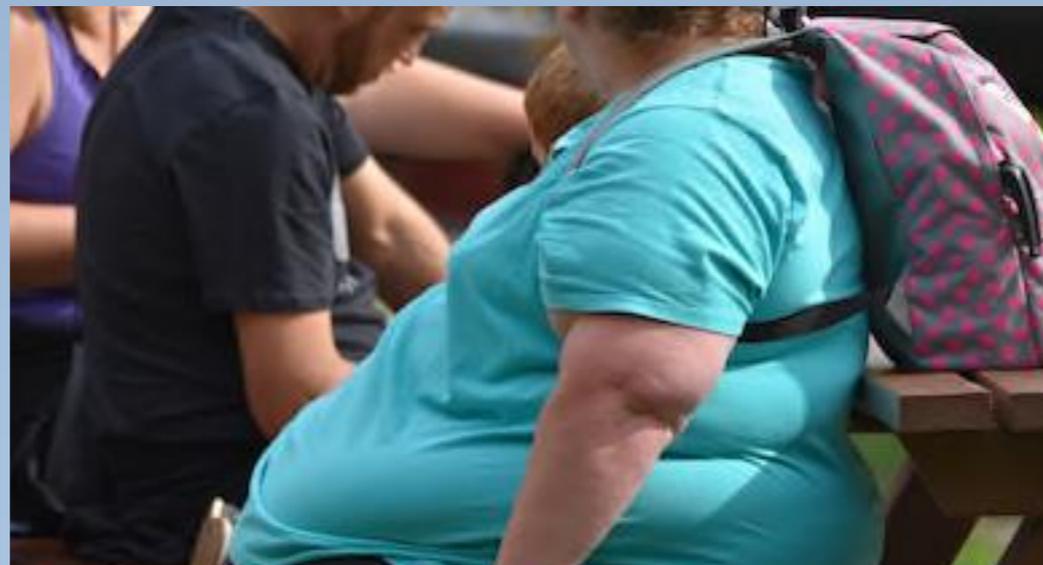


# AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO OBESITY HYPOVENTILATION SYNDROME IN THE SURGICAL SETTING



*Rainer Lenhardt*  
*IFSO 2024*

[ifso2024.org](https://ifso2024.org)

# Agenda

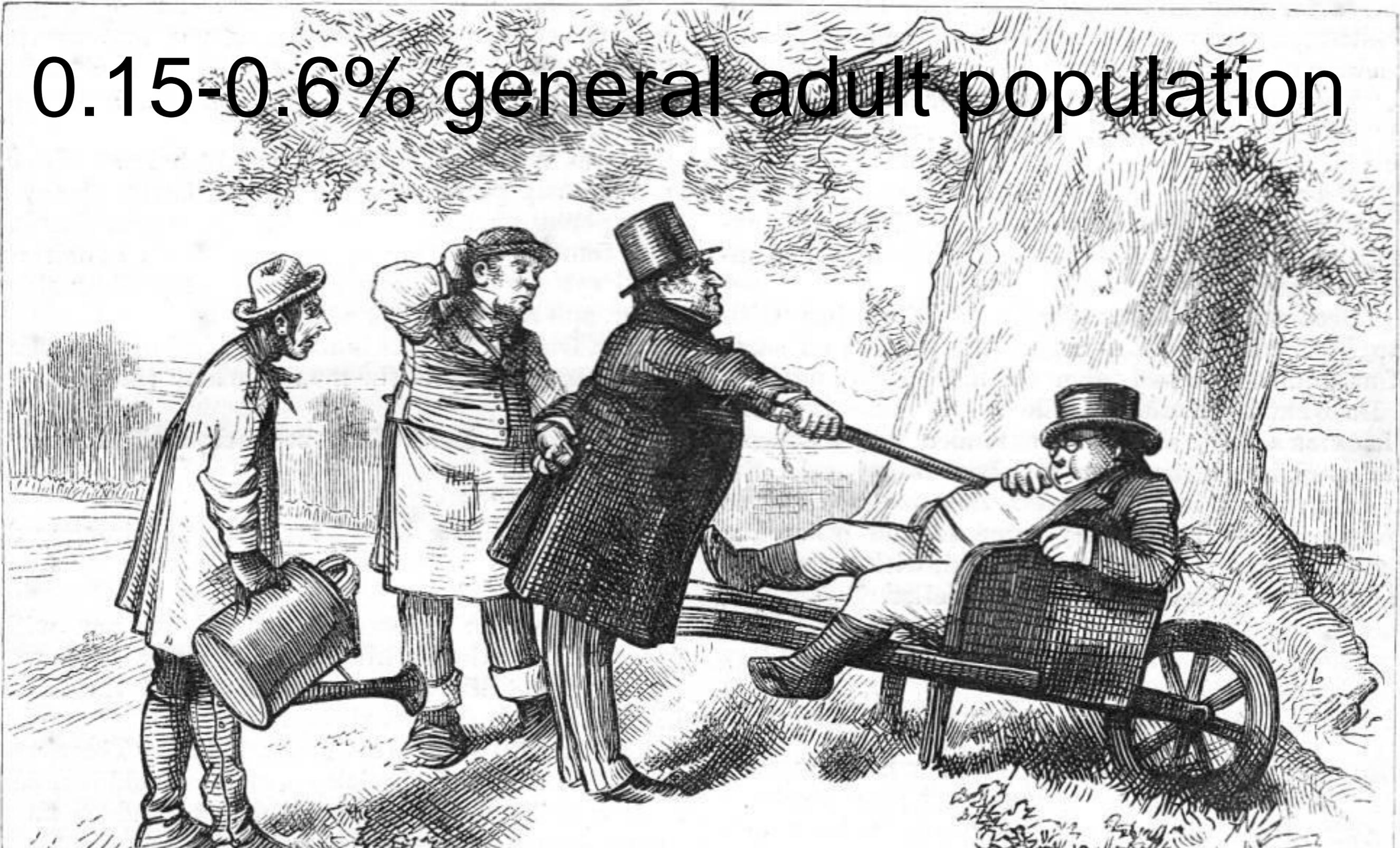
## Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

- **Prevalence of OHS**
- **Definition, clinical presentation**
- **Comparison OSA and OHS**
- **Complications and outcomes**
- **Mainstay of therapy: CPAP or BIPAP**

# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome Prevalence

(Masa Eur Respir Rev 2019, Balachandran Sleep Med Clin 2014)

0.15-0.6% general adult population



# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

Prevalence in patients awaiting bariatric surgery

Overall prevalence 8% (7-22%)  
In patients with known OSA 11%

Lecube A, et al. *Obes Surg* 2010; 20:454

# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome



## Definition



Obesity (BMI > 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)

Hypoxemia ( < 70 PaO<sub>2</sub>, nadir SpO<sub>2</sub> < 80 %)

Hypercapnia (daytime > 45 PaCO<sub>2</sub>)

Serum bicarbonate >27 mmol/L

Obstructive Sleep Apnea (90%)

Absence of other causes of hypoventilation

Bingol et al. Respire Care 2015; 60: 666

Chau E, et al. Anesthesiology 2012; 117: 188

# Malignant Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

## Definition

Obesity (BMI > 40 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)

Hypoxemia ( < 70 PaO<sub>2</sub>, nadir SpO<sub>2</sub> < 80 %)

Hypercapnia (daytime ≥ 45 PaCO<sub>2</sub>)

Serum bicarbonate ≥ 27 mmol/L

Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Metabolic syndrome ( central obesity, HTN, HLP, insulin resistance)

Multiorgan dysfunction related to obesity (e.g pulmonary hypertension)

Mario et al. J Intensive Care Med 2012; 28:124

Masa et al. Eur Respir Rev 2019; 28:180097

# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

## Clinical Presentation



excessive  
daytime  
sleepiness

# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

## Clinical Presentation



Fatigue

# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

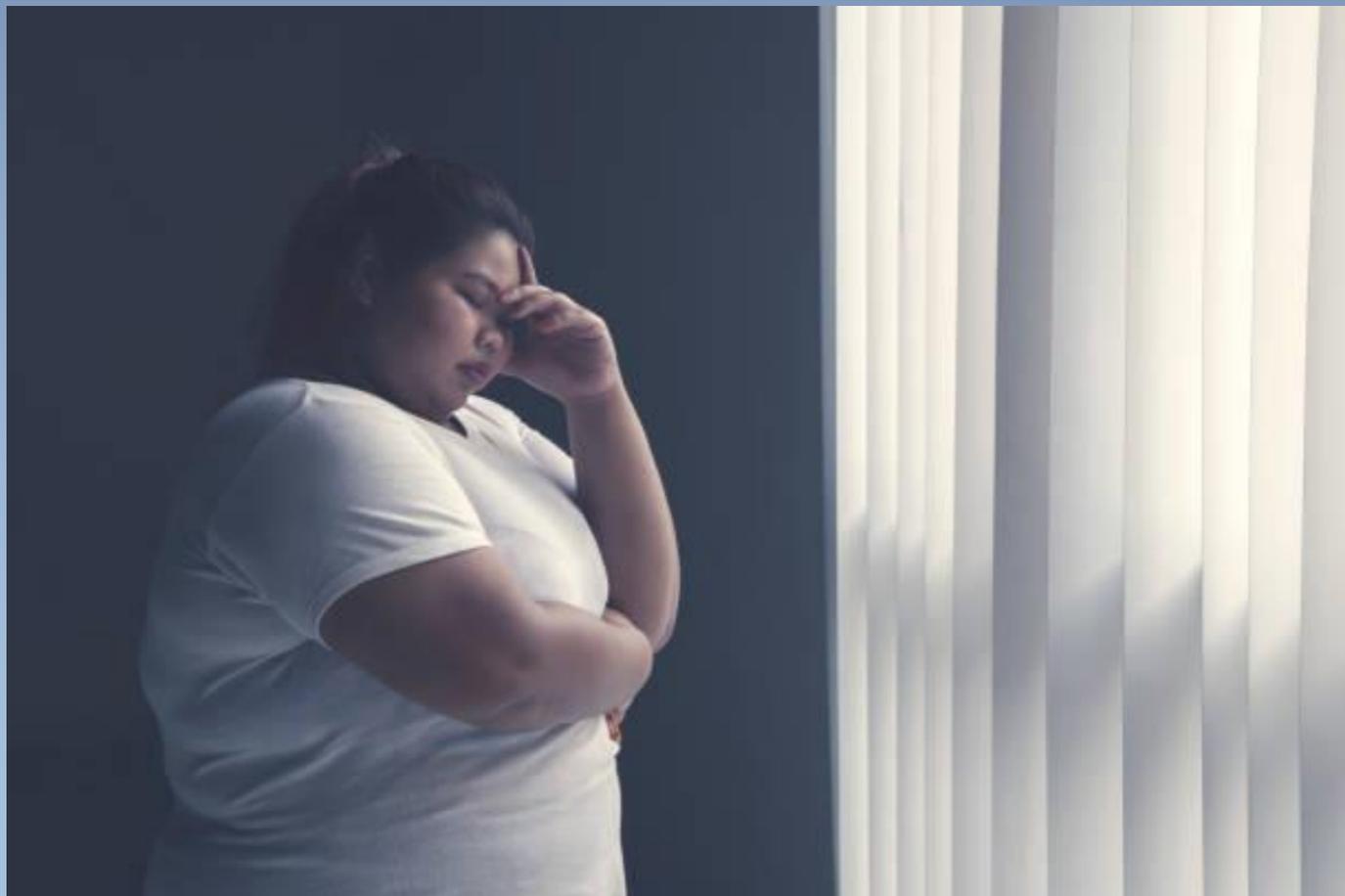
## Clinical Presentation



nocturnal  
choking  
episodes

# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

## Clinical Presentation



morning  
headaches

# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

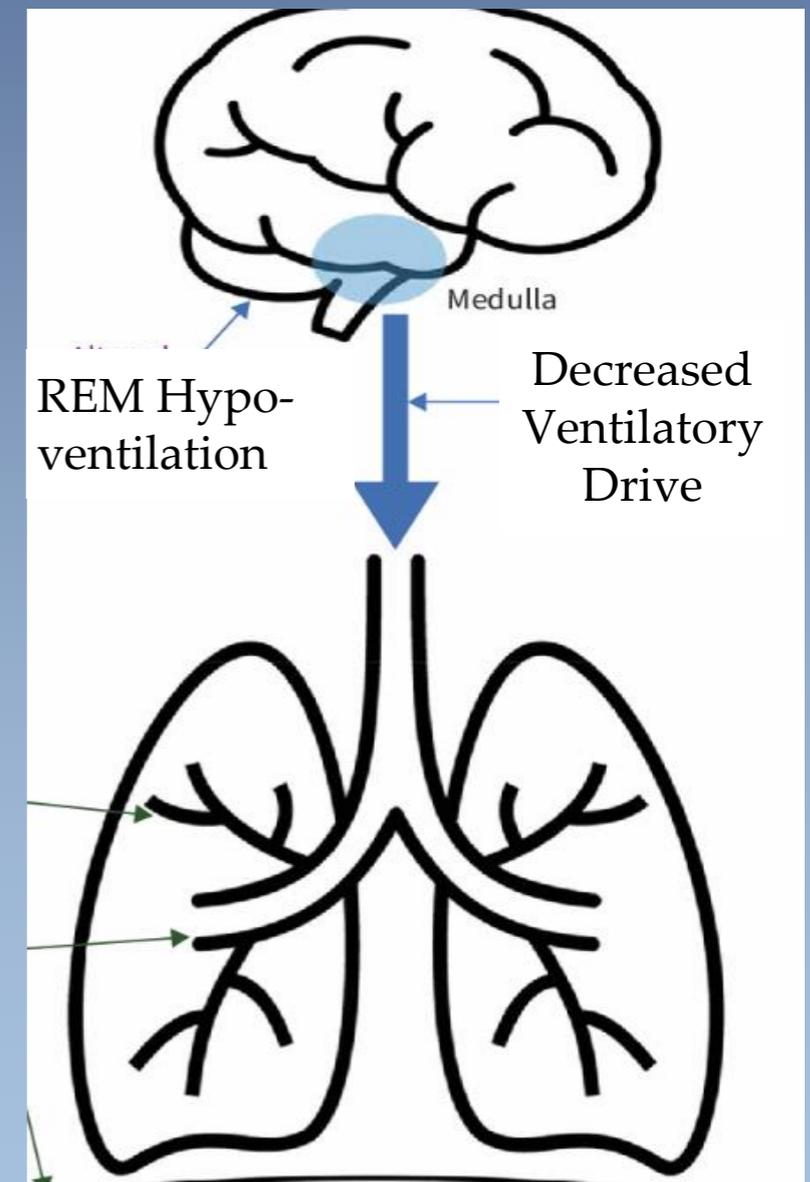
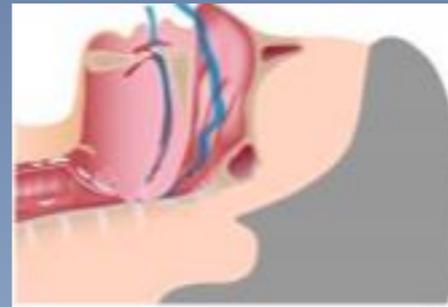
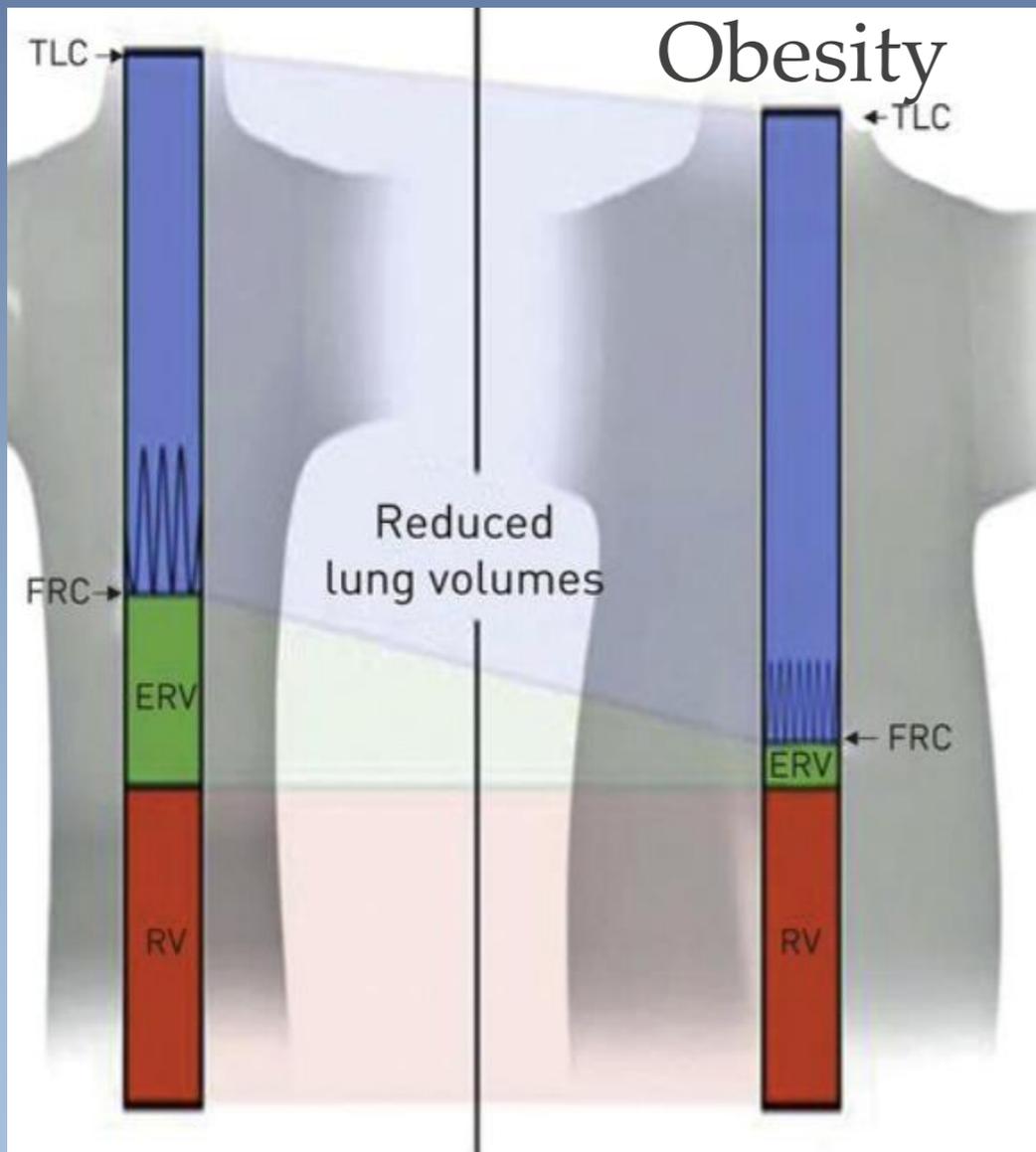
## Clinical Presentation



Depression

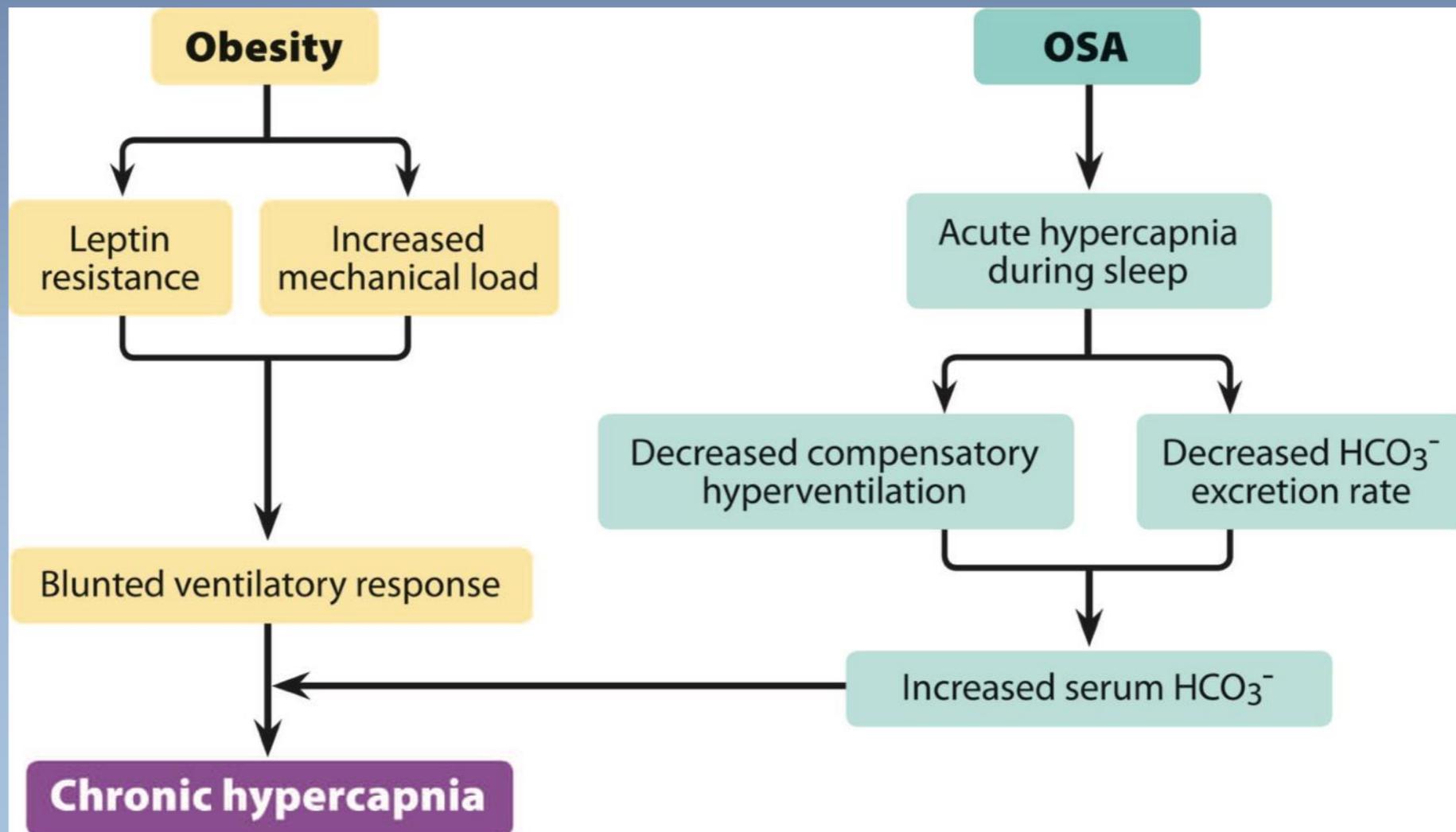
# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

## Pathophysiology

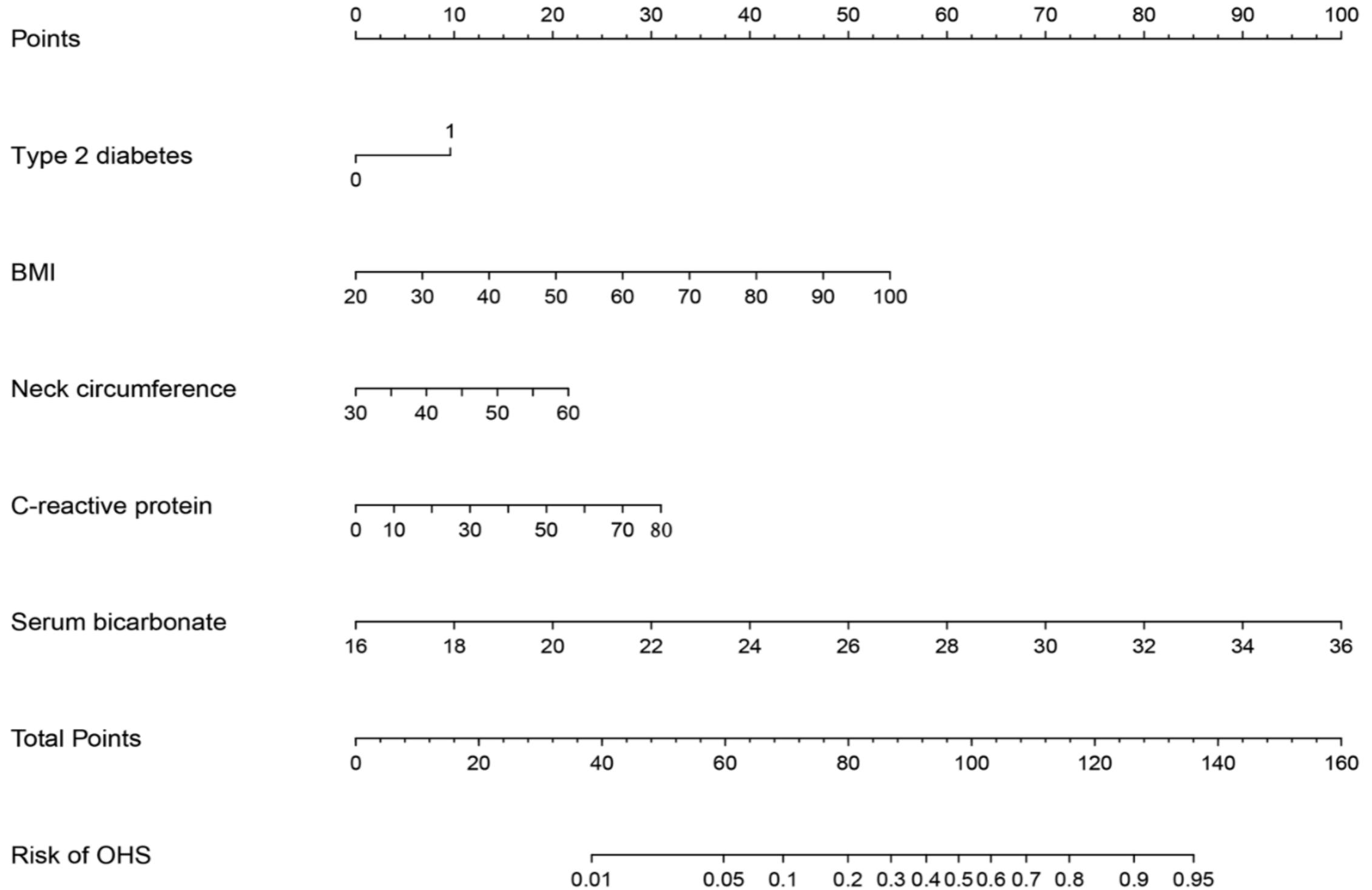


# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

## Pathophysiology



# Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome Prediction



# Comparison Obese Patients with Eucapnia and OHS

Parameters*	OHS (Mean ± SD)	Eucapnic obesity (Mean ± SD)	P Value
N	741	2,972	—
Age (yr)	50.1 ± 9.3	51.3 ± 8.5	<0.0001
Male (%)	70.5	78.6	N/A
Female (%)	29.5	21.4	N/A
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	39.6 ± 7.7	33.4 ± 5.9	<0.0001
Neck circumference (cm)	47 ± 6	44 ± 5	0.01
Waist-to-hip ratio	1.0 ± 0.06	0.9 ± 0.1	<0.0001
Gas exchange	—	—	—
Pao <sub>2</sub> (mmHg)	66.8 ± 8.7	78.7 ± 8.0	<0.0001
Paco <sub>2</sub> (mmHg)	49.8 ± 6.4	39.7 ± 2.7	<0.0001
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> (mM)	30.9 ± 3.8	25.9 ± 3.4	<0.0001
Pulmonary function	—	—	—
FEV <sub>1</sub> (% pred)	71.0 ± 13.1	87.8 ± 13.2	<0.0001
FVC (% pred)	80.3 ± 12.4	92.8 ± 10.4	<0.0001
FEV <sub>1</sub> /FVC	79.4 ± 7.2	80.7 ± 5.3	<0.0001
FRC (% pred)	80.8 ± 7.3	83.5 ± 3.6	0.0156
TLC (% pred)	77 ± 14.7	95 ± 11.5	<0.0001
Sleep-disordered breathing	—	—	—
AHI (events/h)	66.4 ± 21.6	47.5 ± 18.2	<0.0001
TST Spo <sub>2</sub> <90% (%)	49.2 ± 31.8	17.1 ± 21.1	<0.0001
Min nocturnal Spo <sub>2</sub> (%)	65.1 ± 10.4	74.5 ± 7.7	<0.0001
Central respiratory drive to CO <sub>2</sub>	—	—	—
CO <sub>2</sub> sensitivity (l/min/mmHg)	1.2 ± 0.8	2.4 ± 1.5	<0.0001

# Complications of OHS

compared to OSA



Heart failure	OR 9(2-35)
Angina pectoris and/or	OR 9(1-57)
Cor pulmonale	OR 9(1-57)

# Complications of OHS

compared to OSA

Cardiometabolic comorbidities lead to increased mortality (24% at 1.5–2 years)

Pulmonary hypertension (> 40 mmHg)  
52%

Masa et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2020;201:586

Jennum et al. Thorax 2011;66:560

# Postoperative Complications of OHS

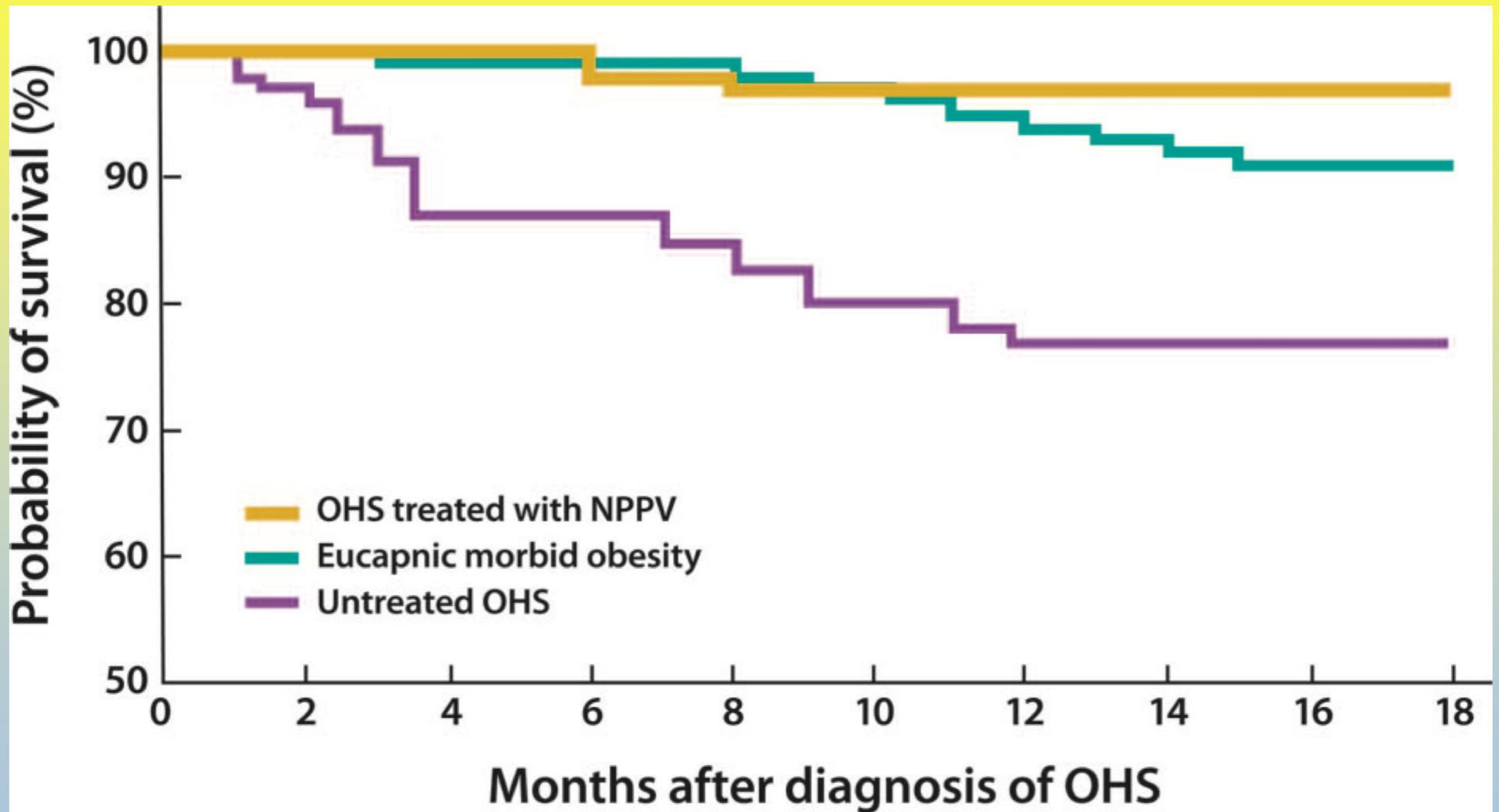
compared to OSA

- Postop. respirator. failure OR 11(4-32)
- Prolonged intubation OR 3.1(0.6-15)
- Postop. ICU transfer OR 10.9(4-32)

# Positive Airway Pressure Therapy



# PAP Therapy long term



Mokhlesi, et al. Proceedings Am Thor Soc 2008; 5: 218

Masa, et al. Lancet 2019; 393: 1721

# PAP Therapy

improves:



Gas exchange ( $\text{PaO}_2$ ,  $\text{PaCO}_2$ )



Pulmonary function (FVC,  $\text{FEV}_1$ )



Sleep-disordered breathing (AHI decreases)



Pulmonary hypertension

Storre, et al. Chest 2006; 130: 815

Heinemann et al. Respir Med 2007;101:1219

Corall et al. Thorax 2018;73:361

# PAP Therapy

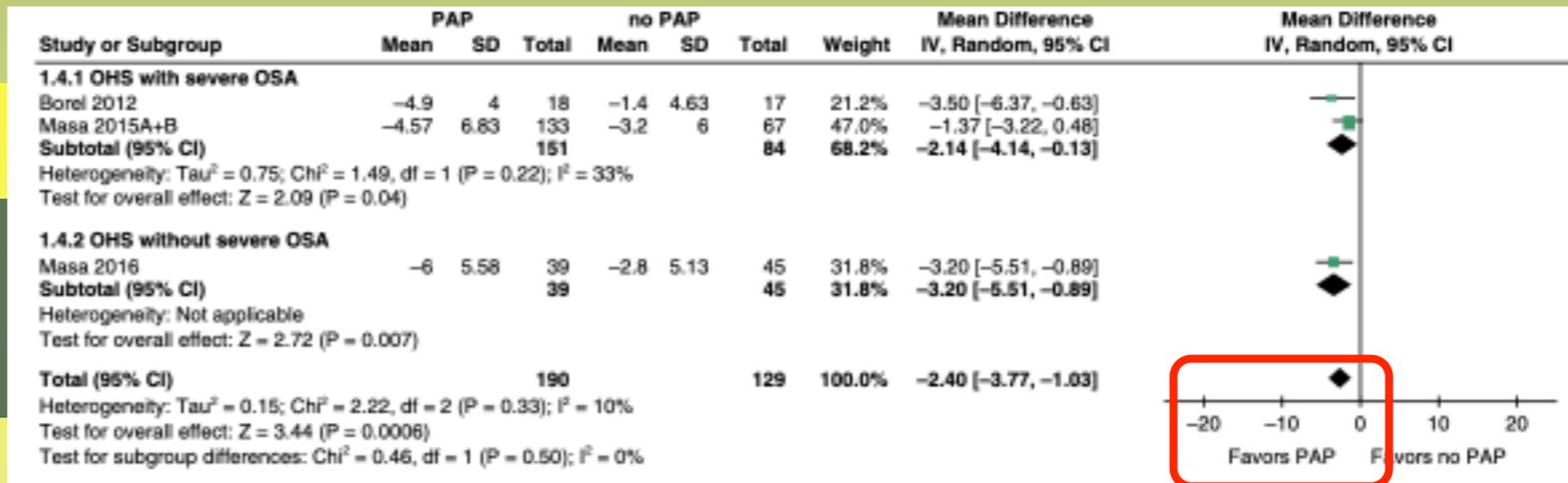
Afshar, et al. AnnalsATS 2020;  
17:344

improves:

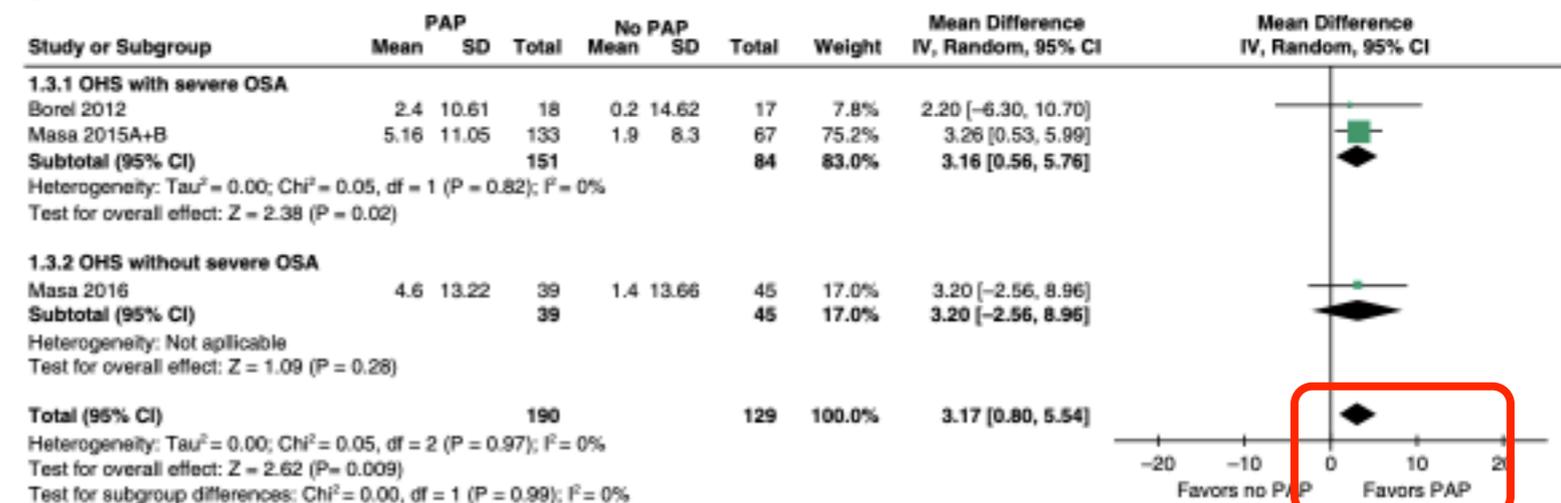
Awake hypercapnia

Awake hypoxemia

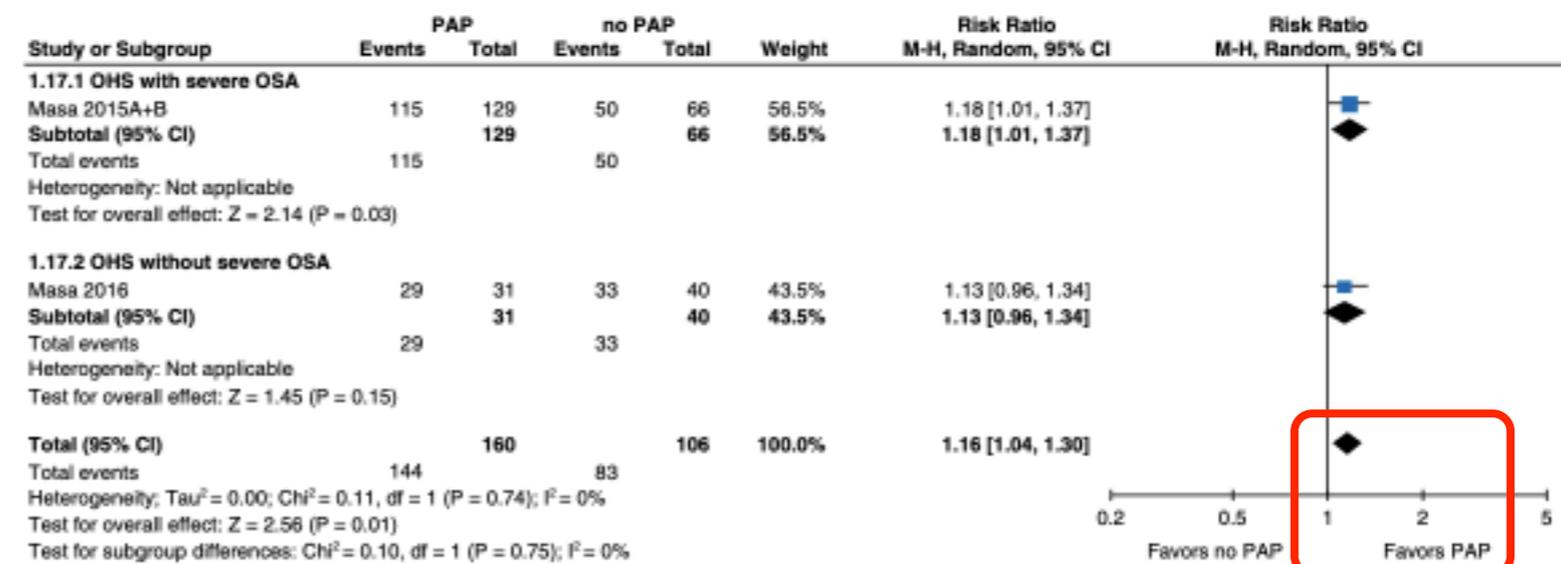
Resolution of the need  
for supplemental  
oxygen

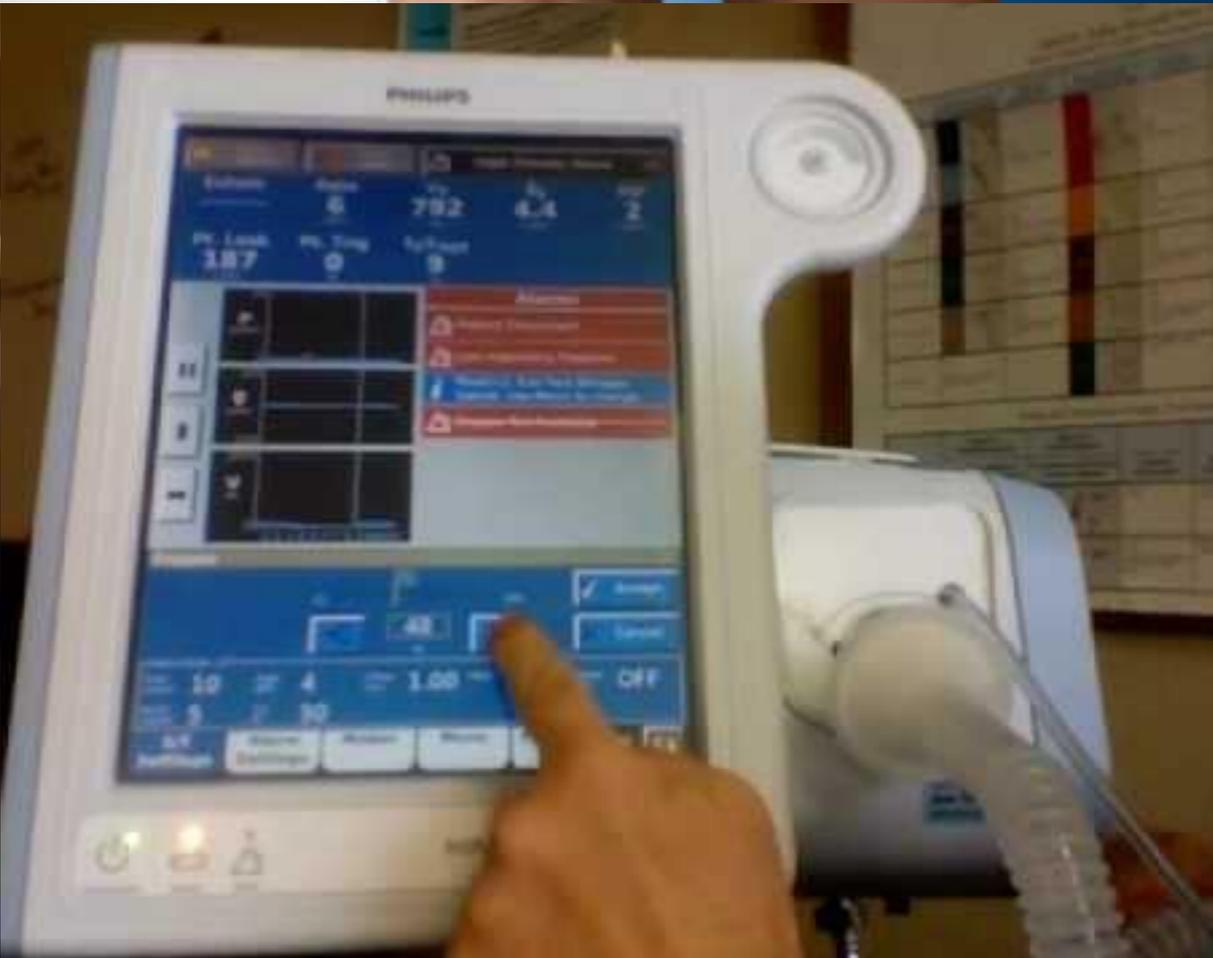
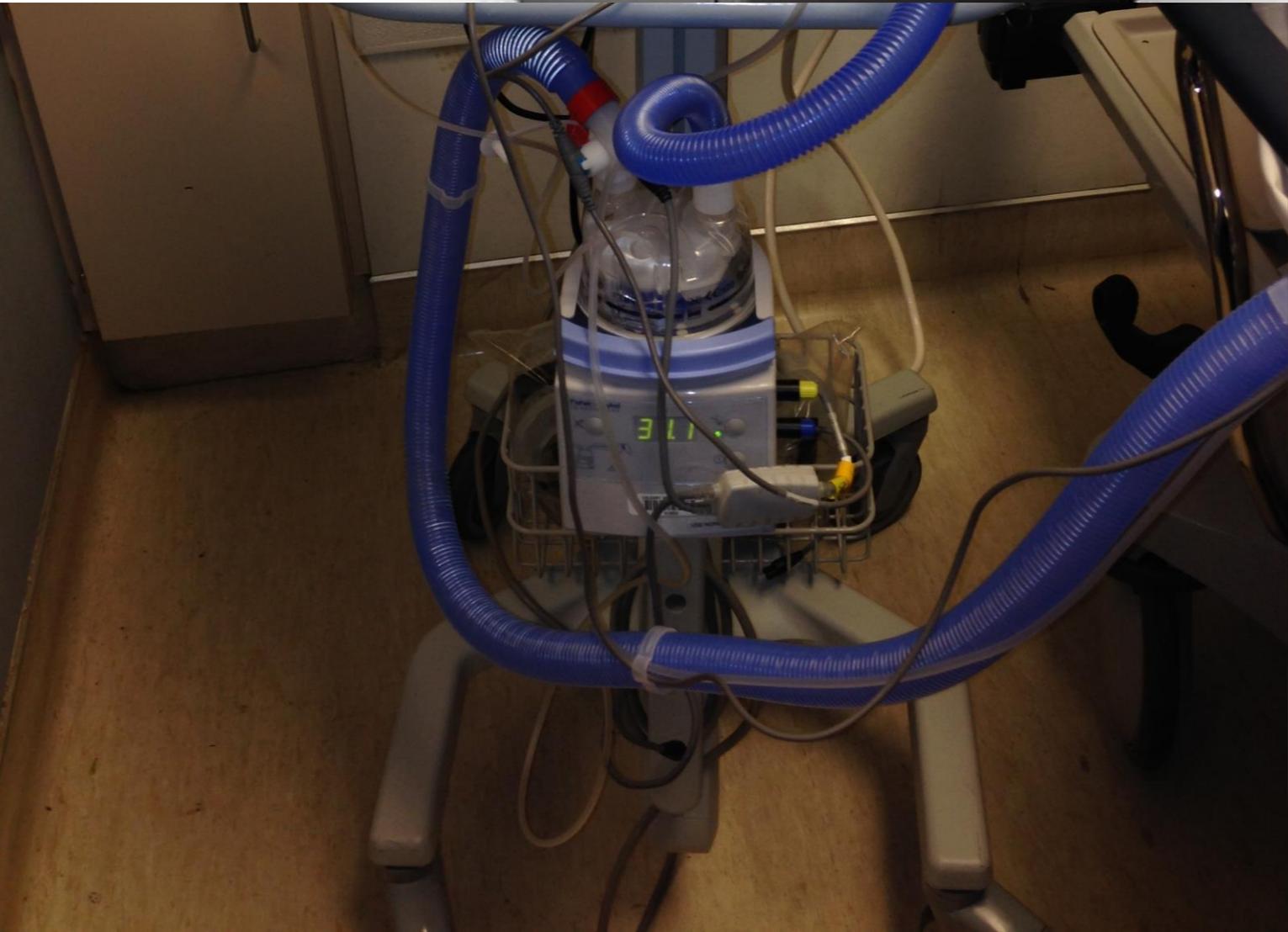


C



D





# PAP Therapy short term

Author	Design	N	Type	Duration (Weeks)	Pao <sub>2</sub> (mmHg)		Paco <sub>2</sub> (mmHg)	
					Pretreatment	Posttreatment	Pretreatment	Posttreatment
Short-term Therapy								
Chouri-Pontarollo <i>et al.</i> 2007 <sup>70</sup>	Prospective	15	Bilevel PAP	<1	77.3 ± 6.8	74.3 ± 6.8	47.3 ± 2.3	41.3 ± 3‡
Perez de Llano <i>et al.</i> 2008 <sup>72</sup>	Prospective	13	Bilevel PAP	<1	49.9 ± 7.7	63.3 ± 10.6*	58.1 ± 5.9	44.3 ± 5.5*
		11	CPAP	<1	51.3 ± 6.7	68.9 ± 3.8*	59.6 ± 11	41.6 ± 4.5*
Perez de Llano <i>et al.</i> 2005 <sup>63</sup>	Retrospective	54	Bilevel PAP	1	45.8 ± 9.1	55.9 ± 5.6†	60.3 ± 9.9	50.4 ± 4.7†
Piper <i>et al.</i> 1994 <sup>73</sup>	Prospective	13	Bilevel PAP	1–3	50	66†	62	46‡
Lin 1994 <sup>71</sup>	Prospective	30	CPAP	2	75 ± 5.2	90.7 ± 5.2*	47.2 ± 1.5	39 ± 3.00*
			CPAP	4	75 ± 5.2	90.7 ± 5.2*	47.2 ± 1.5	39 ± 3.00*
Long-term Therapy								
Mokhlesi <i>et al.</i> 2006 <sup>83</sup>	Retrospective	75	CPAP 80%/ Bi-level PAP 20%	4	59 ± 11	64 ± 11†	54 ± 7	49 ± 7†
Storre <i>et al.</i> 2006 <sup>82</sup>	Prospective Crossover	10	Bi-level PAP	6	73.3 ± 6.3	76.3 ± 12.4	47.4 ± 2.0	45.9 ± 3.7 <sup>ns</sup>
			Bi-level PAP + AVAPS	6	73.3 ± 6.3	72.8 ± 9.1	47.4 ± 2.0	42.0 ± 5.2*
Piper <i>et al.</i> 2008 <sup>78</sup>	Prospective	18	CPAP	12	N/A	N/A	52	46.2*
		18	Bilevel PAP	12	N/A	N/A	49	42.1*
Budweiser <i>et al.</i> 2007 <sup>76</sup>	Retrospective	126	Bilevel PAP	24	57.8 ± 11.5	65.6 ± 10.4†	55.5 ± 7.7	42.1 ± 5.5†
Priou <i>et al.</i> 2010 <sup>79</sup>	Retrospective	130	Bilevel PAP	24	63.5 ± 13	72.5 ± 9.4‡	55.9 ± 10.5	45.3 ± 5.3‡
Redolfi <i>et al.</i> 2007 <sup>80</sup>	Retrospective	6	Bi-level PAP	40	51.3 ± 6.7	75.0 ± 10.3§	55.5 ± 4.8	43.7 ± 1.2§
De Lucas-Ramos <i>et al.</i> 2004 <sup>77</sup>	Prospective	13	Bilevel PAP	48	55.9 ± 6.4	64 ± 8.6*	49.9 ± 3.67	40.3 ± 3.37*
Heinemann <i>et al.</i> 2007 <sup>84</sup>	Prospective	32	Bilevel PAP	52	50.1 ± 6.2	63.6 ± 9.3	51.9 ± 3.6	41.6 ± 6.2†
Berger <i>et al.</i> 2001 <sup>75</sup>	Retrospective	8	CPAP	56 ± 76	N/A	N/A	56 ± 7	41 ± 5§
		10	Bilevel PAP		N/A	N/A	58 ± 4	42 ± 4§

# Can Postoperative Pulmonary Complications in Patients with OHS be Reduced?

Limited evidence demonstrating reduction in postoperative complications with PAP

Initiate PAP therapy immediately after extubation following bariatric surgery

# Summary

## Obesity Hypoventilation Syndrome

- **Definition:** class III obesity with OSA and hypercapnia, serum bicarbonate >27 mmol/L
- **Prevalence:** 8% in patients awaiting bariatric surgery

Respiration and Sleep Medicine

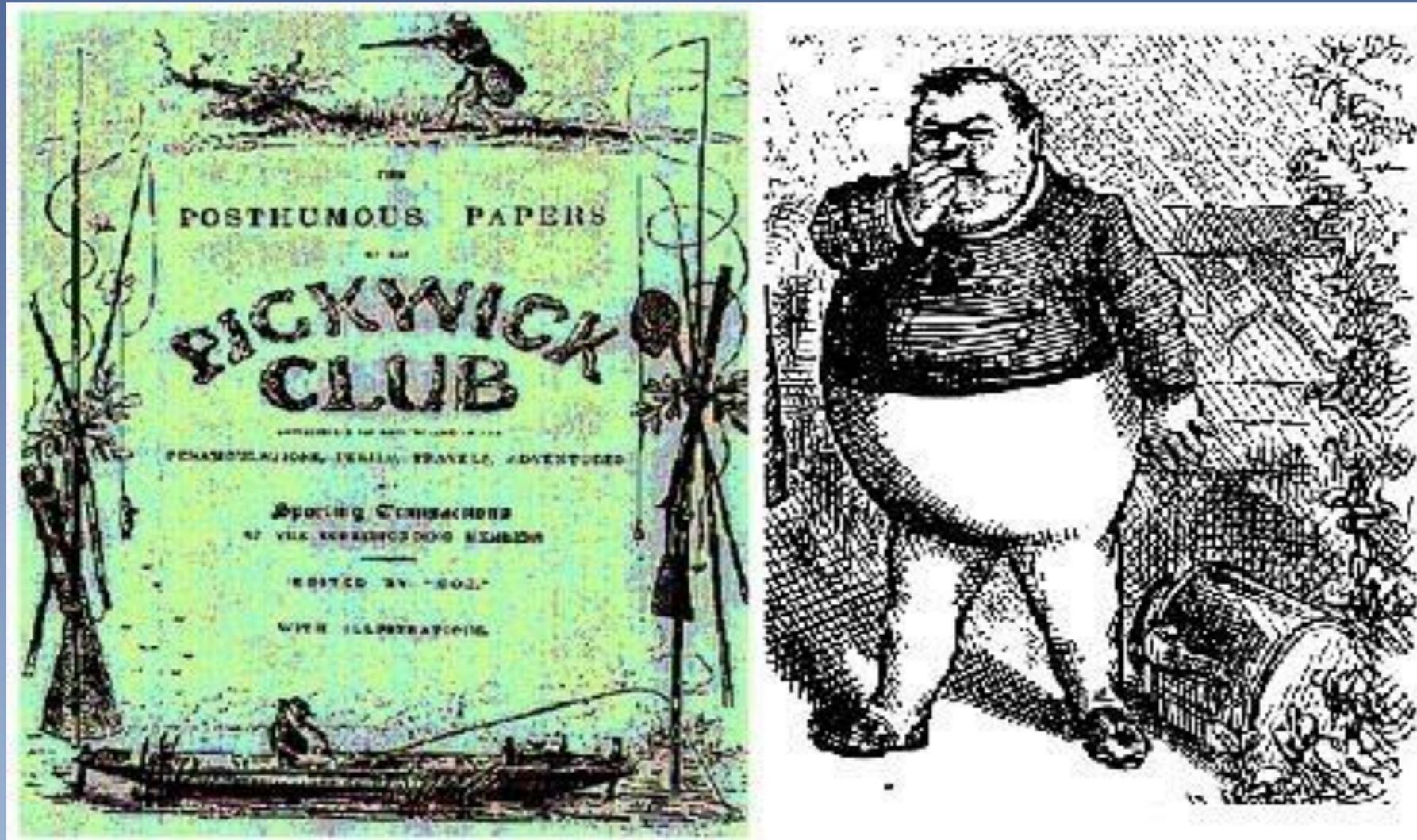
■ NARRATIVE REVIEW ARTICLE

## **Obesity and Obesity Hypoventilation, Sleep Hypoventilation, and Postoperative Respiratory Failure**

Roop Kaw, MD,\* Jean Wong, MD, FRCPC,†‡§ and Babak Mokhlesi, MD||

Kaw, et al. *Anesth Analg* 2021; 132:1265

# Thank you



*Rainer Lenhardt*

[ifso2024.org](http://ifso2024.org)

# Supplemental Oxygen

40% of patients < 90% SpO<sub>2</sub> during sleep on CPAP/BIPAP

Moderate concentrations of supplemental oxygen worsen hypercapnia in obesity hypoventilation syndrome (randomized crossover study)

- CO<sub>2</sub> increased by 5.0 mmHg (100% O<sub>2</sub> vs room air)
- Decreased minute ventilation by 1.4 L/min

# Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Cessation of breathing for >10 seconds

Total events per hour sleep

Measured in overnight stay at sleep lab with polysomnography

Apnea/Hypopnea index (AHI)

AHI		Rating
<5		Normal
5 to 15		Mild
15 to	14.5 % of the adult US population	Moderate
>30		Severe

# Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Cessation of breathing for >10 seconds

Total events per hour sleep

Measured in overnight stay at sleep lab with polysomnography

Apnea/Hypopnea index (AHI)

**STOP *Bang* QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Snoring** - Do you Snore Loudly (loud enough to be heard through closed doors or your bed-partner elbow you for snoring at night)?  Yes  No

**Tired** - Do you often feel Tired, Fatigued, or Sleepy during the daytime (such as falling asleep during driving)?  Yes  No

**Observed** - Has anyone Observed you Stop Breathing or Choking/Gasping during your sleep?  Yes  No

**Pressure** - Do you have or are being treated for High Blood Pressure?  Yes  No

**Body Mass Index** - more than 10% over ideal range.  Yes  No

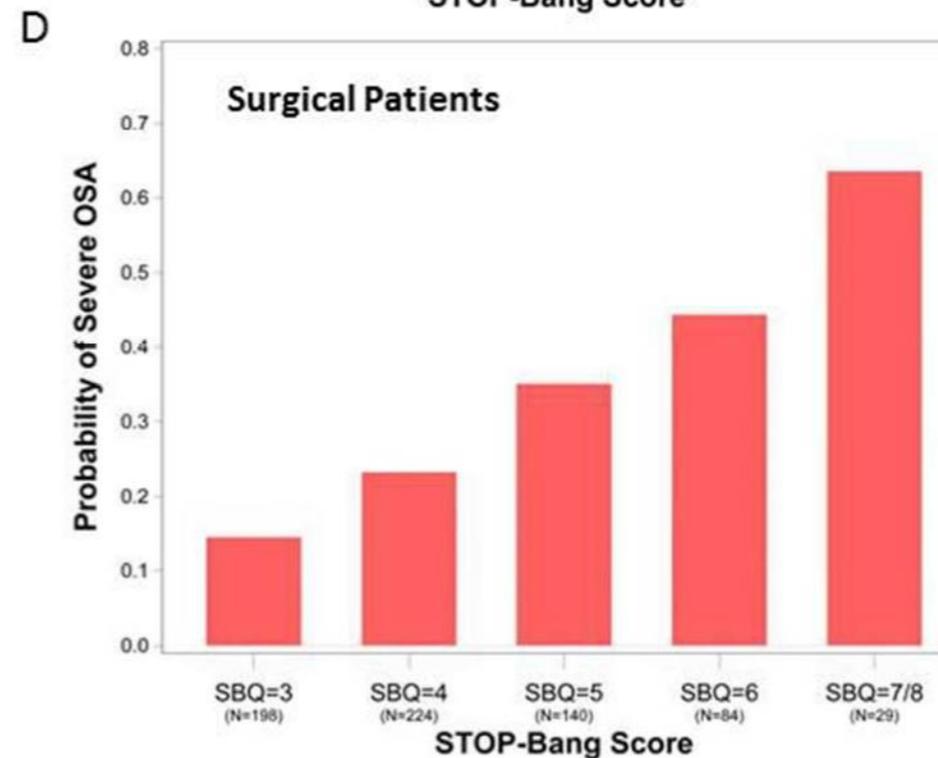
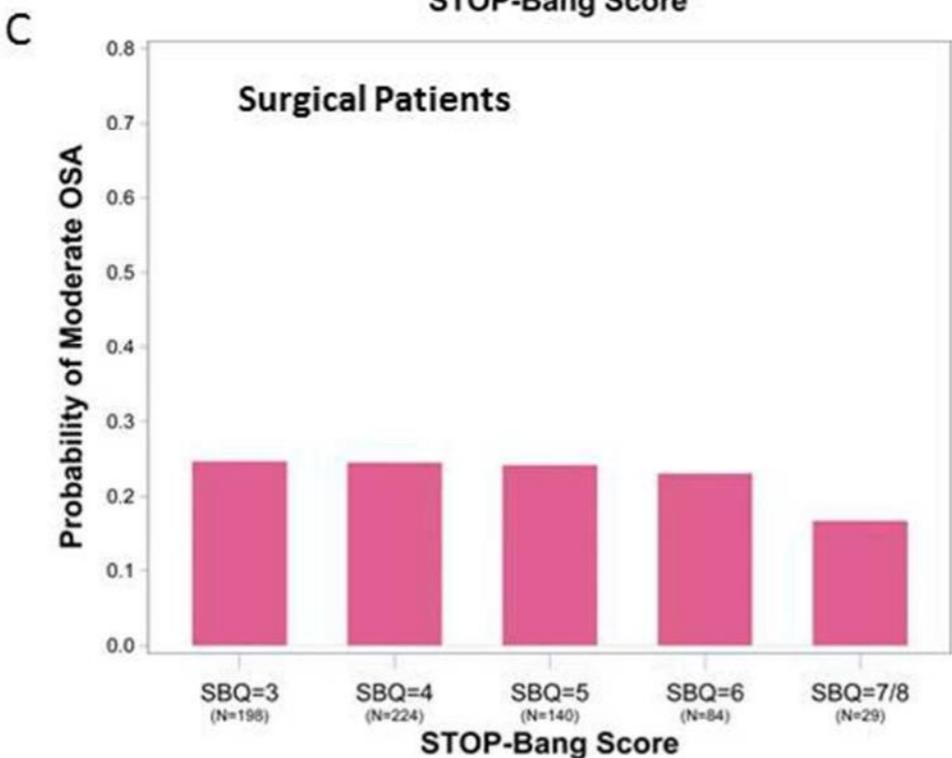
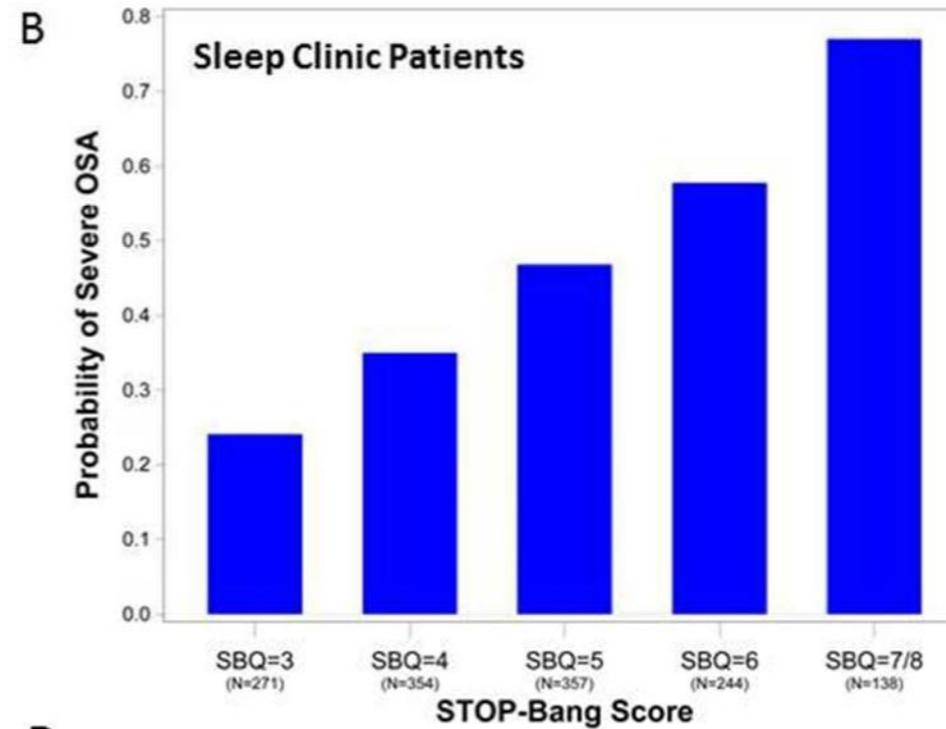
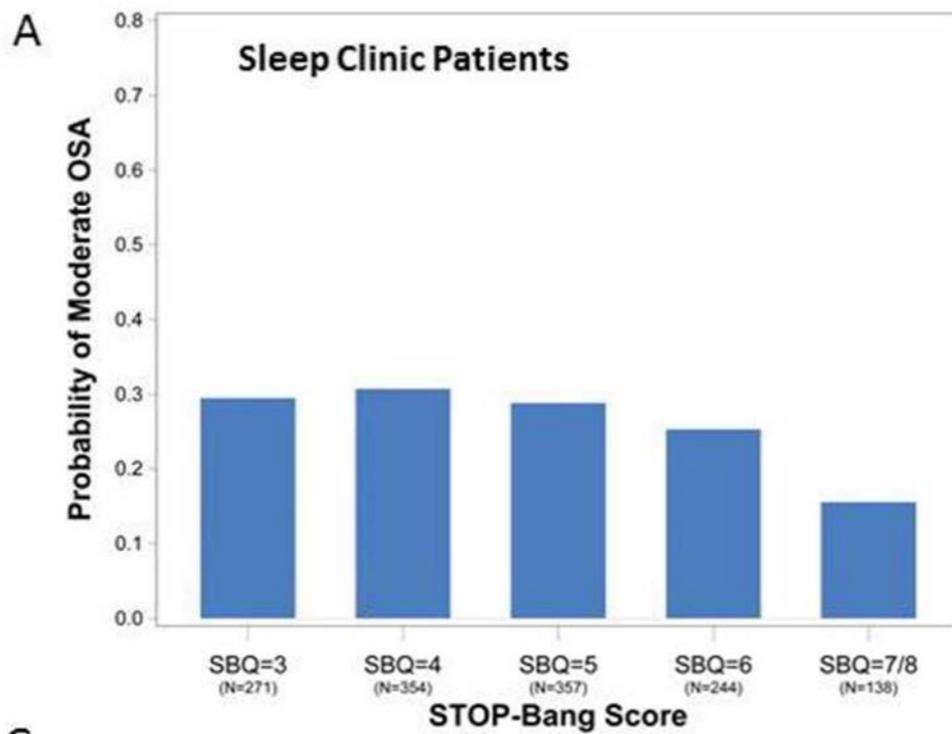
**Age** - Older than 50?  Yes  No

**Neck Size** - (Measure around Adams apple)  
Male is your shirt collar 17" or larger? Female, is your shirt collar 16" or larger?  Yes  No

**Gender** = Male?  Yes  No

After you have completed the **STOP-BANG** questionnaire, please return it to the front desk for a quick risk assessment of possible sleep apnea.

# Obstructive Sleep Apnea

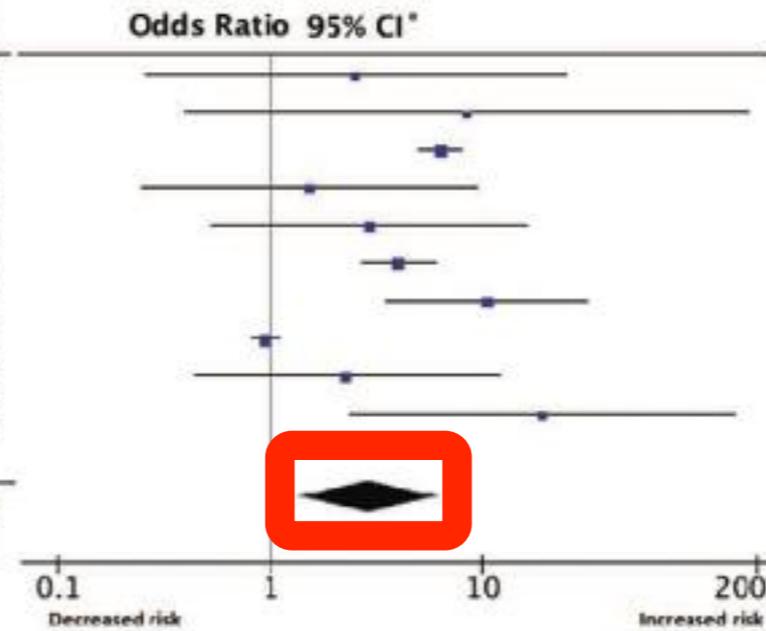


# Obstructive Sleep Apnea

## A Postoperative Complications

	STOP-BANG SCORE GROUP				n (%)	Odds Ratio 95% CI
	High		Low			
Chudeau2016	3	104	1	85	7.1%	2.50 [0.25, 24.43]
Gokay 2016	2	48	0	78	5.1%	8.44 [0.40, 179.65]
Seet2015	131	485	272	4947	13.9%	6.36 [5.03, 8.04]
Xara2015	3	59	2	59	8.7%	1.53 [0.25, 9.49]
Acar2014	4	83	2	117	9.1%	2.91 [0.52, 16.28]
Carso 2014	41	455	72	2997	13.6%	4.02 [2.70, 5.98]
Proczko2014	17	182	4	412	11.4%	10.51 [3.48, 31.70]
Lockhart2013	324	6226	372	6797	14.0%	0.95 [0.81, 1.10]
Pereira 2013	5	179	2	161	9.3%	2.28 [0.44, 11.94]
Vasu 2010	11	56	1	79	7.8%	19.07 [2.38, 152.58]
<b>Total</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>7877</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>15732</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

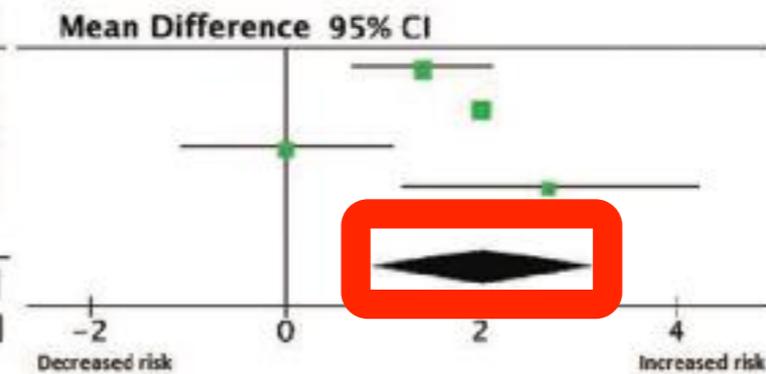
Bayesian Random-Effects with MCMC, 95% Credible Interval **3.93 [1.85, 7.77]**  
 D-L Random-Effects **3.75 [1.57, 8.95]**  
 Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 1.40$ ;  $\chi^2 = 213.57$ ,  $df = 9$  ( $P < 0.00001$ );  $I^2 = 96\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z = 2.98$  ( $P = 0.003$ )



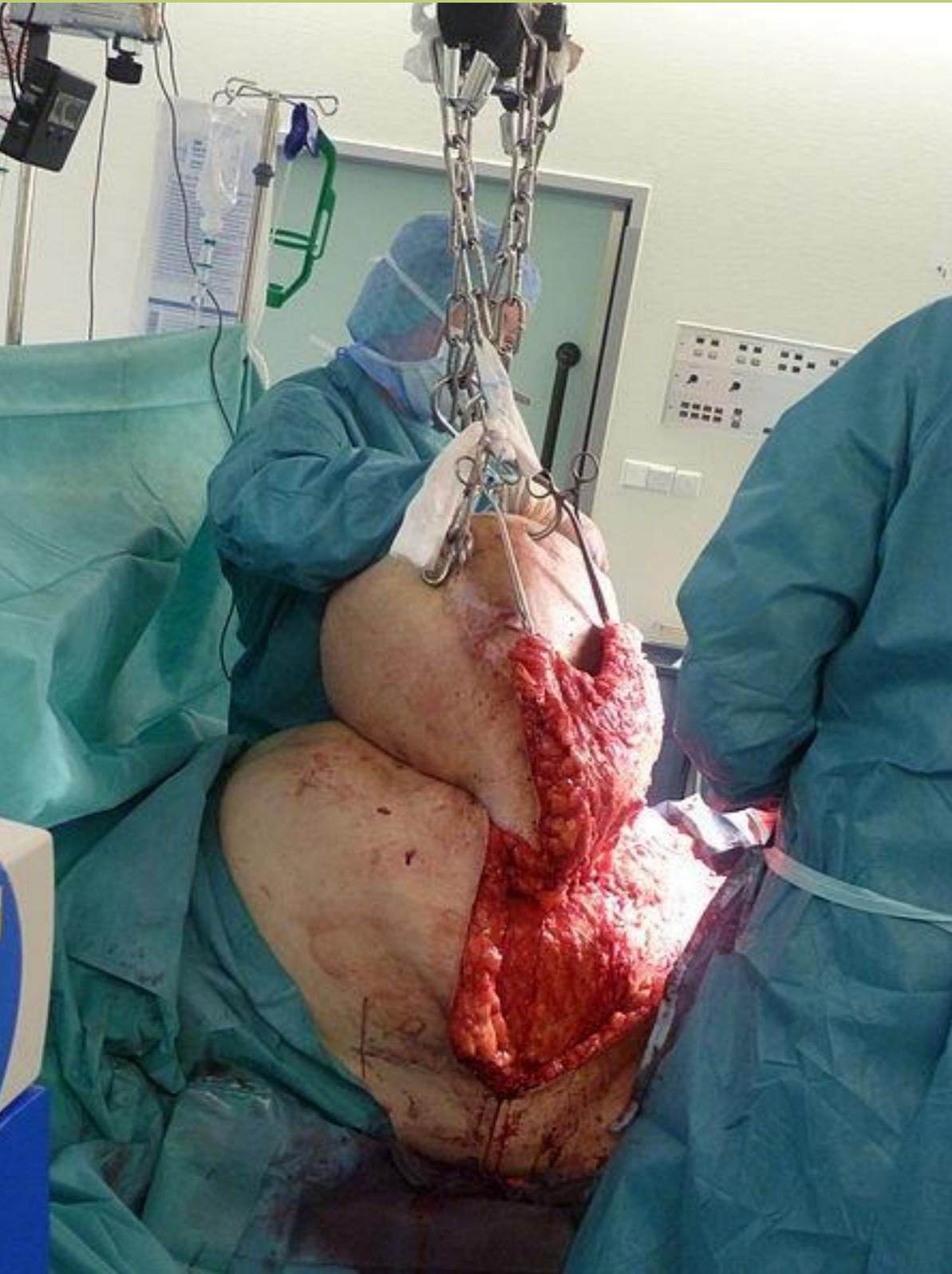
## B Length of Hospital Stay

Study	STOP-BANG SCORE GROUP						Weight	Difference 95% CI
	High			Low				
Pereira 2013	5	4.5	182	3.6	3	412	27.5%	1.40 [0.68, 2.12]
Proczko2014	4.5	0.5	179	2.5	0.6	161	34.0%	2.00 [1.88, 2.12]
Xara2015	3.6	3	59	3.6	3	59	22.0%	0.00 [-1.08, 1.08]
Chudeau2016	7	6.7	104	4.3	3.7	85	16.5%	2.70 [1.19, 4.21]
<b>Total</b>			<b>524</b>			<b>717</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

Bayesian Random-Effects with MCMC, 95% Credible Interval **2.01 [0.77, 3.24]**  
 D-L Random-Effects **1.51 [0.66, 2.36]**  
 Heterogeneity:  $\tau^2 = 0.55$ ;  $\chi^2 = 16.30$ ,  $df = 3$  ( $P = 0.0010$ );  $I^2 = 82\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $Z = 3.48$  ( $P = 0.0005$ )



# Weight Reduction Surgery



Dramatic reductions in  
body mass index and  
apnea- hypopnea index

Average apnea-hypopnea  
index after surgical  
weight loss consistent  
with moderately severe  
OSA

# Pharmacologic Respiratory Stimulants

Medroxyprogesterone acetate  
Acetazolamide

Acetazolamide improves:

- AHI↓
- PaO<sub>2</sub>↑
- PaCO<sub>2</sub>↓
- Increased hypercapnic drive response

# PAP Therapy

## Ventilator settings:

- CPAP titration to effect
- If patient intolerant to high CPAP levels, switch to BIPAP
- Inspiratory PAP 16-18 cm H<sub>2</sub>O
- Expiratory PAP 9-10 cm H<sub>2</sub>O

# Advanced Modes of Non-Invasive Positive Pressure Ventilation

## CPAP

- Auto-adjusting PAP

## BIPAP

- Auto-titrating BIPAP (IPAP/EPAP adjusted)
- Adaptive Servo-Ventilation (IPAP adjusted)
- Volume assured Pressure Support (IPAP adjusted)

# Supplemental Oxygen

40% of patients < 90% SpO<sub>2</sub> during sleep on CPAP/BIPAP



Banerjee et al. Chest  
2007; 131: 1678  
Hollier et al. Thorax  
2014;69:346

# Supplemental Oxygen

40% of patients < 90% SpO<sub>2</sub> during sleep on CPAP/BIPAP

