



Original Article

## Effect of deep breathing exercise on oxygenation of patients under major abdominal surgery: randomized clinical trial

Mostafa Vahedian<sup>1</sup> , Sahar Paryab<sup>2</sup> , Ali Ebrazeh<sup>1</sup> , Seyed Hasan Adeli<sup>1</sup> ,  
Mohammad Reza Yeganeh Khah<sup>1</sup> , Azamossadat Nazeri<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Clinical Research Development Center, Qom University of Medical Sciences, Qom, Iran

<sup>2</sup> Department of Nursing and Midwifery, Aliabad Katoul Azad University, Aliabad Katoul, Iran

<sup>3</sup> Clinical Research Development Center, Qom University of Medical Sciences, Shahid Beheshti Hospital, Qom, Iran

### Corresponding Author:

Tel: +98912649186

Email: [yeganehkhah@muq.ac.ir](mailto:yeganehkhah@muq.ac.ir)

### Abstract

**Introduction:** The number of major abdominal surgical procedures is increasing around the world. A large number of the patients complain about postoperative pulmonary complications (PPCs) after abdominal surgery and show symptoms of breathing pattern disorder. Therefore, this study aimed to investigate the effect of deep breathing exercise on the oxygenation of patients undergoing major abdominal surgery.

**Methods:** This single-blind randomized clinical trial was conducted on 40 patients who needed major abdominal surgery in Qom, Iran, in 2014. The participants were divided into two equal experimental (n=20) and control (n=20) groups. The cases in both groups received routine care, however, those in the experimental group exercised repeated deep breathing four times per hour for two consecutive hours after the surgery as well. The condition of the patients in both groups was similar in terms of position, mobility, and oxygen therapy. The patient's oxygen saturation, respiratory rate (RR), heart rate, and the severity of pain in the surgery site were measured. The collected data were analyzed in SPSS software (Version. 18) using paired t-test, independent t-test, Mann-Whitney U test, Wilcoxon rank-sum test, Multiple regression analyses, Chi-square test, and Fischer's exact test. A p-value less than 0.05 were considered statistically significant.

**Results:** Based on the study findings, the deep breathing exercise significantly reduced the surgery site pain and mean blood pressure and increased O<sub>2</sub> saturation in the experimental group after the intervention ( $P < 0.05$ ). Moreover, there was a statistically significant difference between the experimental and control groups, and a significantly higher O<sub>2</sub> saturation was observed in the experimental group after deep breathing exercise post-operation ( $\beta = 2.01$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ).

**Conclusion:** Deep breathing exercise can reduce the severity of pain in the surgery site and mean arterial blood pressure and increase O<sub>2</sub> saturation in patients after major abdominal surgery.

**Key words:** Breathing Exercise, Oxygen, Surgery

**Citation:** Vahedian M, Paryab S, Ebrazeh A, Adeli S.H, Yeganeh Khah M.R, Nazeri A. Effect of deep breathing exercise on oxygenation of patients under major abdominal surgery: randomized clinical trial. J Surg Trauma.2021;9(1):8-16

Received: October 4, 2020

Revised: January 25, 2021

Accepted: January 28, 2021

## Introduction

Millions of people around the world should tolerate major surgical procedures every year. Despite advances in anesthesia and surgical care, postoperative pulmonary complications (PPCs) are still a significant problem in modern practice. Moreover, PPCs increase morbidity and mortality following major upper abdominal surgery and contribute to the prolonged hospital stay and additional health costs (1-7). The risk of PPCs among patients who tolerate upper abdominal surgery is too high (about 17-88%). Upper abdominal surgery has a negative effect on lung volume, causes difficulty in coughing for as long as one week, and reduces arterial oxygen and oxygen-hemoglobin saturation by changing the lung function (8-9). It seems that post-surgery pulmonary complications are related to lung muscle dysfunction. The complications start with anesthesia induction and continue even after the surgery (10). Surgical procedures may affect the respiratory muscles by causing a change in a number of pathophysiological mechanisms, such as the phrenic nerve, thoracoabdominal mechanism (reduction of rib cage compliance), reflexes mechanisms (inhibition of phrenic nerve), the ratio of muscle length to its power (change of functional residual capacity), the aeromechanical coupling, and reduction of muscles integration (11-12). In addition, respiratory muscle dysfunction caused by the surgery may reduce vital capacity, tidal volume, total lung capacity, cough efficiency. Subsequently, the respiratory muscle dysfunction causes atelectasis in the main parts of the lung, reduces residual vital capacity, and eventually affects the exchange of respiratory gases by increasing the ventilation/perfusion ratio. These conditions may deteriorate with hypoventilation caused by different factors, such as sedatives, pain (related to surgery), and the increase of mechanical load (13-14). Several studies showed the importance of chest physiotherapy, including deep breathing exercise, in the improvement of lung function, as well as prevention and treatment of lung complications and diseases. Deep breathing exercise hyperventilates the alveolus and prevents their collapse, keeps the respiratory

tubes open, helps the expelling of anesthesia gases and accumulated sputum, and facilitates oxygenation. It stimulates the cough reflex and expelling of sputum (15-17), decreases atelectasis, increases oxygenation, and facilitates the movement of sputum to the main airways (18-20). It should be mentioned that such factors as high prevalence of respiratory complications in patients after surgery, the potential effectiveness of respiratory exercise in the improvement of oxygenation, appropriate lung ventilation, reduction of respiratory distress, and prevention of lung pulmonary complications, as well as the lack of similar studies in Iran motivated the authors to investigate hemodynamics and respiratory effect of deep breathing exercise on oxygenation in patients after major abdominal surgery.

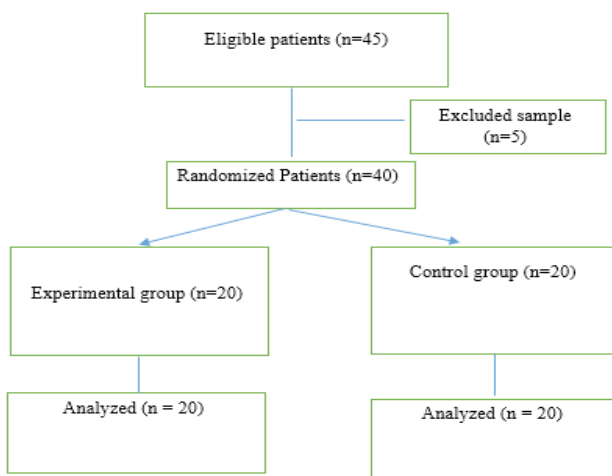
## Materials and Methods

This study was conducted as a single-blind randomized clinical trial after the study protocol was approved by the Ethical Committee of Qom University of Medical Sciences (12050.34), Qom, Iran, and written consent was obtained from the participants in 2014. The study was registered at the Clinical Trial Center of Iran (IRCT.201011012560N5). The participants in this study included 40 patients admitted in surgical wards of Shahid Beheshti Hospital, Tehran, Iran, for elective major abdominal surgeries including cholecystectomy and laparotomy (non-laparoscopic digestive surgeries), kidney, urethral and gynecologic surgeries. The inclusion criteria included admission for elective major abdominal surgery, the state of consciousness for patients, the lack of respiratory and cardiovascular system problem, the ability to do deep breathing exercise, having SPO<sub>2</sub>>90%, no history of previous surgery, the lack of allergic reaction to latex gloves and general anesthesia, having American society of anesthesiologists I and II, and no history of pulmonary medicine usage. However, patients with a history of renal dysfunction and metabolic disorders (Hyperbilirubinemia, anemia), unstable angina (reduction of blood pressure by 15 mm Hg after a postural change, heart rate over 130 beats per min), liver transplantation, aneurysm surgery, those

with severe bleeding after surgery who may need reoperation or administration to ICU or CCU wards, those with hypothermia ( $T < 34^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), hyperthermia ( $T \geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), respiratory aspiration, cigarette consumption during the study, and the patients who did not cooperate were excluded from the study. A trained nurse was used as a questioner in this study. A minimum sample of 18 patients per group was required based on the formula through which  $\alpha=0.05$ ,  $\beta=0.80$ , the standard deviation in the intervention group (SD1) =2.4, the standard deviation in the control group (SD2) =1.9, and minimal clinical difference=2 (21). However, considering the attrition rate, 20 patients were included in each group. Data collection and the selection of study population technique were performed using simple random sampling technique over a three months period. The informed consent was obtained from the participants after providing them with enough information about the trial and randomization procedure. The patients were randomly allocated into two groups of experimental (n=20) and control (n=20), using a randomized block design. The patients of each group were hospitalized in separate wards to conceal the allocation and prevent communication between the two groups. The deep breathing exercise was practically educated to the patients in the experimental group the day before the surgery, and they were requested to repeat the exercise several times to make sure that they have understood it completely (Figure 1).

Intervention in the experimental group included the breathing exercise 2 hr following the surgery when the patients were fully conscious. The patients were encouraged to respire deeply and gently, keep it for 3 sec and exhale gently via the mouth, in a semi-sitting position. During the expiration, the patients were asked to cough two times efficiently (patients were educated to keep a pillow in the area of incision when they were coughing). The questioner encouraged the patients to taken 10 deep breaths and to perform motivational spirometry for 2 min using latex gloves without powder afterward. This circle was repeated four times and each time it was practiced for two consecutive hours. After and before eight sessions of deep breathing exercises, the hemodynamic symptoms were measured which included heart rate and blood pressure, respiratory parameters, such as RR and Oxygen saturation (SpO<sub>2</sub>), and the severity of pain in the surgery site. No nurse was involved in the breathing exercise in this study. It should be mentioned that the control group did not receive deep breathing intervention and only received routine care. The same questioner measured the respiratory symptoms, the severity of surgery site pain, and hemodynamic symptoms before and 2 hr after the intervention.

The patients' arrangement, mobility, position, oxygen intake, and measurement devices were the same. The blood pressure was measured according to The Seventh Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure instruction using a mercurial manometer and stethoscope in a semi-sitting position after resting for 3 min. Mercurial manometer and Richter stethoscope were prepared after consultation with medical experts and their stability was confirmed after retesting with another standard device and calculation of Pierson stability factor of these two measurements (rdiastol =0.90, rsystol=0.93). A newly calibrated Abadis BC pulse oximeter was utilized in this study. All of the interfering factors in the correct function of SPO<sub>2</sub> measurement, including the right position of the sensor, the same finger in all patients, non-visible anomaly in the nail bed, uncovered nail bed, and



**Figure 1:** Flow diagram of patient recruitment and data collection during the study

indirect radiation to the sensor was under control. All data were collected and analyzed using SPSS software (Version 18). Univariate and multiple analyses of two group's variables were conducted. Categorical data were presented as numbers and percentages and were compared using the Chi-square test or Fischer exact test. In addition, continuous data were introduced as a Mean $\pm$ SD and were compared using a t-test. Moreover, paired t-test, as well as Wilcoxon rank-sum test along with Mann-Whitney U test, was utilized to compare normally distributed variables and nonparametric data, respectively. Multiple regression analyses were performed using the generalized linear models (GLM). A p-value less than (0.05) were considered statistically significant.

## Results

The mean (Age $\pm$ SD) of the participants (n=40) was estimated at 55.60 $\pm$ 15.1 years and 60% of the participants were female. Before intervention two

groups had no significant difference in terms of demographic characteristics, intermediary factors in oxygenation, the severity of pain in the surgery site, heart rate, mean blood pressure, and SPO2 (Table1). The (mean $\pm$ SD) of pain severity in the surgery site was estimated at 1.45 $\pm$ 0.55 (1-3%) before intervention; therefore, no analgesia was used. The preoperative SPO2 showed no significant difference between the two groups.

A significant increase in SPO2 was observed post-operation up to 96.45 $\pm$ 1.32 in the experimental (deep breathing exercise) group, compared to that in the control group (94.45 $\pm$ 1.57; P=0.001, Table 2). Furthermore, a significant decrease was observed in the severity of surgery-site pain down to 1.20 $\pm$ 0.41 in the experimental group, compared to that in the control group (1.85 $\pm$ 0.88, P=0.005, Table 2). The paired t-test results revealed that deep breathing exercise could reduce mean blood pressure in the experimental group (Table2).

**Table 1.** Baseline clinical, biochemical, and procedural characteristics of the study patients

Variable	Experimental Group	Control GROUP	P-Value
	Mean $\pm$ SD	Mean $\pm$ SD	
Age (years) *, #	56.10 $\pm$ 13.55	55.70 $\pm$ 15.82	0.930
Length of hospitalization (day)	1.80 $\pm$ 1.58	2.10 $\pm$ 1.89	0.680
Length of anesthesia (min)	123.50 $\pm$ 54.56	128.25 $\pm$ 50.61	0.780
Hb (%)	12.77 $\pm$ 1.19	13.18 $\pm$ 1.50	0.340
BMI(kg/m2)	26.07 $\pm$ 3.99	26.19 $\pm$ 4.40	0.920
Number of cigarette consumption	10.75 $\pm$ 6.99	18.33 $\pm$ 2.88	0.140
Length of cigarette consumption (year)	27.75 $\pm$ 15.28	26.67 $\pm$ 13.01	0.920
Temperature before intervention	36.99 $\pm$ 0.42	36.98 $\pm$ 0.30	0.880
Severity pain site-surgery	1.55 $\pm$ 0.61	1.35 $\pm$ 0.49	0.170
HR (bpm)	89.35 $\pm$ 14.29	92.50 $\pm$ 13.32	0.450
Respiratory Rate (breaths/min)	20.00 $\pm$ 3.52	20.90 $\pm$ 3.14	0.400
MAP (mm Hg)	97.50 $\pm$ 10.66	95.00 $\pm$ 11.76	0.480
Spo2 (%)	93.35 $\pm$ 1.69	94.20 $\pm$ 1.74	0.120
Gender (Female) N (%) +, \$	13(65)	11(55)	0.750
Uneducated	11(55)	10(50)	<0.999
Hypertension	2(10)	6(30)	0.240
Diabetes mellitus	5(25)	6(30)	<0.999
Cholecystectomy	16(80)	10(50)	0.090
Laparotomy	4(20)	10(50)	0.090
Cigarette consumption	4(20)	3(15)	<0.999

\*: Mean $\pm$ SD for Continues variables

#: T- test

+: Number and Percent for categorical variables

\$:  $\chi^2$  test

Hb: Hemoglobin; BMI: Body Mass Index; HR: heart rate; bpm: beats per minute; MAP: mean arterial pressure; SpO2: Oxygen saturation.

P-value was statistically significant at p $\leq$ 0.05.

Hemodynamic and respiratory parameters measured after deep breathing exercise in two groups are presented in (Table 3). In this comparison, a significant difference was found between the patients' SPO<sub>2</sub> in the experimental and control groups, up to 96.45±1.32 and 94.45±1.57, respectively (Table 2).

Other hemodynamic and respiratory parameters

were not significantly different. A significant difference was observed post-operative between the experimental and control groups in terms of O<sub>2</sub> saturation after deep breathing exercise. Therefore, there was a significantly higher O<sub>2</sub> saturation following deep breathing exercise in the experimental group ( $\beta=2.01$ ;  $P<0.001$ ; Table 3).

**Table 2.** Hemodynamic and respiratory parameters before and after DBE in two groups of patients

Variable	Groups	Mean±SD		P-Value
		BDBE	ADBE	
The severity of pain in the surgery site	Experimental	1.55±0.61	1.30±0.47	0.008*
	Control	1.35±0.49	1.75±0.91	0.010
	<b>P-value</b>	0.070	0.060	0.060◆
RR (breaths/min)	Experimental	20.00±3.52	18.05±2.72	0.001+
	Control	20.90±3.14	19.35±2.89	0.004
	<b>P-value</b>	0.11	0.14	0.150◆
HR (bpm)	Experimental	89.35±14.29	86.50±16.59	0.110
	Control	92.50±13.32	89.85±10.61	0.070
	<b>P-value</b>	0.44	0.46	0.450◆
MAP (mm Hg)	Experimental	97.50±10.66	93.42±9.15	0.049+
	Control	95.00±11.76	95.92±9.44	0.590
	<b>P-value</b>	0.400	0.41	0.400◆
SpO <sub>2</sub> (%)	Experimental	93.35±1.69	96.45±1.32	0.001+
	Control	93.35±1.69	94.45±1.57	0.290
	<b>P-value</b>	0.001	0.001	<0.001 ■

BDBE: Before deep breathing exercises; ADBE: After deep breathing exercises; HR: Heart rate; bpm: Beats per minute; MAP: Mean arterial pressure; SpO<sub>2</sub>:Oxygen saturation; RR: Respiratory rate. P-value is statistically significant.

\* Wilcoxon rank-sum test

+ Paired t-test

◆ Mann-Whitney U test

■ t-Test

**Table 3.** Changes in O<sub>2</sub> saturation following deep breathing exercise, monitored by generalized linear models

Variable	$\beta$	SE	P-value	95% Confidence Interval	
				Lower Bound	Upper Bound
(Constant)	93.93	1.12	<0.001	91.67	96.19
Experimental vs. Control	2.01	0.45	<0.001	1.104	2.92
Age	-0.03	0.02	0.090	-0.06	0.005

## Discussion

The respiratory complication is the major cause of mortality after upper abdominal surgery which prolongs hospitalization and increases medical care costs. The reported risk rate of PPCs in upper abdominal surgery is estimated at 17%-88% (2-4-6-7-22). Respiratory muscle dysfunction is related to respiratory complications after the surgery, since it may cause atelectasis in the basal lung segments and

reduce functional residual capacity by the defective cough and reduction of vital capacity, tidal volume, and total lung capacity (2-23). In addition, during anesthesia, the microatelectasis was formed in the lung and developed by shallow breathing and reduction of sputum clearance due to drowsiness. These changes occur even in the presence of good analgesia due to temporary dysfunction of the diaphragm following the application of anesthesia (24-26).



General anesthesia in the supine position during the surgery caused a high volume exchange between the chest and peritonea. These high volume exchanges affected the diaphragm curvature by moving it up from its natural resting position which decreases the diaphragm's efficiency as a pressure generator, as reflected by a decrease in FRC from 200 to 300 ml (27).

In order to maintain the minute ventilation volume, the patients must increase the RR, since it is easier to increase the RR than to increase the minute volume. Therefore, deep breathing exercise improves the ventilation capacity and reverses postoperative hypoxemia which in turn results in the reduction of respiratory complications after surgery (8-15-28).

Deep breathing exercise improves pulmonary compliance, alveolar ventilation, oxygenation, and respiratory effort by relaxation through increasing chest movement and surfactant secretion and expelling of sputum. In the present study, there was a significantly higher O<sub>2</sub> saturation after deep breathing exercise in the experimental group. Lederer et al., also reported that regular and hourly deep breathing exercise is more efficient than special tools (29-30).

The studies conducted by Vesterdahi, Shaban, Jonk, and others revealed that deep breathing exercise reduced atelectasis, improved oxygenation in a patient undergoing major brain and heart surgeries (31-34).

The results obtained in this study were in line with those of the aforementioned studies and revealed that deep breathing exercises are effective in the reduction of surgery-site pain and mean blood pressure and the increase of SPO<sub>2</sub>. Some studies have not approved the effect of deep breathing exercise on the significant reduction of surgery-site pain. A randomized clinical trial conducted in São Paulo, Brazil, regarding the effect of chest physiotherapy on patients undergoing upper abdominal surgery, demonstrated that no difference was observed in the measured pain during, before, and after the intervention in two experimental and control groups (13). In the present study, deep breathing exercise improved respiration rate, and the patients in the experimental group experienced a significant pain

reduction. The results of some previous studies are consistent with these results. The findings of a study performed by Tripathi et al., in India in 2017, revealed that unlike the control group, the patients in the intervention group experienced a significantly decreased respiratory rate (20-35-36).

Furthermore, the findings of this study showed that simple and short procedures, such as deep breathing exercises can be an effective nursing intervention for the reduction of pain in the surgery site and the improvement of respiratory parameters that have no interference with cardiovascular parameters, such as heart rate and blood pressure. Regarding the limitation of this study, one can refer to the fact that it included only the participants with upper major abdominal surgery which limits the generalizability of this study to other types of surgeries including lower abdominal and minor abdominal surgeries.

## Conclusion

Based on the results of this study, deep breathing exercise is effective in the treatment of hypoxemia following major abdominal surgery. Deep respiratory exercise can be started safely 2 hr after abdominal surgery without the risk of increasing the surgery site pain.

## Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank the vice-chancellor of Qom University of Medical Sciences and the staff and patients of Shahid Beheshti Hospital for their assistance and cooperation during this study.

## Funding

This study was funded by the Deputy of Research and Technology at Qom University of Medical Sciences.

## Conflict of Interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

## References

1. Rose J, Weiser TG, Hider P, Wilson L, Gruen RL, Bickler SW. Estimated need for surgery worldwide based on prevalence of diseases: a modelling strategy

for the WHO Global Health Estimate. *Lancet Glob Health*. 2015; 3(Suppl 2):S13-20. PMID: 25926315 DOI: 10.1016/S2214-109X(15)70087-2

2. Güldner A, Kiss T, Neto AS, Hemmes SN, Canet J, Spieth PM, et al. Intraoperative protective mechanical ventilation for prevention of postoperative pulmonary complications: a comprehensive review of the role of tidal volume, positive end-expiratory pressure, and lung recruitment maneuvers. *Anesthesiology*. 2015; 123(3):692-713. PMID: 26120769 DOI: 10.1097/ALN.0000000000000754

3. Ghaferi AA, Birkmeyer JD, Dimick JB. Complications, failure to rescue, and mortality with major inpatient surgery in medicare patients. *Ann Surg*. 2009; 250(6):1029-1034. PMID: 19953723 DOI: 10.1097/sla.0b013e3181bef697

4. Ford MK, Beattie WS, Wijeyesundera DN. Systematic review: prediction of perioperative cardiac complications and mortality by the revised cardiac risk index. *Ann Intern Med*. 2010; 152(1):26-35. PMID: 20048269 DOI: 10.7326/0003-4819-152-1-201001050-00007

5. Hu B, Ye H, Xu Y, Ni Y, Hu Y, Yu Y, et al. Clinical and economic outcomes associated with community-acquired intra-abdominal infections caused by extended spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL) producing bacteria in China. *Curr Med Res Opin*. 2010; 26(6):1443-1449. PMID: 20394469 DOI: 10.1185/03007991003769068

6. Boden I, Skinner EH, Browning L, Reeve J, Anderson L, Hill C, et al. Preoperative physiotherapy for the prevention of respiratory complications after upper abdominal surgery: pragmatic, double blinded, multicentre randomised controlled trial. *BMJ*. 2018; 360:j5916. PMID: 29367198 DOI: 10.1136/bmj.j5916

7. Tyson AF, Kendig CE, Mabedi C, Cairns BA, Charles AG. The effect of incentive spirometry on postoperative pulmonary function following laparotomy: a randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Surg*. 2015; 150(3):229-236. PMID: 25607594 DOI: 10.1001/jamasurg.2014.1846

8. Lunardi AC, Miranda CS, Silva KM, Cecconello I, Carvalho CR. Weakness of expiratory muscles and pulmonary complications in malnourished patients undergoing upper abdominal surgery. *Respirology*.

2012; 17(1):108-113. PMID: 21883675 DOI: 10.1111/j.1440-1843.2011.02049.x

9. Lohiya M, Malviya A, Sharma DD, Ram S, Chauhan M, Chauhan LS. Prophylactic chest physiotherapy in major abdominal surgery among elderly patients. *J Indian Acad Geriatr*. 2018; 14(2):64-68.

10. Alaparathi GK, Augustine AJ, Anand R, Mahale A. Comparison of diaphragmatic breathing exercise, volume and flow incentive spirometry, on diaphragm excursion and pulmonary function in patients undergoing laparoscopic surgery: a randomized controlled trial. *Minim Invasive Surg*. 2016; 2016:1967532. PMID: 27525116 DOI: 10.1155/2016/1967532

11. Luchesa CA, dos Santos Barboza RM. Effects of electroanalgesia on pain and respiratory muscular strength in patients in the post-operative of bariatric surgery. *Fag J Health*. 2020; 2(1):47-55. DOI: 10.35984/fjh.v2i1.114

12. Supriwandani H, Mardiyono M, Warijan W. Slow deep pursed-lips breathing exercise on vital lung capacity in post-extubation patients in the intensive care unit. *Belitung Nurs J*. 2018; 4(1):58-67. DOI: 10.33546/bnj.127

13. Alaparathi GK, Augustine AJ, Anand R, Mahale A. Chest physiotherapy during immediate postoperative period among patients undergoing laparoscopic surgery-A randomized controlled pilot trial. *Int J Biomed Adv Res*. 2013; 4(2):118-122.

14. de Faria Sato D, Toldo KF, Gomes SM. Pulmonary capacity and respiratory muscle strength in obese individuals. *Rev Científica JOPEF*. 2012; 13(1):100.

15. Urell C, Emtner M, Hedenström H, Tenling A, Breidenskog M, Westerdahl E. Deep breathing exercises with positive expiratory pressure at a higher rate improve oxygenation in the early period after cardiac surgery--a randomised controlled trial. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg*. 2011; 40(1):162-167. PMID: 21146420 DOI: 10.1016/j.ejcts.2010.10.018

16. Westerdahl E, Urell C, Jonsson M, Bryngelsson L, Hedenström H, Emtner M. Deep breathing exercises performed 2 months following cardiac surgery: a randomized controlled trial. *J Cardiopulm Rehabil Prev*. 2014; 34(1):34-42. PMID: 24280904

DOI: 10.1097/HCR.0000000000000020

17. Taylor C, Lynn P, Bartlett J. Fundamentals of nursing: the art and science of person-centered care. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2018.
18. Hinkle JL, Cheever KH. Brunner and Suddarth's textbook of medical-surgical nursing. Gurgaon, India: Wolters Kluwer India Pvt Ltd; 2018.
19. Chen YH, Yeh MC, Hu HC, Lee CS, Li LF, Chen NH, et al. Effects of lung expansion therapy on lung function in patients with prolonged mechanical ventilation. *Can Respir J*. 2016; 2016:5624315. PMID: 27445550 DOI: 10.1155/2016/5624315
20. Sachdev G, Napolitano LM. Postoperative pulmonary complications: pneumonia and acute respiratory failure. *Surg Clin North Am*. 2012; 92(2):321-344. PMID: 22414416 DOI: 10.1016/j.suc.2012.01.013
21. Manzano RM, Carvalho CR, Saraiva-Romanholo BM, Vieira JE. Chest physiotherapy during immediate postoperative period among patients undergoing upper abdominal surgery: randomized clinical trial. *Sao Paulo Med J*. 2008; 126(5):269-273. PMID: 19099160 DOI: 10.1590/s1516-31802008000500005
22. Ewan VC, Sails AD, Walls AW, Rushton S, Newton JL. Dental and microbiological risk factors for hospital-acquired pneumonia in non-ventilated older patients. *PloS One*. 2015; 10(4):e0123622. PMID: 25923662 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0123622
23. Geralemou S, Probst S, Gan TJ. The role of capnography to prevent postoperative respiratory adverse events. *APSF Newsl*. 2016; 31:42-3.
24. Edmark L, Auner U, Hallén J, Lassinantti-Olowsson L, Hedenstierna G, Enlund M. A ventilation strategy during general anaesthesia to reduce postoperative atelectasis. *Ups J Med Sci*. 2014; 119(3):242-450. PMID: 24758245 DOI: 10.3109/03009734.2014.909546
25. Trachsel D, Svendsen J, Erb T, Von Ungern-Sternberg BS. Effects of anaesthesia on paediatric lung function. *Br J Anaesth*. 2016; 117(2):151-163. PMID: 27440626 DOI: 10.1093/bja/aew173
26. Kumar AS, Alaparathi GK, Augustine AJ, Pazhyaottayil ZC, Ramakrishna A, Krishnakumar SK. Comparison of flow and volume incentive

- spirometry on pulmonary function and exercise tolerance in open abdominal surgery: a randomized clinical trial. *J Clin Diagn Res*. 2016; 10(1):KC01-6. PMID: 26894090 DOI: 10.7860/JCDR/2016/16164.7064
27. Treschan T, Kaisers W, Schaefer M, Bastin B, Schmalz U, Wania V, et al. Ventilation with low tidal volumes during upper abdominal surgery does not improve postoperative lung function. *Br J Anaesth*. 2012; 109(2):263-271. PMID: 22661750 DOI: 10.1093/bja/aes140
28. Roy P. To compare the effectiveness of buteyko breathing technique and deep breathing technique in patients with upper abdominal surgeries. [Doctoral Dissertation]. Bengaluru, India: Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences; 2013.
29. Razzaque A, Memon AG, Haider H, Ghouri I, Shaikh S, Khan FM. Anterior chest physiotherapy and breathing exercises for cardiac surgery patients; a cross sectional survey. *J Riphah Coll Rehabil Sci*. 2019; 7(2):69-73. DOI: 10.5455/JRCRS.2019070208
30. Nirali M, Srivastava S. Added effect of deep breathing and diaphragmatic breathing exercise in upper abdominal surgery patients: a randomised clinical trial. *Indian J Public Health Res Dev*. 2020; 11(2):538-543.
31. Do Nascimento Junior P, Modolo NS, Andrade S, Guimarães MM, Braz LG, et al. Incentive spirometry for prevention of postoperative pulmonary complications in upper abdominal surgery. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2014; 2014(2):CD006058. PMID: 24510642 DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD006058.pub3
32. Dort JC, Farwell DG, Findlay M, Huber GF, Kerr P, Shea-Budgell MA, et al. Optimal perioperative care in major head and neck cancer surgery with free flap reconstruction: a consensus review and recommendations from the enhanced recovery after surgery society. *JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg*. 2017; 143(3):292-303. PMID: 27737447 DOI: 10.1001/jamaoto.2016.2981
33. Nayyar V. Management of critically ill head and neck surgical patients. *Non-melanoma skin cancer of the head and neck*. New Delhi: Springer; 2015. P. 171-191. DOI: 10.1007/978-



81-322-2497-6\_12

34. O'Shea G. Ventricular assist devices: what intensive care unit nurses need to know about postoperative management. AACN Adv Crit Care. 2012; 23(1):69-83. PMID: 22290092 DOI: 10.1097/NCI.0b013e318240aaa9

35. Yazdannik A, Bollbanabad HM, Mirmohammadsadeghi M, Khalifezade A. The

effect of incentive spirometry on arterial blood gases after coronary artery bypass surgery (CABG). Iran J Nurs Midwifery Res. 2016; 21(1):89-92. PMID: 26985228 DOI: 10.4103/1735-9066.174761

36. Tripathi S, Sharma R. Deep breathing exercise and its outcome among patient with abdominal surgery: a pilot study. Int J Nurs Sci. 2017; 7(5):103-106. DOI: 10.5923/j.nursing.20170705.01