

# Preoperative Evaluation of Patients Undergoing Lung Resection Surgery

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# Introduction

- Advances in surgical and anesthetic techniques have resulted in a marked reduction in postoperative complication
- Preoperative PFT evaluation is an integral part
- About 30,000 lung resections are performed annually in the USA

## Commonly performed surgeries for lung cancer

- Pneumonectomy
- Lobectomy
- Wedge Resection
- Segmentectomy

# Indications for Pulmonary Resection

- Neoplastic Disease
  - Primary
  - Metastatic
- Bullous Lung Disease: LVRS
- Diagnosis & Management of inflammatory conditions
  - Granulomas
  - Pulmonary infiltrates
  - Resection of segments destroyed by bronchiectasis

# Complications after thoracic surgery

## Most Common

- Pneumonia
- Atelectasis
- Arrhythmias (AF)
- CCF

## Less common

- MI
- Prolonged air leak
- Empyema
- Bronchopleural fistula

# Mortality Rates

- Pneumonectomy: 6.8%
- Bi-lobectomy: 4.4 %
- Lobectomy: 3.9%
- Lesser Resection: 1.4%

*(Damhuis et al., Eur Respir J 1996; 9:7–10)*

## Postoperative complication of pulmonary resection

- Pneumonectomy-39%
- Lobectomy-19%
- Wedge resection-6%

# Changes in Lung Volume

## Pneumonectomy:

\* FEV1 reduced by 34- 36%

\* FVC reduced by 36 - 40%

\* VO2 max reduced by 20 - 28%

## Lobectomy:

\* FEV1 reduced by 9 - 17%

\* FVC reduced by 7 - 11%

\* VO2 max reduced by 0 -13%

*(Mazzone PJ et al., Am J Med 2005; 118:578-583)*



# Risk assessment for pulmonary surgery

## High risk

- Age >70
- Higher extent of resection  
(Pneumonectomy>lobectomy>resection)
- Poor exercise performance
- Low PPO FEV1
- Low PPO DLco
- High Pco<sub>2</sub> (controversial)
- Prolong operative time

# Risk assessment for pulmonary surgery

## Low risk

- FEV1 >2 L for pneumonectomy, >1 L for lobectomy, >0.6 L for segmentectomy
- PPO FEV1 >30-40% predicted
- Stair climbing >5 floor for pneumonectomy, 3 floor for lobectomy
- PPO DLco >40% predicted
- Vo2max uptake >15-20 ml/kg/min

## Indications for pre-operative assessment

- To make a decision whether patient can tolerate surgery “pulmonary clearance”
- To predict the occurrence of post operative respiratory complications
- To assess the postoperative respiratory disability

*( Pulmonary function tests in health and disease by Prof S K Jindal)*

# Minimal respiratory evaluation

- Good history taking
- Physical examination
- Chest roentgenography
- PFT

## Important components of history in preoperative evaluation

- Presenting symptoms
- Prior diagnosis of pulmonary or cardiac disease
- Co-morbid conditions: DM,LD,RD
- Prior experiences with GA/Surgery
- Cigarette smoking: never/current/ex
- Medication/allergies
- Alcohol use, history of withdrawal syndrome

# Preoperative Evaluation

Who should be evaluated?

The general answer

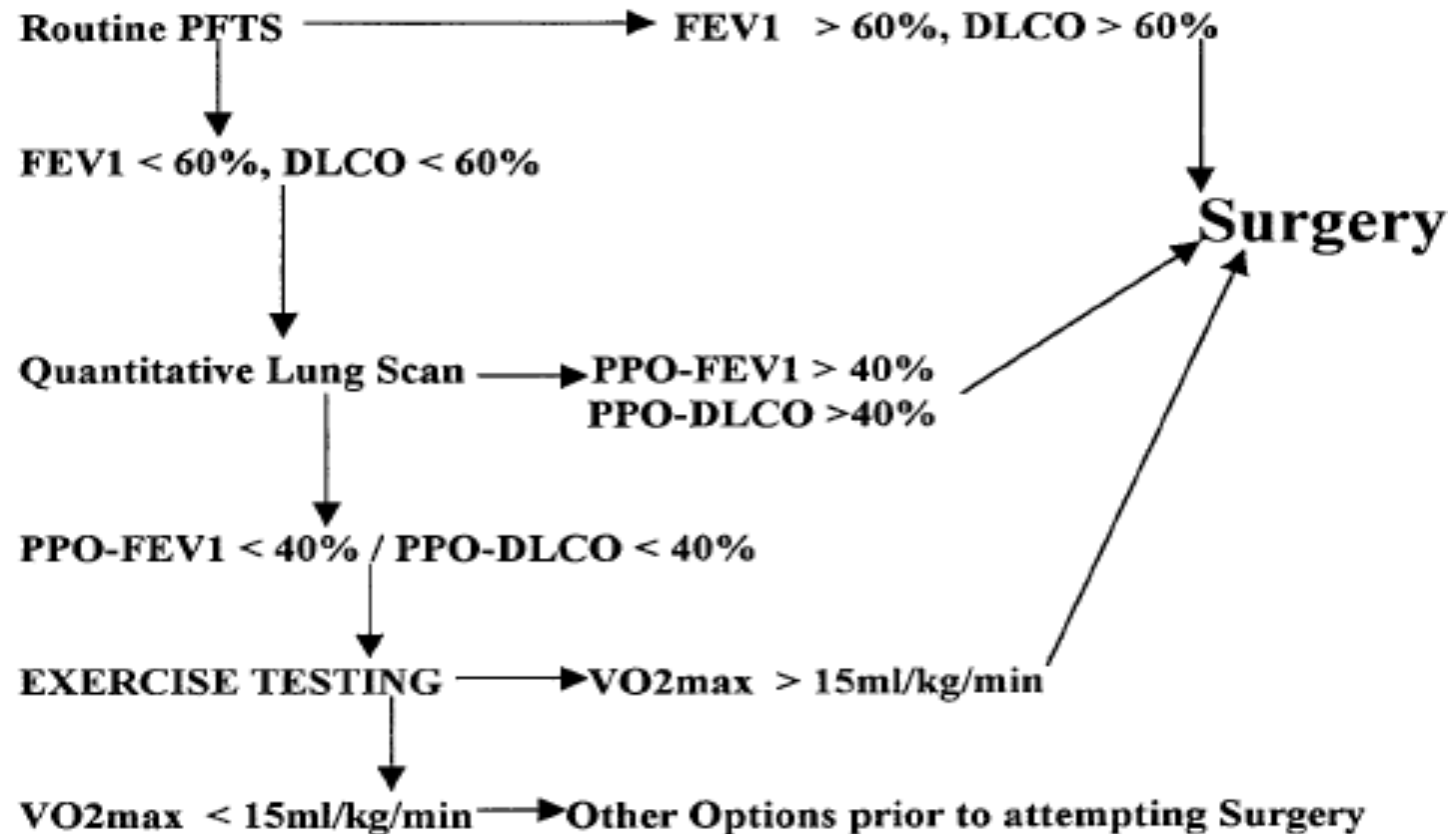
*All patients* undergoing lung resection surgery, irrespective of age or extent of the lesion

# Pulmonary-Specific Evaluation

- There is no single measure that is a “*gold standard*” in accurately predicting complications
- However, certain criteria, when applied have been shown to be predictive of outcome

*(Debapriya D et al. CHEST 2003;123:2096–2103)*

# Stepwise approach of evaluation





# Smoking

- Smoking is a risk factors for the development of post operative complication
- Relative risk of complication after surgery for smoker 1.4 to 4.3 fold.

*(SmetanaGW et al., N eng J Med 1999;340:937-944)*

- Smoking cessation decreased postoperative pulmonary complication
- Recommendations- Surgery should be delayed for 8 weeks after smoking cessation

# Pulmonary-Specific Evaluation

Pulmonary Function Tests Include:

- Spirometry
- Lung Volumes
- Diffusion Capacity
- Arterial Blood Gas Analysis
- Radionuclear Lung Scanning
- Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing

# Stages of Pulmonary-Specific Evaluation

## Stage I Assessment (Preop lung function)

- \* Spirometry
- \* Arterial Blood Gas Analysis
- \* DLCO

## Stage II Assessment (Postop lung function)

- \* Quantitative Ventilation-Perfusion Scan
- \* Quantitative CT Scan

## Stage III Assessment

- \* Exercise Testing: Oxygen Uptake (VO<sub>2</sub> Max)

*(Debapriya D et al. CHEST 2003;123:2096–2103)*

# Stage I Spirometry:

- Simple, inexpensive, standardized & readily available
  - FVC → reflect lung volume
  - FEV1, FEF25–75% → reflect airflow
  - MVV → Muscle Strength
- Predicted values of pulmonary function depend on age, height, gender and race  
*(Debapriya D et al. CHEST 2003;123:2096–2103)*
- Spirometry can provide cut-off values of acceptable risk in patients for thoracic surgery  
*(Alfredo et al. Acta Biomed 2006;77:69-70)*

# Stage- I (Spirometry) FEV1

- Preop. FEV1 <60% of predicted, Strongest predictor of postope. complications
- ACCP & BTS Guidelines:
  - FEV1 > 2 L tolerate pneumonectomy
  - FEV1 > 1-1.5 L tolerate lobectomy

*(Mazzone PJ et al. Am J Med 2005; 118:578-583)*
- Postope. pulmonary complication in patients with FEV1<2L was 40% VS 19% for those with FEV1 >2L

*(Stephan MK et al. Chest 2000;118:1263-1270)*

## Stage- I (Spirometry) FEV1

BTS Guidelines compiled on data from >2000 patients in 3 large series

Mortality Rate < 5%

- FEV1 > 1.5 L for Lobectomy
- FEV1 > 2 L or > 80% predicted for Pneumonectomy

*(Beckles MA et al., CHEST 2003; 123:105S-114S)*

## Stage- I DLCO

- Reflects alveolar membrane integrity & pulmonary capillary blood flow in the patient's lungs
- Was the most important predictor of mortality & was the sole predictor of postoperative pulmonary complications
- Equally significant predictor of postoperative complications as FEV1

*(Debapriya D et al., CHEST 2003;123:2096–2103)*

# Stage- I DLCO

- Routine measurement of DLCO in all candidates for lung resection, irrespective of their FEV1 value, in order to improve surgical risk stratification

*(Brunelli A et al., Eur J Cardiothoracic Surg 2006;29;567-70)*

- DLCO < 60% predicted associated with ↑ mortality.
- DLCO & FEV1 should be viewed as complementary physiologic tests

*(Beckles MA et al., CHEST 2003; 123:105S-114S)*



# Stage I

## Arterial Blood Gas Analysis (ABG)

- Not extensively studied as predictor of postoperative complication
- PCO<sub>2</sub> >50 mm Hg - traditional contraindication to lung resection
- But In recent studies  
Patients with a PCO<sub>2</sub> of 45 mm Hg did well postoperatively  
Was not predictive of postoperative complications

*(Debapriya D et al. CHEST 2003;123:2096–2103)*

# Stage I

## Arterial Blood Gas Analysis (ABG)

- Preoperative PCO<sub>2</sub> < 45 mmHg vs. PCO<sub>2</sub> > 45 mmHg, postoperative complications 17% vs. 13%
- Hypoxemia (SaO<sub>2</sub> < 90%) was associated with ↑ risk of postoperative complications

*(Kearney DJ et al., Chest 1994;105:753-759)*

## Stage-I (Spirometry) Recommendation

- Pneumonectomy  
MVV > 55% of predicted, FEV1 >2 L,  
FEF25–75% >1.6 L/s.
- Lobectomy  
MVV >40% of predicted, FEV1 >1 L,  
FEF25–75% >0.6 L/s.
- Segmentectomy or Wedge Resection  
MVV >40% of predicted, FEV1 >0.6 L,  
FEF25– 75% 0.6 L/s

*(Miller JJ et al., Surg Gynecol Obstet 1981; 153:893–895)*

# Stage-I (Spirometry)

## Criteria of increased postope. complications and mortality

Pneumonectomy:

FEV1 <2L or 60% of predicted , MVV < 55% of predicted  
DLCO <50% of predicted , FEF25–75% < 1.6L/s.

Lobectomy:

FEV1 <1 L , MVV <40% of predicted  
FEF25–75% <0.6 L/s, DLCO <50% of predicted.

Wedge resection/Segmentectomy:

FEV1 <0.6 L , DLCO <50% of predicted.

*(Stephan F et al., Chest 2000; 118:1263–1270)*

## Stage-II Assessment

Consist of measurement of individual lung function (Regional lung function)

- Quantitative V/Q scan
- Bronchspirometry
- Lateral position testing
- Quantitative CT scanning

## Stage-II

# Indication of regional lung function

- Significant airflow obstruction
  - \* FEV1 <65% predicted
  - \* FEV1/FVC <0.70
- Significant pleural disease
- Known and suspected endobronchial obstruction
- Central lung mass
- History of prior lung resection

## Stage-II Quantitative Ventilation-Perfusion Scan:

- Measures predicted Postoperative lung function
- Readily available with negligible risk
- Highly accurate in the prediction of postoperative pulmonary function following resection
- Inhaled  $^{133}\text{Xe}$  or IV  $^{99}\text{Tc}$

*(Jeng-Shing Wang et al., Resp Med 2004; 98:598-605)*

## Stage II

# Inhaled $^{133}\text{Xe}$ or IV $^{99}\text{Tc}$

- % of radioactivity contributed by each lung correlates with the contribution of the function of that lung
- Normally: 19 Segments (10 R & 9 L)  
Right Lung (3/2/5): 55 % & Left Lung(3/2/4): 45%
- Calculation: 1  
PPO FEV1:-Preope.FEV1X % of radioactivity contributed by nonoperated lung

*(Kristersson et al., Chest 1972;62:696-698)*



## Stage-II

- Calculation-2

Expected loss of function=Preope. FEV1X % of function of affected lung

No. of segments in lobe to be resected

X-----

total No. of segments in the whole lung

*(WemlyJA ., Thoracic cardi Surg 1980; 80:535-543)*

- Juhl formula for PPO FEV1

PPO FEV1= preopr.FEV1X(1-[SX5.25]/100)

S= No of BPS involved

*(JuhlB,Frost B Acta anaesthesiol Scand 1975;49:8-13)*

# Stage-II

Using  $^{133}\text{Xe}$  Inhalation:

- PPO FEV1 of  $< 1$  L is indicative of physiologic inoperability.  
(Kristersson S et al. Chest 1972; 62:696–698)

Using  $^{99}\text{Tc}$  Macroaggregate of Albumin Perfusion:

- PPO FEV1 of  $< 0.8$  L is indicative of surgical inoperability.  
(Olsen GN et al. Chest 1974; 66:13–16)
- More widely accepted formula by Kristersson/Olsen formula for PPO FEV1

*(Sietske A et al, .CHEST 2004; 125:1735–1741)*

## Stage-II

# Predictors of Morbidity & Mortality after lung resection

- PPO FEV1 < 40% of predicted - 50% ↑Mortality
- PPO FEV1 > 40% of predicted - 50% ↓Mortality
- PPO DLCO < 40% of predicted - ↑ Mortality

*(Markos J et al., Am Rev Respir Dis 1989; 139:902–916)*

## Stage-II Recommendation

- If PPO FEV1 >40% and PPO DLCO > 40% - allowed to surgery
- If PPO FEV1 <40% and PPO DLCO <40% need further evaluation

*(Markos J et al., Am Rev Respir Dis 1989; 139:902–916)*

## Stage-II

### Other Tests:

- Bronchspirometry, Lateral position testing & Total Unilateral pulmonary artery occlusion
- Invasive tests & Require specialized equipment with a high level of technical expertise
- These test are no longer performed in the preoperative evaluation of patients awaiting lung resection

*(Debapriya D et al., CHEST 2003;123:2096–2103)*

## Stage- III Assessment Cardio-Pulmonary Exercise Testing

- Indicated when PPO FEV1 <35 to 40% and DLCO <40% of predicted
- Stresses the entire cardiopulmonary & oxygen delivery system
- Provides a good estimate of cardiopulmonary reserve
- Pulmonary/cardiac function & peripheral oxygen utilization

## Stage-III Assessment (CPET)

Measurement of exhaled gases

- Oxygen uptake ( $V_{O_2}$ )
- Maximal  $V_{O_2}$  ( $V_{O_{2max}}$ )

Formula for estimating  $V_{O_2}$

Predicted  $V_{O_2} = 5.8 \times \text{wt. in kg} + 151 + 10.1(W \text{ of workload})$

## Stage-III (CPET)

- VO<sub>2</sub>max  
With increasing muscular work VO<sub>2</sub> rises to a point where there is a plateau of the VO<sub>2</sub> work rate slope.
- VO<sub>2</sub> max is a measure of aerobic capacity of the peripheral tissue (Oxygen Consumption)  
*(Mazzone PJ et al., Am J Med 2005; 118:578-583)*



# Stage-III Assessment (CPET)

3 major types of tests

- Fixed exercise challenge  
(Sustained level of work )
- Incremental exercise challenge  
(Work rate is sequentially increased to a desired end point)
- Submaximal vs. Maximal oxygen consumption( $\text{VO}_2$  Max)

*(Debapriya D et al., CHEST 2003;123:2096–2103)*

# Stage-III(CPET) Fixed Challenge Exercise Testing

## Fixed Challenge Exercise Testing

\* Climbing a certain number of stairs

\* Walking a fixed distance

- Patients who able to climb up to three floor (i.e. 75 steps) had ↓ number of postoperative complications

*(Olsen GN et al., Chest 1991; 99:587–590)*

- Prospective study of 16 patients 6-min walk distance > 1000 feet & Stair climb of > 44 steps, Successful surgical outcome

*(Holden DA et al., Chest 1992; 102:1774–1779)*

## Stage-III(CPET) Fixed Challenge Exercise Testing

Prospectively evaluated of 83 patients,  
complications occurred

- Who unable to climb one floor- 89%
- Who unable to climb two floor- 80%
- Inability to climb 5 floor- 32%
- Who could climb 7 floor- No complications

*(Girish M et al. Chest 2001;120:1147-1151)*

# Stage-III (CPET) Incremental Exercise Testing

Measurement VO<sub>2</sub> max in patients for lung resection

- VO<sub>2</sub> Max > 1 L/min → No mortality
- VO<sub>2</sub> Max < 1 L/min → 100% mortality

*(Eugene Jet et al., Surg Forum 1982; 33:260–262)*

Incidence of Postoperative complications

- VO<sub>2</sub> Max < 15 mL/kg/min → 100% complication rate
- VO<sub>2</sub> Max 15-20 mL/kg/min → 66% complication rate
- VO<sub>2</sub> Max > 20 mL/kg/min → 10% complication rate

*(Smith TP et al., Am Rev Respir Dis 1984; 129:730–734)*

# Conclusions

- Patients with thoracic surgery should undergo evaluation for surgical resectability
- Patients with FEV1 and DLco >60% of predicted can be referred for surgery without undergoing other tests
- Patients with preoper. FEV1 and DLco <60% of predicted need further evaluation
- Quantitative V/Q lung scan is done estimate PPO FEV1 and DLco

# Conclusions

- If the PPO FEV1 and DLco are 40% of predicted, surgical risk is acceptable
- Patients with PPO FEV1 and DLco <40% should undergo exercise testing to evaluate pulmonary reserve and to assess the adequacy of oxygen transport
- Cycle ergometry with incremental workloads, which can measure  $\text{Vo}_2$ ,  $\text{Vo}_{2\text{max}}$

# Conclusions

- Patients with  $Vo_{2max} < 10$  ml/kg/min. should not undergo lung resection surgery
- Patients with PPO FEV1/ DLco  $< 40\%$  of predicted, but  $Vo_{2max} > 15$  mL/kg/ min, can undergo surgical resection, including pneumonectomy



**THANK YOU**