Exercise Testing for Cardiopulmonary Function and its Applications

Justin Zambia*  
Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Description

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is a life-saving therapy that combines chest compressions with artificial ventilation to maintain brain function until further measures are done to restore spontaneous blood circulation and breathing in a person who has gone into cardiac arrest.

The link between the heart and lung organs is known as cardiopulmonary function. The most significant function of the cardiopulmonary system is to regulate and circulate blood between the heart and the lungs, a process that is centred on the pulmonary artery’s connection between the heart and the lungs.

In the late stages of Parkinson’s disease, cardiorespiratory deficits are thought to be the leading cause of death. In both asthmatic patients and healthy people, aerobic exercise has been found to improve pulmonary function.

The cardiovascular system is the system that allows the heart and the entire network of blood vessels to work together to distribute blood flow throughout the body. The cardiorespiratory system is a subset of the broader cardiovascular system. The heart’s role in relation to the body’s whole breathing apparatus, from the nose and throat to the lungs, is referred to as the cardiorespiratory system. These three systems are mutually dependent.

The strength of the heart muscle will have a direct impact on the efficiency of cardiac function. Aerobic exercise strengthens the heart and improves its ability to pump blood. The heart’s strength and the lungs’ clear, unobstructed pulmonary artery passageways working together allow blood to flow efficiently to and from the lungs, where useful oxygen and waste carbon dioxide are exchanged in microscopic lung compartments known as alveoli.

The most hazardous situation involving the cardiopulmonary system is when the heart stops beating, which is known as sudden cardiac arrest, and blood flow to the heart is cut off. If left untreated for more than a few moments, sudden cardiac arrest usually results in death. Sudden cardiac arrest occurs about 1,000 times each day in the United States, and about as frequently in the Western world on a per capita basis. A kind of coronary disease, a build-up of arterial plaque restricting arteries and obstructing blood flow to the heart, is the most common cause of sudden cardiac arrest in many cases, especially in victims over 35 years of age.

Heart arrhythmia, a disorder in which the electrical system of the heart, which regulates heartbeat, causes the heart muscle to twitch and ultimately stop working, is another prevalent cause of sudden cardiac arrest in younger athletes. Sudden cardiac arrest rarely causes any symptoms before it happens. Ventricular fibrillation is the most common type of this illness.

The CPET procedure was followed to the letter. The COSMED Quark CPET system was used to perform an incremental symptom-limited exercise test on an upright cycle ergometer. Within 3 days before RHC and after BPA, CPET was performed, and the methodology utilised after BPA was identical to that used before RHC. At 1 min intervals, the heart rate was monitored. The greatest 30 sec average of oxygen consumption in the last minute of exercise was classified as peak VO2.

Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing (CPET) is a non-invasive procedure for evaluating cardiopulmonary function and exercise capacity objectively and safely. Previous research has revealed that CTEPH is linked to decreased breathing efficiency and exercise capacity, both of which are independent prognostic indicators in CTEPH patients. Improved exercise capacity as measured by CPET three months after BPA has been reported; however, the measurement was made too late and could be influenced by rehabilitation training or medical treatments. Because there are no reports in China about BPA and its
immediate impact on cardiopulmonary function in hospitalised patients with inoperable CTEPH, the goal of this study is to assess the safety and efficacy of BPA in our centre, as well as its early effects on cardiopulmonary function in CTEPH patients.

The heart, not the lungs, is the organ in the cardiopulmonary system that is at risk of lasting damage after a cardiac arrest. The lungs can survive without breathing; however, the heart cannot survive without oxygen-rich blood because the cardiac cells will die. These cells cannot be regenerated in the same way that most other organs can because of their architecture.

For patients with inoperable CTEPH, BPA, a safe and effective treatment, can improve hemodynamic and cardiopulmonary function immediately after a single session and provide long-term benefits after repeated sessions.