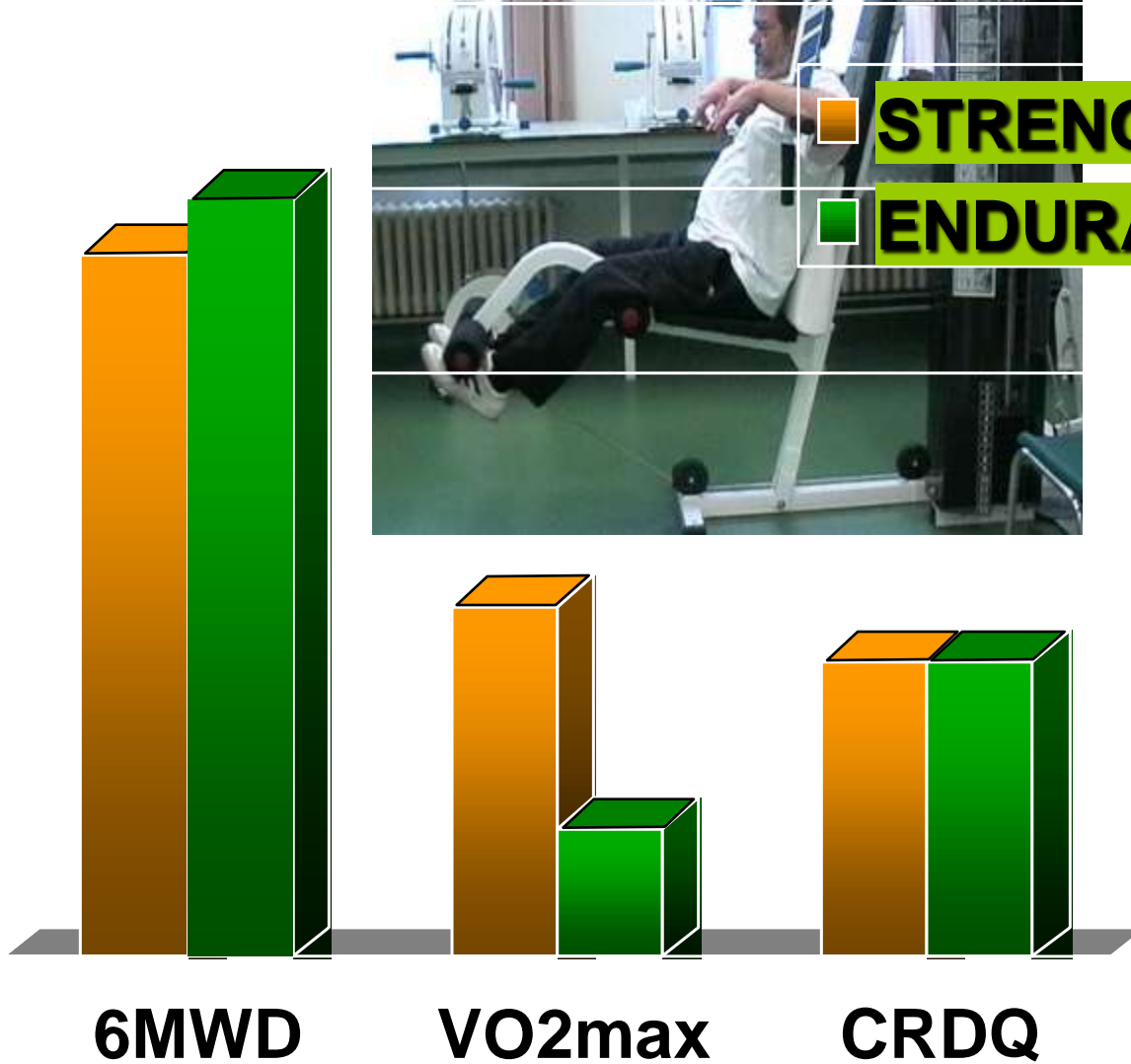
**STRENGTH**  
**ENDURANCE**

6MWD

VO2max

CRDQ

Spruit et al. Eur.Respir.J. 2002; 19:1072-1078



# Reduce the demand

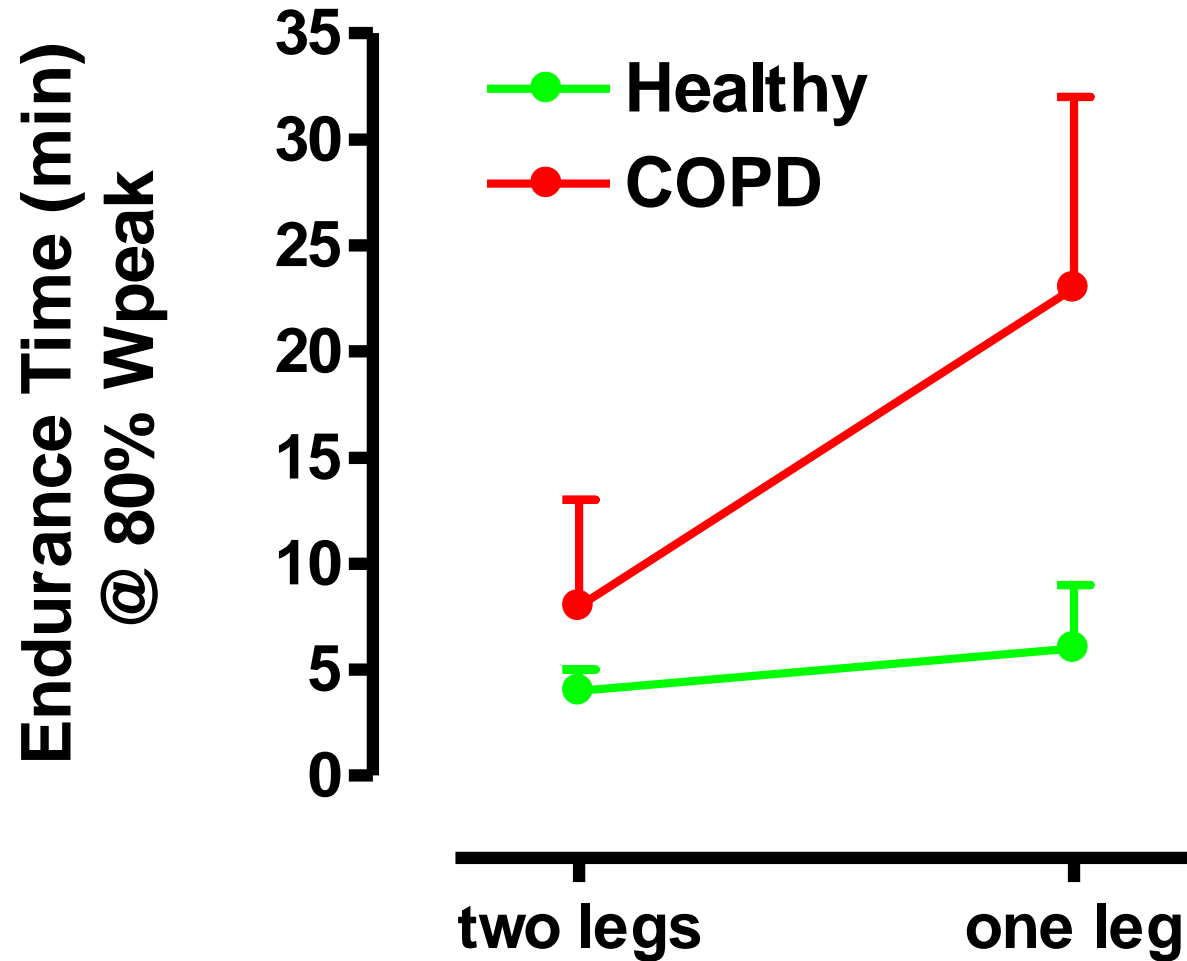
- Enhance the stress to the muscle for a given VO<sub>2</sub> (walking vs **cycling**)
- Reduce the amount of muscle mass at work (resistance training, NMES, **single leg**)



Single Leg Exercise

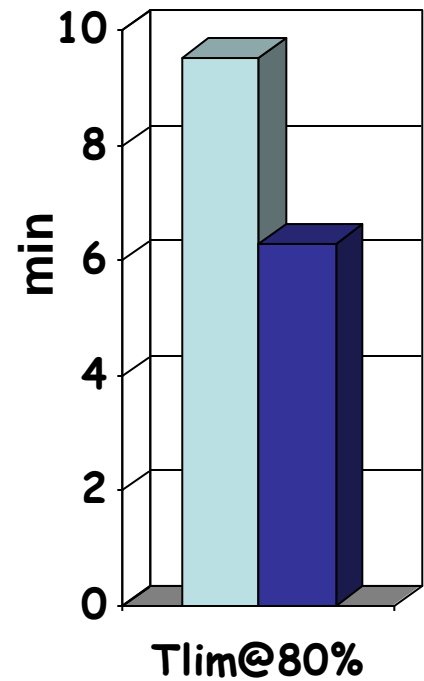
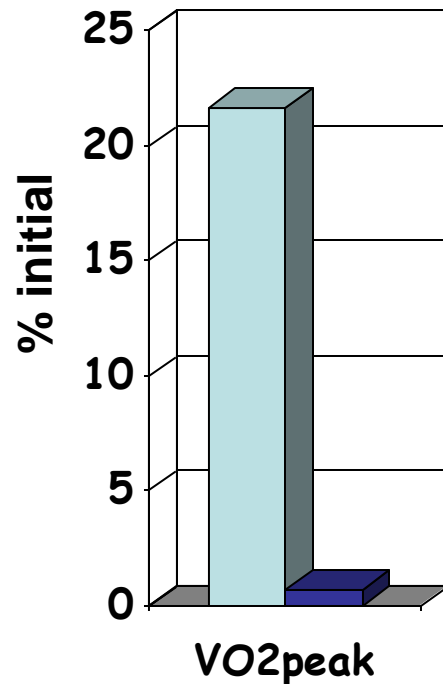
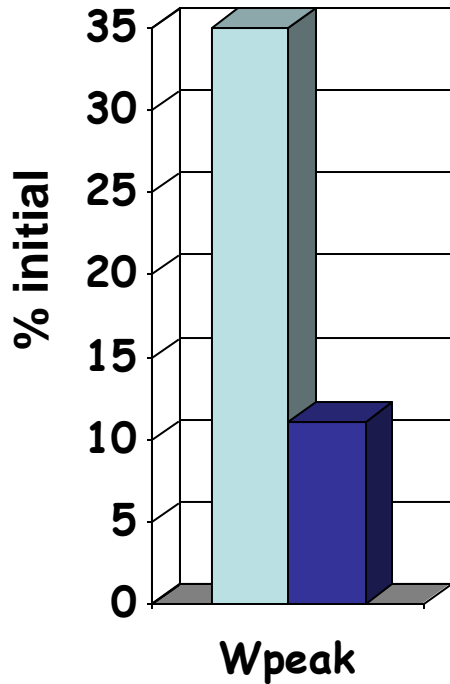
# Single leg exercise

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# Single leg training

30 min of conventional cycling training versus single leg cycling (15 min each leg)  
3 times per week  
7 weeks  
FEV1 37 and 40%pred

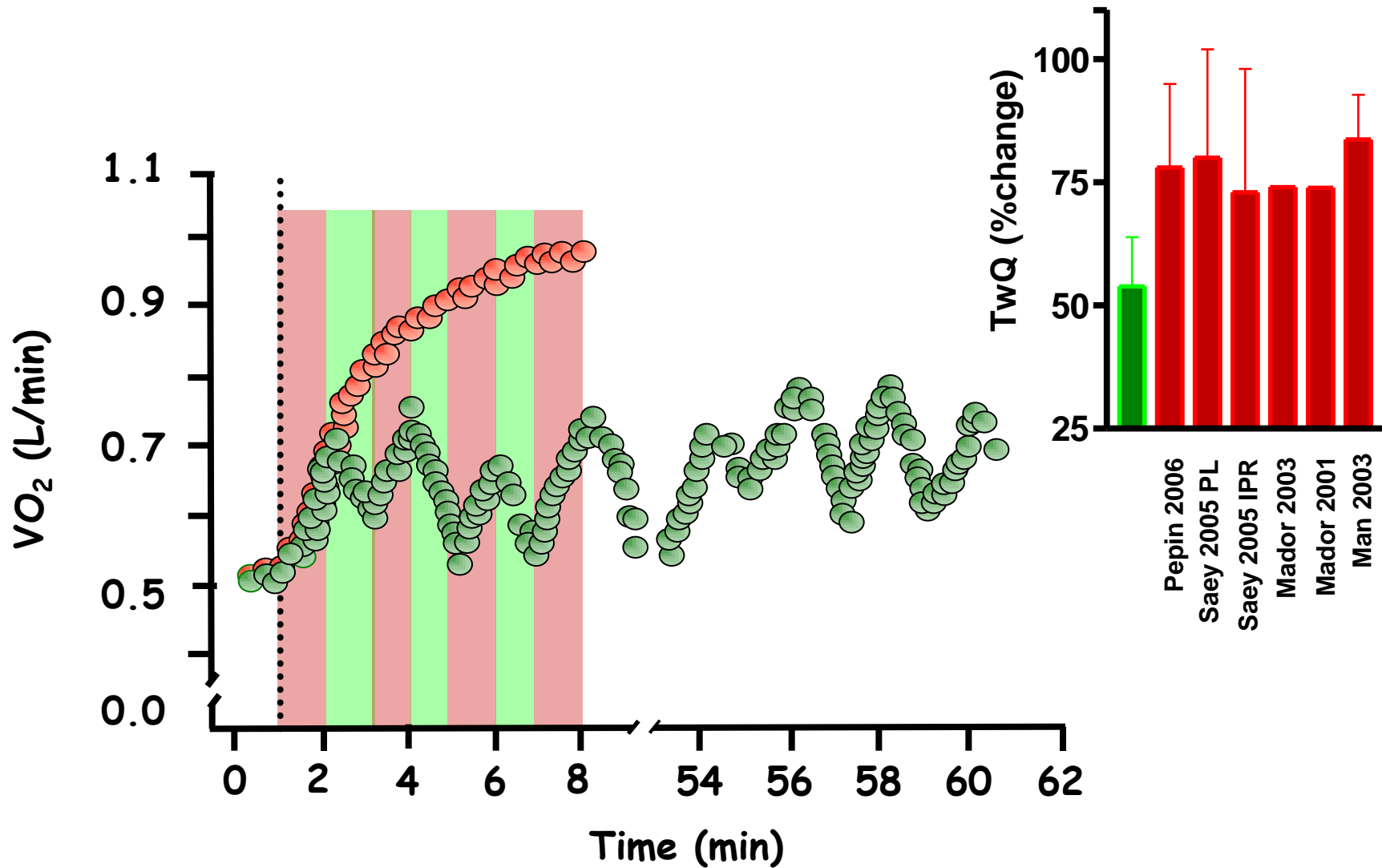


# Reduce the demand

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- Enhance the stress to the muscle for a given  $\text{VO}_2$
- Reduce the amount of muscle mass at work
- Shorten the bouts of exercise to keep ventilation lower than needed in steady state (interval training)
- ☞ Slow oxygen uptake (ventilatory) kinetics : your friend in pulmonary rehab...

# Interval exercise, often more realistic





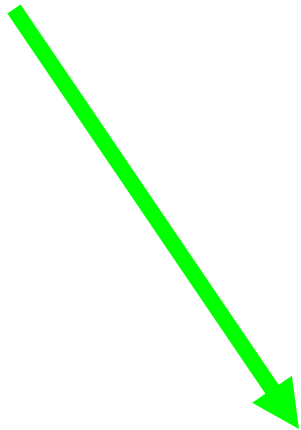
# Conclusions

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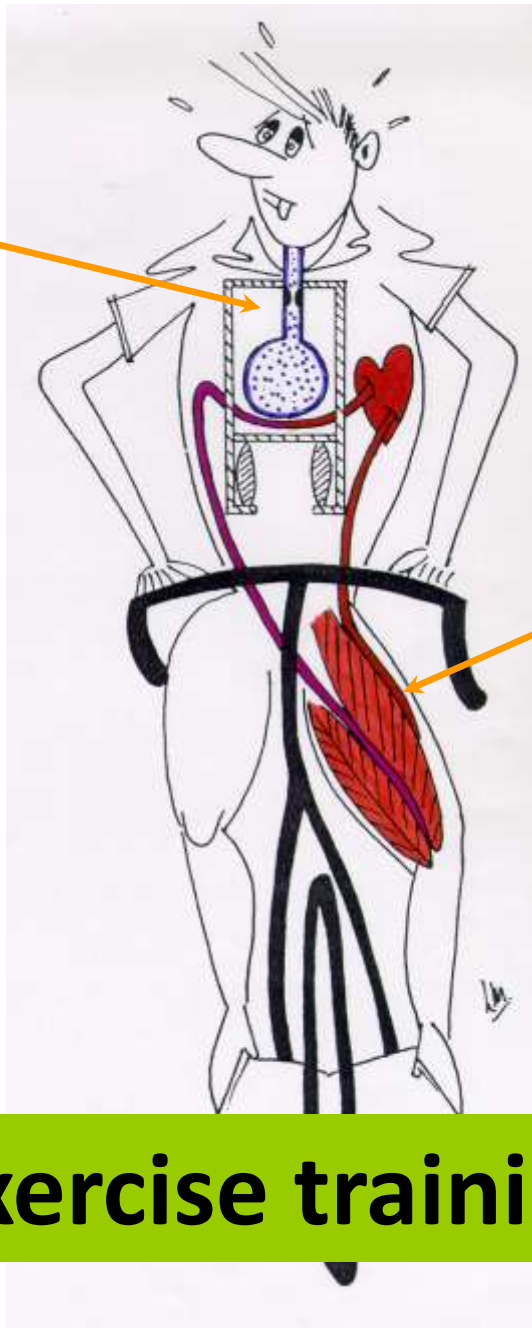
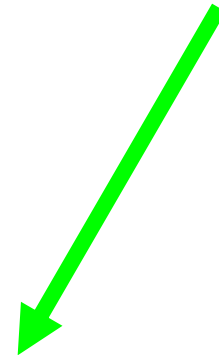
- **Pulmonary rehabilitation works:  
‘GRADE A’-level of evidence**
- **Exercise training can be fine-tuned to  
the exercise limitations of patients**
- **Several options available for ventilatory  
limited patients**

**Increase  
Ventilatory Capacity:**

**Bronchodilators  
Heliox**



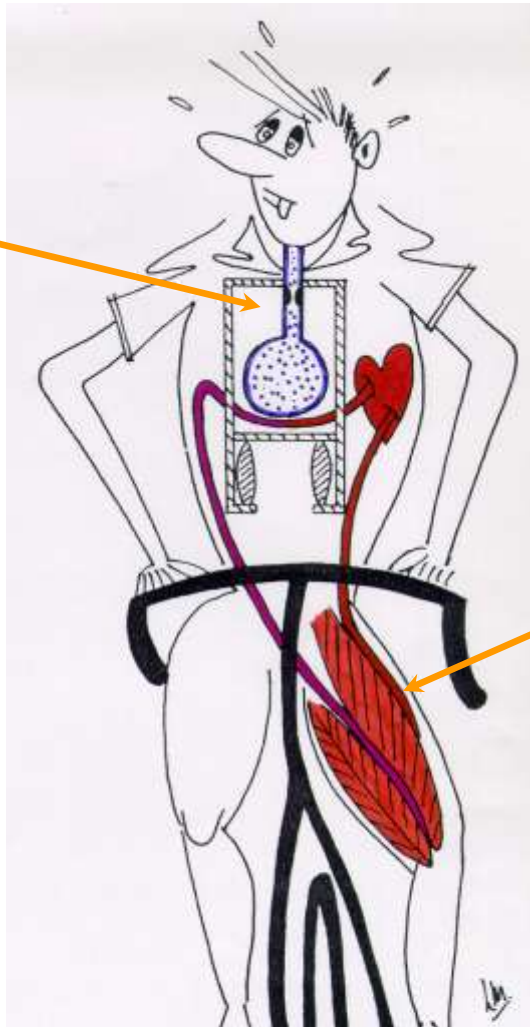
**High intensity  
Peripheral  
Muscle  
Training**



**Exercise training**

**Reduce  
Ventilatory  
Requirements:**

**O<sub>2</sub> supplementation  
Small muscle mass  
Short intervals**



**High intensity  
Peripheral  
Muscle  
Training**

**One-leg exercise  
Interval training  
Resistance training**

Thank you for your attention



**Greetings from the Leuven Pulmonary Rehabilitation team**