

Sleep Apnea: Bi-directional Risk with Stroke

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Bi-directional

- Sleep apnea <-> Stroke
- Therefore sleep apnea is a risk for stroke and...
- Stroke is a risk factor for sleep apnea and often unmasks it
- Treating sleep apnea before stroke reduces risk and...
- Treating sleep apnea after stroke improves stroke recovery

Sleep apnea definition

- Recurrent pauses in breathing or periods of shallow breathing during sleep.
- 10 seconds or longer per event
- Mild is ≥ 5 /hr, able to treat with co-morbidities, moderate ≥ 15 /hr and no additional criteria needed, severe ≥ 30 /hr.
- Apnea is $>50\%$ decrease in flow, hypopnea $>30\%$ with SaO_2 drop of $\geq 4\%$
- May be central (10%), mixed or obstructive (90%)
- Airway remains open in central and blocked in obstructive.

Pickwickian Syndrome

- Joe, the Fat Boy from *The Pickwick Papers* by Charles Dickens in 1836
- Snoring
- Sleepy, even while standing
- Constantly hungry



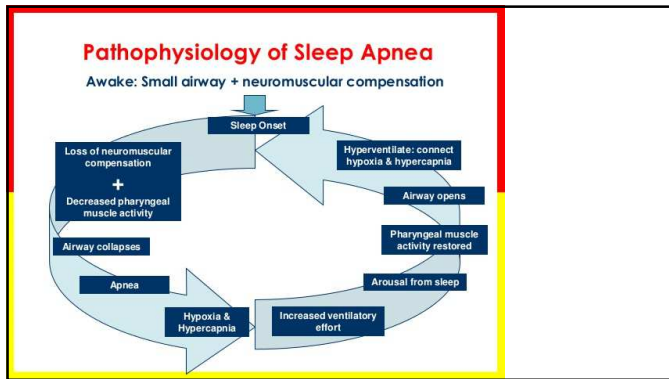
Not only obesity

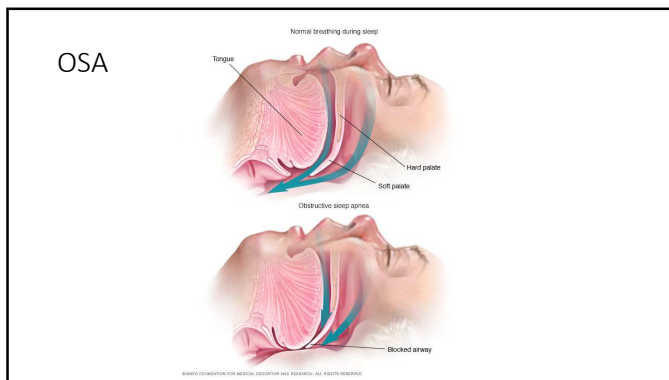
- Large tongue
- Small airway behind the tongue
- Large tonsils
- Longer and thicker soft palate
- Low position of the hyoid bone (long necks)
- Brachycephaly (head is wider than it is longer)
- Asians tend to have smaller, more restrictive facial structures

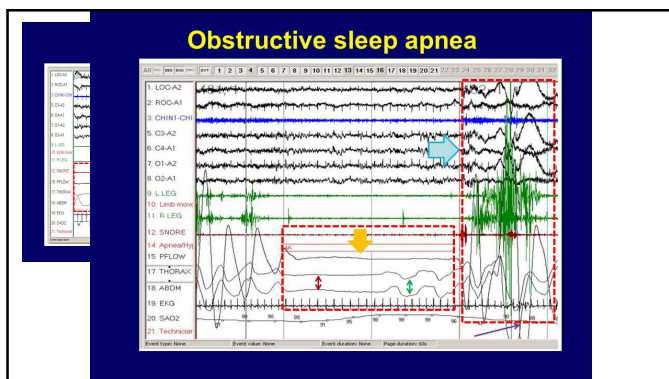


Sleep apnea

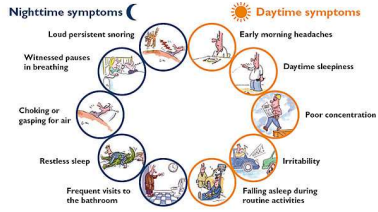
- Common and under-diagnosed.
- May be as high as 20-30% in the middle aged.
- Increases risk by 2-3 times in several prospective studies
- Presence of sleep disordered breathing in stroke patients leads to poor outcomes and increased risk of recurrent stroke
- Associations with:
 - Increased cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease
 - Atrial fibrillation
 - Obesity and metabolic syndrome
 - Increased dyslipidemia
- Treatment may result in:
 - Improvement in blood glucose levels
 - Inflammation
 - Dyslipidemia







Many symptom consequences of sleep apnea

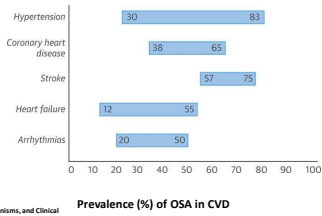


Obstructive sleep apnea

- Prevalence may be as high as 20-30% in middle-aged (34% of men and 17% of women and largely undiagnosed)
- Increasingly linked to cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease
- Associated with obesity and metabolic syndrome, most likely from reduced androgens
- Increased dyslipidemia associated with untreated OSA
- Treatment can result in improvement in lipid levels
- This may result in improvement in multiple areas: Blood glucose levels, inflammation and dyslipidemia

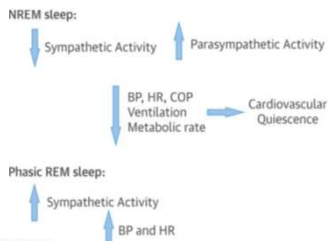
Before the Stroke...

Medical Consequences of Sleep Apnea

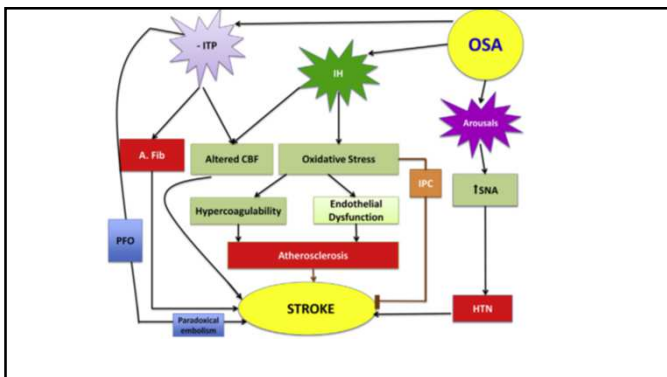


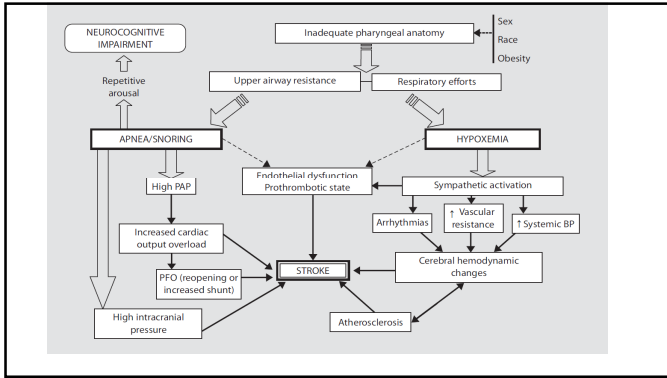
Javaheri S, et al. Sleep Apnea: Types, Mechanisms, and Clinical Cardiovascular Consequences. *Am Coll Cardiol*. 2017 Feb 21; 69(7): 841-858.

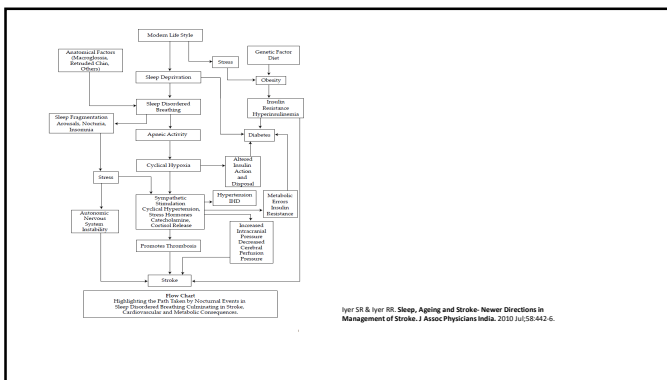
Normal Cardiovascular Changes in NREM and REM Sleep



Javaheri S, et al. Sleep Apnea: Types, Mechanisms, and Clinical Cardiovascular Consequences. *Am Coll Cardiol*. 2017 Feb 21; 69(7): 841-858.







Sleep Apnea and Patent Foramen Ovale

- Prevalence of PFO in sleep apnea significantly higher (69 vs 17%)
 - Possibly due to transient infrequent elevation of right-sided pressure during apnea and subsequent opening of PFO
 - Possible right left shunt as well as increased blood this causes to be in sleep apnea may raise the likelihood of embolism

Atrial fibrillation recurrence after cardioversion

- Recurrence 82% in non-compliant or untreated vs. 42% in treated OSA (P= 0.009)
- Worse sleep apnea predicted recurrence in untreated OSA.
 - SaO₂ drop 8% vs 18% (P=0.034)
 - 4% vs 23% of night with SaO₂ <90% (P=0.063)

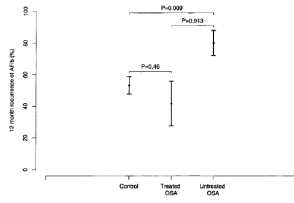
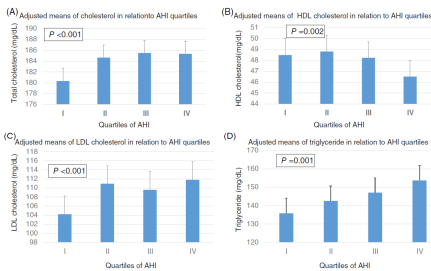


Figure 1. Recurrence of AF at 12 months comparing patients who did not have sleep studies (controls) with treated OSA patients and with untreated (including noncompliant) OSA patients (mean ± SD).

Kanagala R, Morill N, Frideman R, et al. Obstructive sleep apnea and the recurrence of atrial fibrillation. *Circulation* 2003; 107: 2589–2594.

OSA and Dyslipidemia

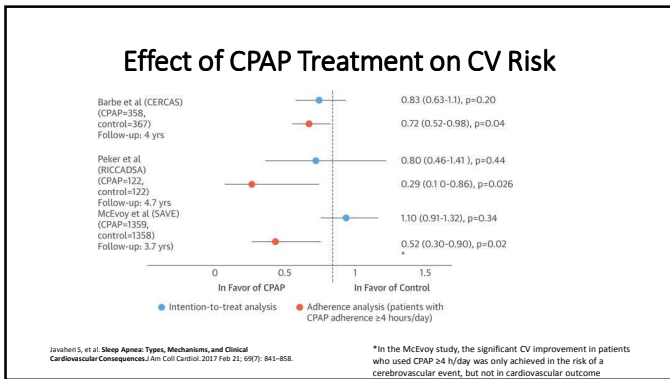


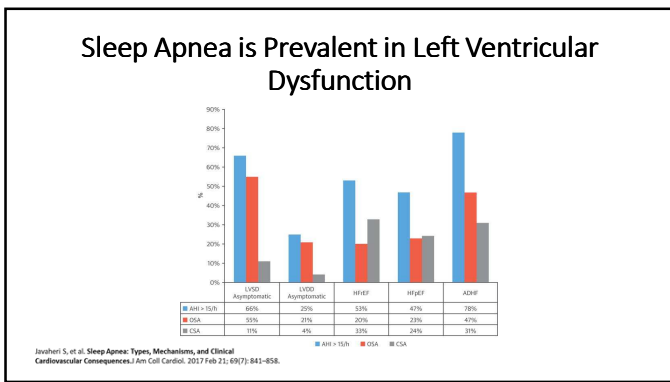
Gönlük C, Başoğlu OK et al. Obstructive sleep apnea independently predicts lipid levels. Data from the European Sleep Apnea Database. *Respirology* 2018; doi:10.1111/resp.13372

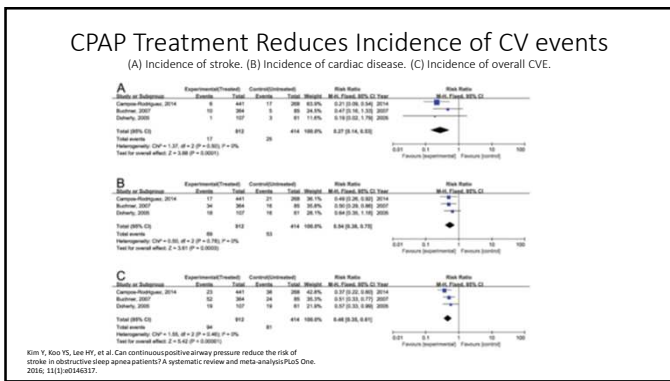
Patient Characteristics According to Sleep Apnea Severity

Parameter	Total n=4520	AHI quartiles				P-value
		I n=1102	II n=1102	III n=1102	IV n=1102	
age (years)	50.1 ± 12.7	49.6 ± 12.8	50.6 ± 12.2	52.6 ± 12.8	52.1 ± 12.2	<0.001
BMI (kg/m ²)	30.6 ± 6.6	27.6 ± 6.2	28.7 ± 6.0	30.1 ± 6.0	34.7 ± 7.4	<0.001
systolic blood pressure (mmHg)	132.2 ± 17.6	129.2 ± 17.4	132.6 ± 17.7	134.3 ± 17.1	138.6 ± 17.9	<0.001
diastolic blood pressure (mmHg)	82.2 ± 12.2	80.5 ± 12.2	82.7 ± 12.4	85.6 ± 11.6	89.6 ± 12.1	<0.001
heart rate (bpm)	73.0 ± 14.8	71.0 ± 13.5	73.0 ± 13.1	75.0 ± 12.7	76.1 ± 13.4	<0.001
heart rate CV (%)	18.7 ± 10.4	17.2 ± 12.4	18.8 ± 12.6	19.8 ± 12.6	21.4 ± 12.7	<0.001
HRV (ms)	189.4 ± 10.2	192.5 ± 10.4	189.4 ± 11.8	188.4 ± 12.6	174.6 ± 12.4	<0.001
HRV ratio	1.86 ± 0.09	1.82 ± 0.08	1.82 ± 0.08	1.87 ± 0.08	1.81 ± 0.08	<0.001
ln (heart rate/HRV)	4.68 ± 1.4	4.63 ± 1.4	4.63 ± 1.4	4.72 ± 1.4	4.63 ± 1.4	<0.001
ln (heart rate/HRV)	0.77	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	<0.001
coronary hypertension (%)	32.1	30.8	30.9	30.5	32.9	<0.001
hypertensive heart disease (%)	2.4	1.7	3.0	3.7	5.0	<0.001
stroke heart failure (%)	1.6	0.9	1.4	1.7	2.2	<0.001
MI (%)	4.1	3.0	4.2	4.1	5.6	<0.001
MI ratio	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.9	<0.001
MI ratio	102.1 ± 12.2	102.1 ± 12.2	101.4 ± 12.3	102.6 ± 12.6	112.1 ± 12.4	<0.001
MI (years)	20.7 ± 28.4	23.1 ± 1.8	19.8 ± 1.1	20.3 ± 1.9	40.8 ± 19.8	<0.001
MI (days)	23.0 ± 29.4	24.7 ± 4.2	20.7 ± 2.6	21.1 ± 1.8	36.5 ± 24.2	<0.001
MI ratio (%)	10.8 ± 14.4	8.6 ± 1.8	8.6 ± 2.2	8.8 ± 2.2	16.8 ± 8.3	<0.001
coronary artery disease (%)	81.2 ± 13.9	84.2 ± 1.3	83.2 ± 1.0	80.7 ± 1.2	79.4 ± 11.3	<0.001
MI ratio (%)	15.2 ± 13.2	12.1 ± 1.2	12.4 ± 1.0	12.6 ± 1.2	12.6 ± 1.2	<0.001
Tuberculosis (mg/dL)	202.0 ± 30.7	202.9 ± 30.8	202.3 ± 30.1	203.5 ± 30.6	198.4 ± 30.0	0.037
cholesterol (mg/dL)	188.0 ± 33.1	182.2 ± 32.1	188.3 ± 32.9	192.7 ± 32.3	198.2 ± 32.2	<0.001
LDL (mg/dL)	112.0 ± 19.8	105.0 ± 19.4	108.0 ± 19.1	109.0 ± 19.8	114.0 ± 19.8	<0.001
LDL ratio	124.4 ± 19.8	124.4 ± 19.4	123.7 ± 19.6	123.9 ± 19.8	121.2 ± 19.1	<0.001

Gönlük C, Başoğlu OK et al. Obstructive sleep apnea independently predicts lipid levels. Data from the European Sleep Apnea Database. *Respirology* 2018; doi:10.1111/resp.13372

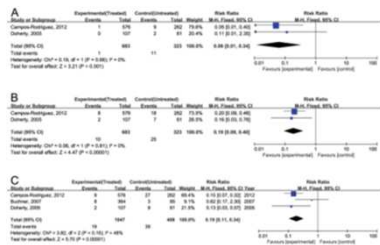






CPAP Treatment Reduces Mortality of CV Events

(A) Mortality from stroke. (B) Mortality from cardiac disease. (C) Mortality from overall CVE



Kim Y, Koo YS, Lee HY, et al. Can continuous positive airway pressure reduce the risk of stroke in obstructive sleep apnea patients? A systematic review and meta-analysis *PLoS One*. 2016; 11(1):e0146317.

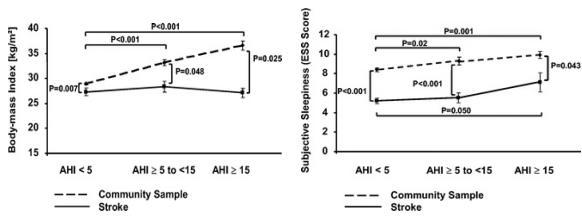
And don't forget this one!
As if the others weren't enough

- Erectile dysfunction seen in 69% with OSA vs. 34% without OSA (p<0.001)
- OR was 0.45 to have ED in absence of OSA.
- Correlates with mean nocturnal SaO₂ so intermittent hypoxemia may be specific contributor.
- Treatment with CPAP improved ratings of erectile function and sexual satisfaction

Budweiser S, Enderlein S, Jörres RA, Hitzl AP, Witzland MT, Pfeifer M, Arzt M. Sleep apnea is an independent correlate of erectile and sexual dysfunction. *J Sex Med*. 2009 Nov;6(11):3147-57. Ptascaal M et al. Erectile dysfunction in obstructive sleep apnea patients: A randomized trial on the effects of CPAP. *PLoS One*. 2018 Aug; 13(8)

After the Stroke... or CPAP

What's unique about OSA after stroke?



Sleepiness, snoring and obesity are less prevalent in stroke patients
 Relationship between BMI and OSA severity less apparent after stroke!
 BMI ≥ 30 and OSA: Non-stroke population: OR 4.7 (3.4-6.2) vs Stroke population: OR 1.1 (0.4-2.9)
 Arrt M, Young T et al. Dissociation of Obstructive Sleep Apnea From Hypertension and Obesity in Patients With Stroke. Stroke 2010; 41(3): e229-234.

How common is it?

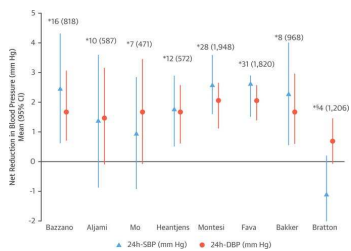
Table 3—Percentage of stroke or TIA patients with SDB stratified by AHI

Cutpoint	# Studies (# patients)	% (95% CI)
AHI > 5	9 (908)	72 (60–81)
AHI > 10	24 (1980)	63 (58–68)
AHI > 20	15 (1405)	38 (31–46)
AHI > 30	10 (865)	29 (21–37)
AHI > 40	3 (318)	14 (7–25)
Central*	17 (1286)	7 (5–12)

*Percentage of patients who had primarily central apnea

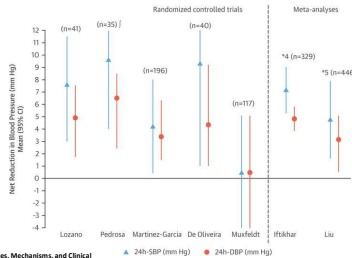
Johnson KG & Johnson DC. Frequency of sleep apnea in stroke and TIA patients: a meta-analysis. J Clin Sleep Med 2010;6(2):133-137.

Effect of CPAP Therapy on BP in Patients With Hypertension



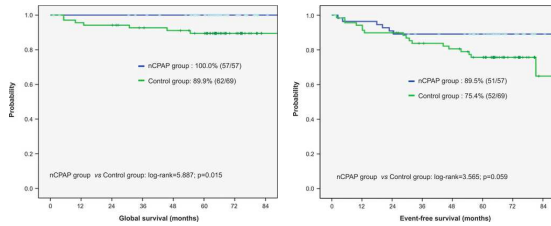
Javaheri S, et al. Sleep Apnea: Types, Mechanisms, and Clinical Cardiovascular Consequences. Am J Cardiol. 2017 Feb 21; 119(7): 841-851.

Effect of CPAP Therapy on BP in Patients With Resistant Hypertension



Zhou et al. Sleep Apnea: Types, Mechanisms, and Clinical Cardiovascular Consequences. *Am Coll Cardiol*. 2017 Feb 21; 69(7): 841-858

Cardiovascular Survival after Stroke



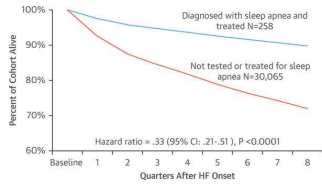
Parra O, Sánchez-Armengol A, Capote F, et al. Efficacy of continuous positive airway pressure treatment on 5-year survival in patients with ischaemic stroke and obstructive sleep apnea: a randomized controlled trial. *J Sleep Res*. 2015; 24:47-53.

Cardiovascular Events and Mortality

5-year follow-up		
	rCPAP group (n = 57)	Control group (n = 69)
Cardiovascular events		
Stroke	3	8
Transient ischaemic attack	1	1
Angina	1	1
Myocardial infarction	1	0
Other events		
Deaths	6	9
Cardiovascular-related deaths	0	7
Non-cardiovascular-related deaths	6	2

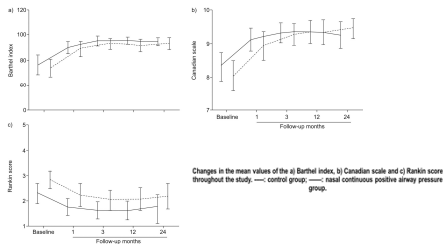
Parra O, Sánchez-Armengol A, Capote F, et al. Efficacy of continuous positive airway pressure treatment on 5-year survival in patients with ischaemic stroke and obstructive sleep apnea: a randomized controlled trial. *J Sleep Res*. 2015; 24:47-53.

Comparative Survival of HF Patients Treated for and Not Tested for Sleep Apnea



Jivsheri S, et al. Sleep Apnea: Types, Mechanisms, and Clinical Cardiovascular Consequences. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2017 Feb 21; 69(7):841-858.

Stroke outcomes if treated with CPAP



Parra, O., Sanchez-Armengol, A., Bonnin, M. et al. Early treatment of obstructive apnoea and stroke outcome: a randomised controlled trial. Eur. Respir. J., 2011, 37: 1128-1136.

Early Improvement in Stroke Recovery with CPAP

TABLE 2 Percentage of patients with improvement in neurological parameters 1 month after stroke				
	nCPAP group	Control group	OR (95% CI)	p-value ^a
Subjects n	57	69		
Barthel index, improvement > 1 point of disability				
All patients	43/82 (82.7)	45/54 (83.3)		0.567
Excluding patients with less severe stroke	26/35 (74.3)	30/39 (76.9)		0.502
Rankin scale, reduction > 1 point per category				
All patients	35/53 (86.9)	19/32 (56.3)	7.78 (1.73-39.84)	0.002
Excluding patients with less severe stroke	21/24 (87.5)	14/28 (50.0)	7.00 (1.47-37.86)	0.004
Canadian scale, increase of > 0.5 points				
All patients	45/51 (88.2)	40/55 (72.7)	2.81 (0.91-9.07)	0.038
Excluding patients with less severe stroke	33/39 (84.6)	28/43 (65.1)	2.95 (0.91-9.93)	0.038

Data are presented as n/N (%), unless otherwise stated. nCPAP: nasal continuous positive airway pressure. ^a: between the nCPAP group and the control group (Chi-squared test).

Parra, O., Sanchez-Armengol, A., Bonnin, M. et al. Early treatment of obstructive apnoea and stroke outcome: a randomised controlled trial. Eur. Respir. J., 2011, 37: 1128-1136.

Lipid metabolism and OSA/CPAP

Chronic intermittent hypoxia (reversed by CPAP):

- Upregulates lipoprotein secretion
- ↑ free fatty acid flux to the liver
- Induces sympathetic activity which may induce lipolysis

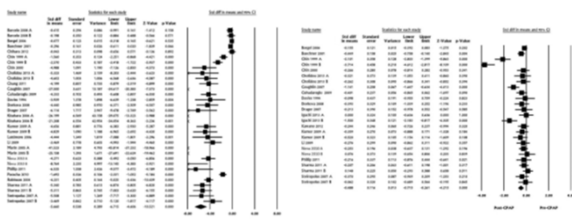
Insulin resistance (improved with CPAP):

- ↑ total cholesterol and LDL by ↓ LDL receptors and ↓ LDL catabolism
- ↓ inflammatory markers

Hypersomnia improvements with increased activity

Hypersomnia with effects on leptins and ghrelin

Total cholesterol and LDL pre- and post-Tx



Hudsen R, Singh M, Neda M, Kwon S, Sajid H, Wilkowitz L, Pakhomov E, Shaik K, Park W, Chappau D. Effect of CPAP treatment for obstructive sleep apnea/hypoxemia syndrome on lipid profile: a meta-regression analysis. *J Clin Sleep Med* 2014;10(12):1325-1332.

Stroke Recurrence (25% of total stroke) and OSA

A	Odd's Ratio	95% Confidence Interval	p-level
RDI ≥ 10/h	3.50	1.10–11.20	< 0.05
Gender	1.80	0.59–5.52	n. s.
Age	1.02	0.97–1.07	n. s.
Cumul. RF	0.66	0.34–1.28	n. s.
Diabetes	4.50	1.20–16.3	< 0.05

B	Odd's Ratio	95% Confidence Interval	p-level
RDI ≥ 50/h	9.70	1.60–58.34	< 0.05
Gender	1.70	0.59–5.38	n. s.
Age	1.02	0.97–1.06	n. s.
Cumul. RF	0.73	0.37–1.40	n. s.
Diabetes	4.10	1.14–14.60	< 0.05

	First Stroke N=77	Second Stroke N=25	
Age (years)	63.1 (13.6)	69.0 (13.4)	n. s.
Women (n)	28 (36)	6 (24)	n. s.
BMI (kg/m ²)	26.3 (4.5)	26.1 (3.9)	n. s.
Neck circ. (cm)	42.5 (4.9)	42.5 (3.5)	n. s.
Cumul. RF (n)	2.0 (0.8)	2.2 (1.0)	n. s.
Hypertension (%)	55 (71)	20 (80)	n. s.
Hypercholesterol (%)	51 (66)	15 (60)	n. s.
Nicotine (%)	32 (42)	8 (32)	n. s.
Diabetes (%)	13 (17)	11 (44)	p < 0.05
NH-SS (pt)	7.1 (6.2)	5.3 (4.2)	n. s.
RDI (events/h)	15.1 (14.9)	26.6 (20.7)	p < 0.05
RDI ≥ 10/h (%)	40 (52)	20 (80)	p < 0.05
RDI ≥ 50/h (%)	2 (3)	5 (20)	p < 0.05
Stroke etiology			
Large artery atheroscl.	22 (29)	7 (28)	n. s.
Cardiac embolism	30 (39)	8 (32)	n. s.
Lacunar stroke	15 (20)	5 (20)	n. s.
Arterial dissection	5 (6)	1 (4)	n. s.
undetermined	5 (6)	4 (16)	n. s.

Birkbak J, Clark AJ, Rod NH. The effect of sleep disordered breathing on the outcome of stroke and transient ischemic attack: a systematic review. *J Clin Sleep Med* 2014;10(1):103-108.

Sleep apnea screening uncommon after stroke

- Non-academic stroke center
- Only 17% of patients reported being offered sleep apnea testing pre-stroke.
- After stroke: 5% report being questioned about snoring, 9% about sleepiness, 6% offered sleep studies.
- But likelihood is 72% (AHI >5)

Brown DL, Jiang X, Li C, et al. Sleep apnea screening is uncommon after stroke. *Sleep Med* 2018; 5: 1389-9457 (18).

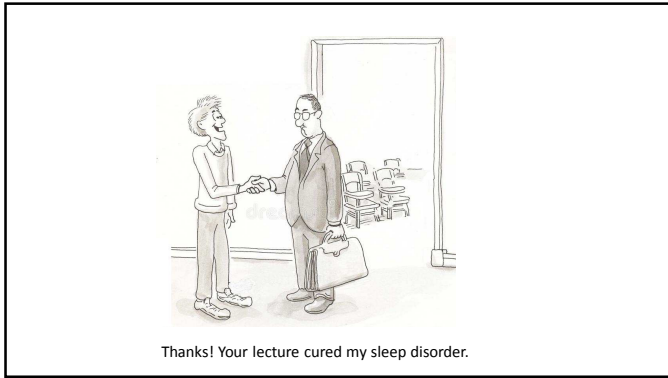
All it takes is a pulse oximetry (to screen)

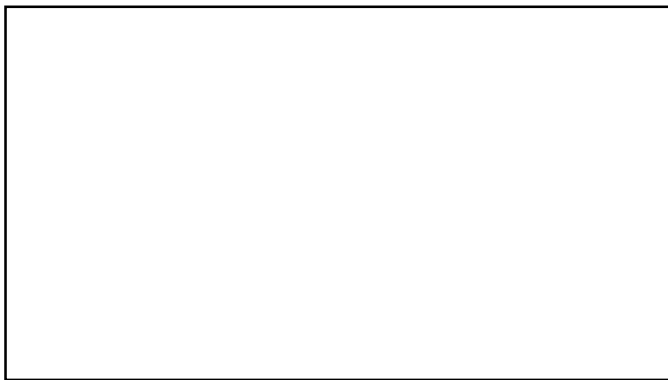
- Of 115 stroke patients, 75 with oxygen desaturation index >4% of >10/hr, mean was 29 ± 30.
- Association with atrial fibrillation and ↑ODI (P=0/005)
- Association between discharge disposition rehab vs. home and ↑ODI (P=0.005, OR 3.76)

Yaddanpudi SS, Pineda MC, et al. High-Resolution Pulse Oximetry (HRPO): A Cost-Effective Tool in Screening for Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) in Acute Stroke and Predicting Outcome. *J Stroke Cerebrovasc Dis.* 2018 Nov;27(11):2986-2992.


Summary


- Sleep apnea is a risk for stroke and many conditions that predispose to stroke
- Treatment of sleep apnea can reduce the risk of new or recurrent stroke when present
- Treatment of sleep apnea can lead to improved stroke outcomes
- Current screening is inadequate







Excessive sleepiness in OSA is associated with structural changes in gray and white matter that are been linked to reduced neurocognitive performance and compromised neurocognitive activity in patients with OSA

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Oxidative Injury
In an animal model of severe sleep apnea, chronic intermittent hypoxia showed significant oxidative injury to certain wake-promoting dopaminergic and noradrenergic neurons, compared with sham controls. This resulted in a 40% loss of dopaminergic and noradrenergic neurons at 6 months.^{7,8}
- 

Degeneration of wake-promoting neurons
Chronic fragmented sleep caused a significant loss of 50% (P<0.001) of noradrenergic neurons and 25% loss of orexinergic neurons involved in wake promotion in an animal model, which persisted after 4 weeks of recovery sleep.⁹
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Reduced gray matter
As compared to healthy controls, studies have indicated that untreated OSA is associated with reduced gray matter volume in brain regions, including those involved in wakefulness and neurocognitive performance.^{9,10}
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Structural changes to white matter
In patients adherent to CPAP (6 hours), ES was associated with structural changes to white matter, potentially indicating compromised neuroconnectivity. Some structural changes correlated with clinical measures of ES.¹¹

And a bit on stroke during sleep...

- Now you may have the luxury of tPA or IR if you wake with a stroke.
- EXTEND allows for tPA up to 9 hours from onset using RAPID software in non-LVO stroke.
- WAKE-UP

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- Gündüz C, Basoglu OK et al. Obstructive sleep apnoea independently predicts lipid levels. Data from the European Sleep Apnea Database. *Respirology* 2018 doi:10.1111/resp.13372
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