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Noninvasive investigation of the cardiodynamic response to 6MWT in people with stroke using impedance cardiography

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Alice YM Jones¹, Fang Liu², Raymond CC Tsang³, Yao Wang^{2,4}, Jing Zhou², Mingchao Zhou², Yulong Wang²

¹The University of Queensland;

²The First Affiliated Hospital of Shenzhen University, Shenzhen Second People's Hospital, Shenzhen, China;

³MacLehose Medical Rehabilitation Centre, Department of Physiotherapy, Hong Kong;

⁴Shenzhen Dapeng New District Nan'ao People's Hospital, Shenzhen, China

Alice YM Jones
 The University of Queensland

ABSTRACT

This protocol describes the procedures adopted in a study which aimed to investigate cardiodynamic response (HR, SV, CO, CI) to a 6MWT using impedance cardiography in a cohort of people with stroke.

Title of this study: **Noninvasive investigation of the cardiodynamic response to 6MWT in people with stroke using impedance cardiography**

Fang Liu¹, Alice YM Jones^{2,3}, Raymond CC Tsang⁴, Yao Wang^{1,5}, Jing Zhou¹, Mingchao Zhou¹, Yulong Wang¹

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Figure 1. The PhysioFlow@PF07 Enduro™ (A) attached to a patient's waist (B) during the 6MWT

Figure2 The placement of the electrodes

- 1 Objectives and procedures of the study were explained to the participants who met the inclusion criteria and written informed consent obtained.
- 2 Demographic data of each participant including age, gender, height, weight, body mass index and lean body mass were recorded.

- 3 The time elapsed since diagnosis of stroke, medical history, the National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS) and Modified Rivermead Mobility Index (MRMI) were recorded from the patient's medical records.
- 4 Participants were invited to complete a 6-minute walk test (6MWT) following the American Thoracic Society Guideline on 2 consecutive days.
- 5 Preparation for measurement of cardiodynamic variables (heart rate HR, stroke volume SV, cardiac output CO, cardiac index CI) by Impedance Cardiography (PhysioFlow®PF07 Enduro™, Figure 1A) (data collected every second)
- 6 Electrode placement
 - 6.1 Skin resistance over the neck and thorax region was lowered with NuPrep gel and 70% isopropyl alcohol.
 - 6.2 Pregelled Ag/AgCl electrodes, (Skintact model FS-TB wet-gel; Leonhard Lang GmbH, Austria) were placed on the left base of the neck above the supraclavicular fossa, the sternal angle, the V6 position and along the left paraspinal region at the xiphoid level (Figure 2).
 - 6.3 Electrodes were then connected to the Enduro™ which was placed in a belt pouch to maintain its stability during the walk (Figure 1 B).
- 7 Oxygen saturation (measured by Heal Force pulse oximeter, POD-3, China) was measured immediately before the 6MWT, at each minute during the 6MWT, and at the end of the 6MWT.

- 8** Blood pressure (OMRON electronic blood pressure monitor, U30, China) was measured at rest, immediately after, and at 2-minute intervals after the 6MWT.
- 9** Prior to the 6MWT, each participant was asked to rest in a sitting position for 10 minutes during which baseline parameters were measured.
- 10** Data analysis – HR, SV, CO, CI data were averaged every 10 seconds and data at rest, at every 30th second during the 6 MWT and at every 30th second for 10 minutes after the 6MWT, were subjected to analysis.
- 11** Data were analyzed using the IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 23.0 (Armonk, NY: IBM Corp).