



Niche News

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Greetings!



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LiteAire Spacer Pops Up at the Australian Open



← Bernard Tomic looks exhausted in his straight-sets loss.



← Bernard Tomic receives medical attention.

LiteAire's unique dual-valved spacer design delivers pop-up convenience and effective drug output.

This unique design allows the LiteAire to be reused over multiple doses and meets or exceeds the clinical performance of plastic spacers.

LiteAire is ideal for First-Aid Kits, Emergency Departments, Ambulance Services, Pulmonary Function Testing, Outpatient Clinics and Outreach Clinics

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FeNO Analysers Not Interchangeable



Choose carefully when deciding on a FeNO analyser as devices are not interchangeable and many have not been well validated. NIOX VERO is the most validated and the Number 1 FeNO analyser used in clinical studies.

With the increasing importance of FeNO measurement in supporting both the diagnosis and management of asthma, there is a critical question regarding the potential interchangeability of different devices.(1).

In a recent study by Korn et al (2) it is evident in the Passing Bablok regression analysis (Figure 2) that the Bosch Vivatmo (BV) reads higher than the other two tested devices, and the authors comment to this effect in the discussion: "In addition, in patients with higher FeNO values (>70 ppb) the BV device seems to result in higher FeNO readings than both the Ecomedics (EC) and the NIOX VERO (CN) devices." (1).

The authors conclude that the tendency of the BV device to read high is not clinically relevant based on an evaluation of the agreement of FeNO results with the tested devices based on NICE criteria for a positive FeNO test (Tables 2 and 3) and state that the overall agreement between the devices is in the range of 92-96%. (1).

The joint ATS/ERS guideline recommends a cutoff of 50 ppb. Given the tendency of the BV device to read higher at higher FeNO values, we consider that it is important to also evaluate the overall agreement between the devices at this cutoff [2]. Inspection of the Passing Bablok graphs shown in Figure 2 enables the number of subjects with discrepant values at the 50 ppb cutoff to be determined. Of the 31 subjects where one device reads a FeNO value >50 ppb, 8 values are discrepant between the BV and EC devices representing 25.8% of readings. Of the 30 subjects where one device reads a FeNO value >50 ppb, 6 values are discrepant between the BV and CN devices representing 20% of readings. (1).

A 20-25% discrepancy rate between the BV device and the EC/CN device as to whether the 50 ppb threshold has been crossed is clinically relevant and could lead to different patient management decisions in a higher proportion of patients than indicated by the authors in their original analysis. (1).

An independent study from Molino et al. [3] also undertook a comparative study of three FeNO devices. They concluded that FeNO devices are not interchangeable and that most of the disagreement was at higher FeNO values. (1).

Critically, the authors concluded that using the ATS/ERS categories comparing NIOX VERO and BV devices, there was only a 65% agreement in asthma patients. Given that both the Korn et al. and Molino et al. studies demonstrate that the Bosch Vivatmo reads higher at higher values, clinicians should carefully consider the applicability of the ERS/ATS thresholds to the device being used to monitor FeNO. (1).

References:

1. Respiration 2020;99:93 FeNO Variability When Using Different Analyzers at the Joint ATS/ERS Guideline Cutoff Chris Bushe a Alan Kamada b Rod Hafner a a Medical Department, Circassia Ltd., Oxford, UK; b US Medical Affairs, Circassia Pharmaceuticals Inc., Morrisville, NC, USA

2. Korn S, Wilk M, Voigt S, Weber S, Keller T, Buhl R. Measurement of fractional exhaled nitric oxide. Comparison of three different analysers. *Respiration*. 2019 Jul;1-8.
3. Dweik RA, Boggs PB, Erzurum SC, Irvin CG, Leigh MW, Lundberg JO, et al.; American Thoracic Society Committee on Interpretation of Exhaled Nitric Oxide Levels (FENO) for Clinical Applications. An official ATS clinical practice guideline: interpretation of exhaled nitric oxide levels (FENO) for clinical applications. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med*. 2011 Sep;184(5):602-15.
4. Molino A, Fuschillo S, Mosella M, Accardo M, Guida P, Motta A, et al. Comparison of three different exhaled nitric oxide analyzers in chronic respiratory disorders. *J Breath Res*. 2019 Mar;13(2):021002.

Help your Patients Quit Smoking with Smokerlyzer



Smokerlyzers are a range of breath CO (Carbon Monoxide) monitors and testers which measure the small amounts of CO in exhaled breath.

The reading is given in ppm, which is the number of CO molecules in a million parts of air.

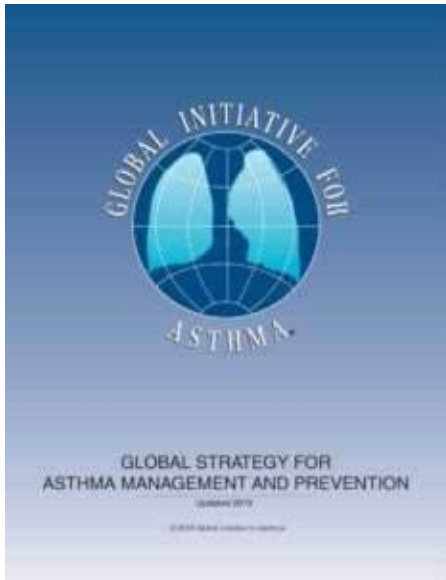
The ppm reading can also tell you how much CO is in the blood %COHb (Carboxyhaemoglobin) reading. %COHb is the percentage of red blood cells carrying CO instead of oxygen.

The amount of CO in an unborn baby's blood is referred to as %FCOHb (percentage of foetal carboxyhaemoglobin).

The piCO Baby and Micro+ Smokerlyzers can analyse %FCOHb as an incentive to stop smoking and comply with new NICE guidelines for smoking in pregnancy.

[Click on this link to read more about the Smokerlyzer range.....](#)

FeNO testing now recommended in GINA Asthma Guidelines



FeNO (and other markers of TH2 inflammation) highlights are as follows:

1. Role in defining if there is residual Type 2 inflammation as part of the assessment of the Severe Asthma Phenotype.

FeNO value of 20ppb is an indicator that patients are likely to have residual T2 inflammation. Note a cut off of 20ppb is used in this context as such patients are expected to be on high dose ICS (or lowest possible dose oral corticosteroid treatment), therefore would have some degree of FeNO suppression.

The guideline also suggests to consider repeating the FeNO test (and other T2 biomarkers) up to 3x before assuming asthma is non-Type 2

2. The role of FeNO suppression (among other measures) in monitoring adherence to ICS is mentioned (McNicholl paper)

3. FeNO; 25 ppb (among other markers) is considered as an eligibility factor for selecting patients for anti-IL4R biologics.

4. FeNO; 20 ppb is considered one of the factors that may predict a good response to anti-IgE biologic treatment (omalizumab).

5. High FeNO is considered one of the factors that may predict response to anti-IL4R biologic treatment. This references the Castro paper, where higher FeNO levels >50 ppb achieved greater outcomes on exacerbations than FeNO levels 25-30 ppbs. In the Castro publication, FeNO was a better predictor of response than blood eosinophils overall.

6. FeNO is also mentioned in the guide to have a potential role in guiding step-down oral ICS in patients who have had a good response to T2 targeted therapy.

[Click here to review the full GINA Asthma Guidelines on the GINA website.....](#)

Get the latest firmware for your EasyOne Air Spirometer



Download the latest EasyOne Connect software at the link below.

The EasyOne Connect software is used for the EasyOne Air Spirometer and the Easy on-PC and can also be used to archive data from the EasyOne worldspirometer into a patient-centred database.

You can download the latest software free of charge from the ndd Medical Technologies website at <http://nnd.ch/index/downloads-software>

Note: These software downloads are executable files so if you work in a Hospital or a Government agency please make sure you have an IT person present to download and install the software as these type of files require administrator permission.

For assistance please telephone our office on 1300 136 855.

Download the latest EasyOne Connect software at this link.....

Important EasyOne Pro / LAB Software Update



Download the latest EasyOne Pro software at the link below.

The EasyOne Pro software is used in the EasyOne Pro DLCO system and the EasyOne Pro LAB which features the Multi-Breath Nitrogen Washout.

The software is updated twice per annum and you can be downloaded free of charge from the ndd Medical Technologies website at <http://nnd.ch/index/downloads-software>

Note: These software downloads are executable files so if you work in a Hospital or a Government agency please make sure you have an IT person present to download and install the software as these type of files require administrator permission.

For assistance please telephone our office on 1300 136 855.

Download the latest EasyOne Pro software at this link.....

Visit us at TSANZSRS Melbourne 2020



Visit us at TSANZSRS Melbourne from 28-31 March 2020.

We will be exhibiting the following products:

- EasyOne Pro DLCO System
- EasyOne Pro LAB Multi-Breath Nitrogen Washout
- NIOX VERO FeNO + Nasal Nitric Oxide
- EasyOne Air / Easy on-PC Spirometers
- LiteAire Cardboard Spacer
- Bedfont Smokerlyzer

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