

# Prediction of Fluid Responsiveness in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients with the Affection of Positive End-expiratory Pressure

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## ARTICLE INFO

**Received:** 📅 March 25, 2019

**Published:** 📅 April 08, 2019

**Citation:** Sun Yun, Yu Wei Li, Cao Li Jun, Yang Xiang, Zhang Ping Jie. Prediction of Fluid Responsiveness in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients with the Affection of Positive End-expiratory Pressure. Biomed J Sci & Tech Res 16(5)-2019. BJSTR. MS.ID.002913.

**Keywords:** Monitoring, Ultrasonic; End-Expiratory Pressure Peep; Fluid Responsiveness

**Abbreviations:** PPV: Pulse Pressure Variation; SVV: Stroke Volume Variation; IVC<sub>dmax</sub>: Inferior Vena Cava Diameter; PEEP: Positive End Expiratory Pressure; PIP: Peak Inspiratory Pressure; CO: Cardiac Output; CVP: Central Venous Pressure

## ABSTRACT

**Objective:** The value of pulse pressure variation (PPV) and other indexes including stroke volume variation (SVV), inferior vena cava diameter (IVC<sub>dmax</sub>), the dispensability index of the inferior vena cava (dIVC) measured by ultrasound were utilized to predict the fluid responsiveness in ventilated critically ill patients. In addition, we observed the effects of progressively increased positive end expiratory pressure (PEEP) on respiratory mechanical indexes and fluid responsiveness evaluation.

**Methods:** Forty-two patients were selected prospectively, and their indexes of mean airway pressure ( $P_{mean}$ ), peak inspiratory pressure (PIP), (cardiac output) CO, (central venous pressure) CVP, PPV, ultrasonic measured SVV, IVC<sub>dmax</sub> and dIVC were recorded during ventilation. After volume expansion experiments, patients were divided into fluid responsiveness positive group and negative group. PEEP set to 5, 10 and 15cmH<sub>2</sub>O were recorded respectively. ROC curve was used to analyze the threshold of PPV, SVV, IVC<sub>dmax</sub> and dIVC and further to predict fluid responsiveness with their sensitivity and specificity. Moreover, the effects of increasing PEEP on indexes of  $P_{mean}$ , PIP, CO, CVP, PPV, SVV, IVC<sub>dmax</sub> and dIVC during ventilation were also observed in fluid responsiveness positive group and negative group.

**Results:** Among the forty patients, twenty-two patients were fluid responsiveness positive and eighteen patients were fluid responsiveness negative. ROC curve showed that area under the curve (AUC) of SVV was the highest. The figure of AUC was 0.98, other AUC figures were dIVC(0.95), PPV(0.94) and IVC<sub>dmax</sub> (0.85). Kappa test consistency analysis revealed the cut-off values of SVV, PPV and IVC<sub>dmax</sub> were 13.2%, 13.5% and 12.4%, which was consistent with the result of fluid responsiveness assessment. In fluid responsiveness positive group, IVC<sub>dmax</sub> and dIVC showed statistical significance between PEEP15 and PEEP0. However, for CO, SVV and PPV, there was statistical significance among PEEP10 and PEEP15 compared with PEEP0. CVP showed statistical significance among PEEP<sub>5</sub>, PEEP<sub>10</sub> and PEEP<sub>15</sub> compared with PEEP<sub>0</sub>. Hence, our data indicated that PEEP showed positive correlation with SVV ( $r=0.58$ ,  $P=0.000$ ), PPV ( $r=0.50$ ,  $P=0.000$ ), IVC<sub>dmax</sub> ( $r=0.35$ ,  $P=0.001$ ), and negative correlation with dIVC ( $r=-0.59$ ,  $P=0.000$ ). Nevertheless, in fluid responsiveness negative group, there was no statistical significance among PEEP<sub>5</sub>, PEEP<sub>10</sub> and PEEP<sub>15</sub> compared with PEEP<sub>0</sub> in IVC<sub>dmax</sub>, dIVC and PPV. SVV only had statistical significance between PEEP<sub>15</sub> and PEEP<sub>0</sub>. In addition, there was statistical significance among PEEP<sub>10</sub> and PEEP<sub>15</sub> compared compare with PEEP<sub>0</sub> in CO. CVP showed statistical significance among PEEP<sub>5</sub>, PEEP<sub>10</sub> and PEEP<sub>15</sub> compared with PEEP<sub>0</sub>. Therefore, our data suggested that PEEP was positive correlation with SVV ( $r=0.35$ ,  $P=0.003$ ), PPV ( $r=0.40$ ,  $P=0.000$ ), and no correlation with dIVC ( $r=-0.04$ ,  $P=0.771$ ).

**Conclusion:** Dynamic indexes such as SVV, dIVC and PPV are better than static index like IVC<sub>dmax</sub> for fluid responsiveness prediction. Moreover, PEEP could influence the measure of indexes during fluid responsiveness assessment, especially on fluid responsiveness positive patients. Trial registration: ChiCTR-OON-15006161

## Introduction

Previous studies have shown that in the process of fluid resuscitation of septic shock and other critically ill patients, fluid resuscitation deficiency and excess liquid load are related to poor prognosis in patients [1,2]. To improve tissue perfusion, the hemodynamic assessment of critically ill patients is an indispensable treatment step. The factors that decide whether the amount of liquid supplement is appropriate, not only refer to the capacity of blood vessels, but also include the capacity responsiveness. According to Frank-Starling's law, in the curve ascending branch (preload depending region), load increase will make the stroke volume (stroke volume, SV) rise significantly. In the platform stage (preload independent area), the changes of preload will not affect the SV load and fluid increase will be harmful. Therefore, determining the position of patients in the curve, i.e. determining whether the patient has the capacity responsiveness is crucial. Previous statistics have manifested that in the intensive care unit (intensive care unit, ICU), the patients with sepsis and septic shock showing reactive capacity only account for 43.5%, and blindly expansion does not continuously improve the hemodynamic status of patients [3].

The commonly used indexes such as central venous pressure (central venous pressure, CVP) and other indexes are greatly affected by the static capacity of cardiovascular fitness, myocardial contractility, chest cavity pressure and other factors [4]. The value of volume status assessment is not high [5,6]. And the numerical value of preload cannot represent the capacity responsiveness of the body [4]. Pulse-induced Contour Cardiac Output (Pulse-induced Contour Cardiac Output, PiCCO) can dynamically reflect the changes of cardiac output (cardiac output, CO) and SV. Although PiCCO is regarded as the "gold standard" to assess the capacity responsiveness, the procedure of this method is cumbersome and the materials are expensive [7]. Furthermore, the modern critical care medicine attaches great importance to avoid unnecessary catheter for the reason that it may directly or indirectly increase the mortality through catheter-related bloodstream infection [8]. In the past two decades, critical care medicine has been gradually turning from the traditional high risk of invasive monitoring to the noninvasive monitoring.

Therefore, bedside ultrasound is well received by clinicians [9]. Another advantage of ultrasound is that, in a relatively short period (usually less than 30 min), it can provide complete information about blood vessels and hemodynamics. The index that bedside ultrasound evaluates the capacity status of patients includes static index and dynamic index. Many studies have confirmed that ultrasound static index not only has the advantages of convenient, noninvasive, but also can completely replace the invasive traditional index. It has been reported that the aspect ratio of internal jugular vein measured by ultrasound was less than 0.83 could predict CVP < 8cmH<sub>2</sub>O [10]. Other reports suggested that the diameter

of IVC was less than 2 cm could predict CVP < 10mmHg, and the sensitivity and specificity reached 85% and 81% respectively [11]. Additionally, for the patients whose breath were controlled by mechanical ventilation, the IVC diameter of end expiratory which was measured under short axis of the right atrium (The cross-sectional view) using M model (M mode) of TTE and the right atrial pressure measured by SVC catheter were linear correlation [12].

However, using the effect of static ECHO parameters to predict fluid responsiveness in critically ill patients is poor unless the patients obviously show hypovolemia [13]. But in the modern ICU care level, patients with obvious hypovolemia are not common [14,15]. In the current clinic, using heart's reaction to mechanical ventilation or spontaneous breathing cycle and the degree of variation of respiratory under intrathoracic pressure change, i.e. using "heart lung interaction" to observe SV changes of patients after cardiac preload affected by pleural pressure, could determine the capacity responsiveness of patients. These indexes include SVV (Stroke Volume Variation, SVV) [16], PPV (Pulse Pressure Variation, PPV) [3], artery VTI (velocity-time integral, VTI) [14], the variation of SVC [17] and IVC [13,18] and other indexes. The treatment process of the critically ill patients with respiratory failure hemodynamics instability, is always needed to apply noninvasive positive pressure mechanical ventilation. And positive end expiratory pressure (positive end expiratory pressure, PEEP) is a commonly used function in mechanical ventilation settings. But the existence of PEEP can reduce the pressure gradient to decrease venous reflux by increasing intrathoracic pressure and lung volume, which would cause hemodynamic changes [19].

However, the effect of PEEP on the dispensability index of the inferior vena cava (the dispensability index of the inferior vena cava, dIVC), inferior vena cava diameter (IVC<sub>dmax</sub>) and other respiratory variability indexes of patients measured by ultrasound has not been reported until now. In this study, SVV, dIVC dynamic indexes and IVC<sub>dmax</sub> static index of the same group of critically ill patients were measured by monitoring the PPV and ultrasound, to further explore the application value of the above indexes in the capacity responsiveness evaluation of patients with mechanical ventilation, and to analyse the effect of PEEP on the mechanical ventilation index and common clinical capacity evaluation index including the above indexes.

## Materials

### The Research Object

**The Research Object:** 42 patients needed mechanical ventilation in department of ICU of the Second Affiliated Hospital of Anhui Medical University from February to November in 2014 (20 male and 22 female aged from 22 to 72 years, average age: 47.45±13.28). Acute physiology and chronic health evaluation II (APACH II): 13.48±3.53. The 42 patients are including 17 septic shock patients with perforation of colon resulting in

diffuse peritonitis, 10 severe pneumonia patients, 6 severe acute pancreatitis patients, 6 liver and spleen rupture complicated hemorrhagic shock, and 3 upper gastrointestinal hemorrhage.

#### Inclusion Criteria:

- Patients had invasive mechanical ventilation; vasoactive agent wasn't used or had been evacuated
- sinus rhythm.

#### Exclusion Criteria:

- Existing fluid infusion test contraindication (acute coronary syndrome, cardiogenic shock and evidence showing overload fluid)
- being obvious right ventricular dysfunction, right heart failure and tricuspid regurgitation
- being younger than 18 years of age
- being gestation
- being intra-abdominal hypertension, bladder pressure measured by catheter  $>16\text{cmH}_2\text{O}$
- existing pneumothorax or pulmonary bulla Without drainage.

Conforming to the standards of medical ethics, this study was approved by hospital ethics committees. All treatments and inspections had informed consent of the patients or their families.

## Research Methods

**Mechanical Ventilation Mode and Parameter Setting:** Using midazolam and/or propofol gave patients sedation. Breathing machine (PB840) of Nellcor Puritan Bennett (America) was used in invasive mechanical ventilation, Assist/Control mode, VT:  $6\sim 8\text{ml/Kg}$ , keeping breathing frequency:  $\text{PaCO}_2=35\sim 45\text{mmHg}$ . From right subclavian or jugular vein into central venous catheters, imbedding arterial puncture tube from radial artery puncture, all connecting Intellivue MP60 monitor (Phillips, Germany) monitoring HR, ABP, CVP, ECG and  $\text{SpO}_2$ . Initial setting PEEP=0, recording PIP and Pmean; ultrasonic measured and recorded each index in the meantime. Then fluid responsiveness test was conducted, after which each index was recorded again. Hereafter PEEP was increased to 5, 10, 15  $\text{cmH}_2\text{O}$  respectively for 5min, then PIP and Pmean were recorded again, with each indexes being measured and recorded by ultrasound. During the above steps, test would be stopped if the indexes showed  $\text{Pmean}>35\text{mmHg}$  or  $\text{PIP}>45\text{mmHg}$ .

**Ultrasonic Testing and PPV Monitoring Method:** In complete mechanical ventilation control mode, below indexes were measured by M-Turbo bedside portable ultrasonic apparatus of SonoSite (America): ①CO (cardiac output) ②measuring SV and recording SVV  $\% = (\text{SV}_{\text{max}} - \text{SV}_{\text{min}}) / \text{SV}_{\text{mean}}$ ,  $\text{SV}_{\text{max}}$  and  $\text{SV}_{\text{min}}$  being the mean value of 4 values in 30s,  $\text{SV}_{\text{mean}}$  being the mean value of all values. ③Measurements of  $\text{IVC}_{\text{dmax}}$ ,  $\text{IVC}_{\text{dmin}}$  and dIVC were performed from long-axis 2-dimensional subxiphoid views using M

mode (Figure1), All measurements were made within 2 cm of the RA origin of the IVC (Figure2),  $\text{dIVC} = (\text{IVC}_{\text{dmax}} - \text{IVC}_{\text{dmin}}) / 0.5(\text{IVC}_{\text{dmax}} + \text{IVC}_{\text{dmin}})$  [13]. Ultrasonic testing were respectively conducted by an experienced ultrasound diagnostics doctor and a trained ICU doctor. Each observation indicator was took the average after being measured three times. During mechanical ventilation, the arterial pressure waveform was drawn from invasive arterial pressure monitor, recording  $\text{PP}_{\text{max}}$  and  $\text{PP}_{\text{min}}$ ,  $\text{PPV}(\%) = (\text{PP}_{\text{max}} - \text{PP}_{\text{min}}) / [(\text{PP}_{\text{max}} + \text{PP}_{\text{min}}) / 2] \times 100\%$  [20].

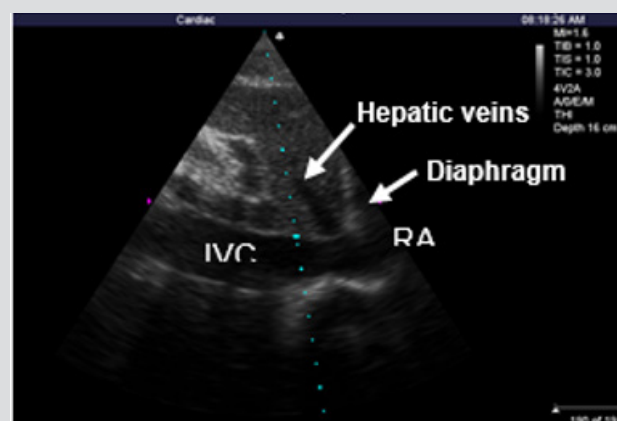


Figure 1: The IVC diameter can be measured at 1 to 2 cm caudal to the hepatic vein-IVC junction.

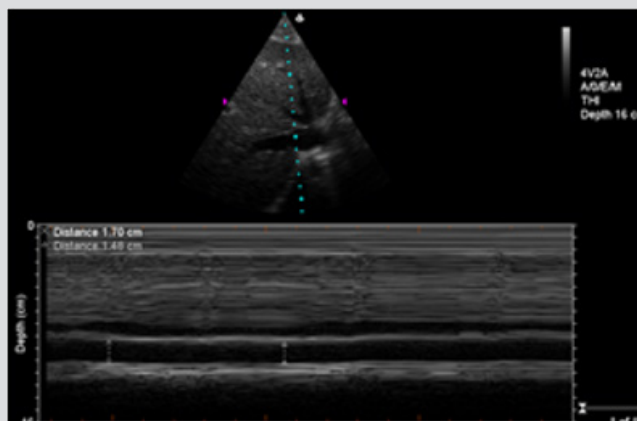


Figure 2: Respiratory variations in IVC.

**The Positive Criteria of Volume Expansion Test:** After intravenous drip 500ml normal saline (NS) in 20min, Patients were classified as responders to fluid loading if their CO increased under TTE by at least 15% [4]. The test would be stopped if patients had overload clinical manifestations (shortness of breath obviously, lung moist rale increasing or aggravated myocardial ischemia indicated by electrocardiogram).

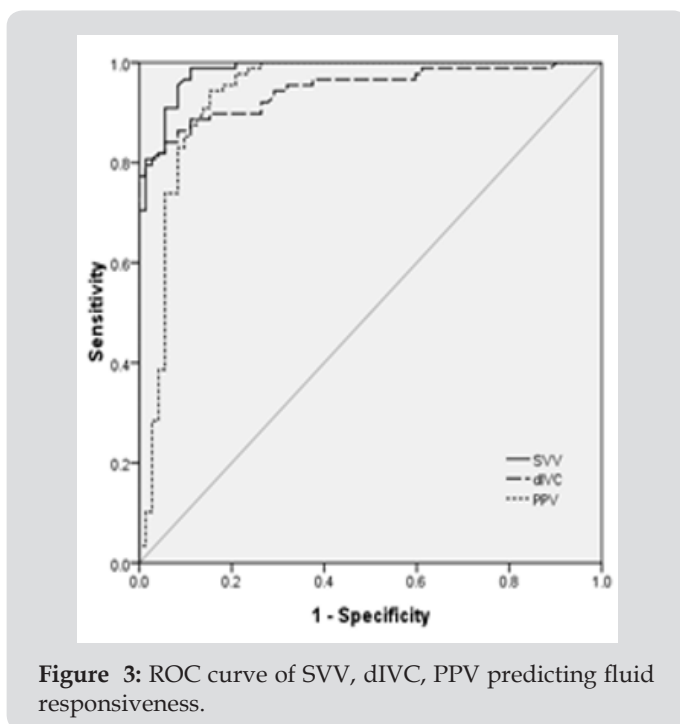
**Main Outcome Measures:** ①The threshold value, sensitivity and specificity of PPV, SVV,  $\text{IVC}_{\text{dmax}}$  and dIVC to predict fluid responsiveness in ventilated critically ill patients; ②The effects of increasing PEEP on indexes of  $\text{P}_{\text{mean}}$ , PIP, CO, CVP, PPV, SVV,  $\text{IVC}_{\text{dmax}}$  and dIVC during ventilation in fluid responsiveness positive and negative groups separately.

**Statistic:** By SPSS 17.0, Measurement data being recorded in ( $\pm s$ ), pair T test, independent-samples T test; Receiver operator characteristic curve (ROC) was be used in analyzing the value of SVV, PPV,  $IVC_{dmax}$  and dIVC predicting fluid responsiveness showed by area under the curve (AUC) (95%CI); Kappa consistency check the consistency of SVV, PPV and dIVC predicting fluid responsiveness; Between-Subjects factors were compared by variance analysis and linear trend test; pairwise comparison was conducted by dunnet-t; variable correlation was analyzed by spearman correlation analysis;  $P < 0.05$  was regarded as statistical significance.

## Results

### Basic Information

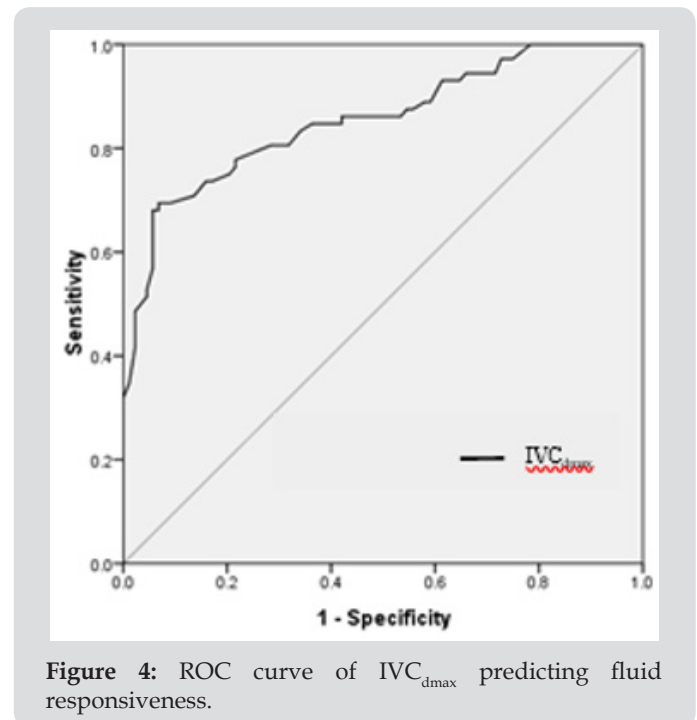
**In the 42 Volume Expansion Tests, 2 Cases were Stopped because of Volume Overload:** As a result, 22 of the finally volume load tests were positive and 18 were negative. With PEEP increasing, pneumothorax and other complications didn't happen. There were no statistically differences of PIP,  $P_{mean}$ , CVP, SVV, PPV,  $IVC_{dmax}$  and dIVC between before and after volume expansion tests. However, CO increased significantly ( $P = 0.00$ ). With different PEEP, TTE indexes of positive group and negative group were showed in Table 1 and Table 2.



**Figure 3:** ROC curve of SVV, dIVC, PPV predicting fluid responsiveness.

**SVV, PPV,  $IVC_{dmax}$  and dIVC Predicting Fluid Responsiveness Analyzed by ROC Curve:** The area under ROC curve (AUC) for PPV predicting fluid responsiveness was 0.94 (95%CI: 0.89~0.98,  $P < 0.001$ ). The PPV threshold value of 13.5% before volume expansion had the sensitivity of 94.3% and the specificity was 84.7% for prediction of fluid responsiveness. The AUC for SVV predicting fluid responsiveness was 0.98 (95%CI: 0.97~1.00,  $P < 0.001$ ). The SVV threshold value of 13.2% before volume expansion had the

sensitivity of 98.9% and specificity of 88.9% for prediction of fluid responsiveness. The AUC for dIVC predicting fluid responsiveness was 0.95 (95%CI: 0.91~0.98,  $P < 0.001$ ). The dIVC threshold value of 12.40% before volume expansion had the sensitivity of 80.7% and specificity of 98.6% for prediction of fluid responsiveness. (Figure 3). The AUC for  $IVC_{dmax}$  predicting fluid responsiveness was 0.85 (95%CI: 0.79~0.91,  $P < 0.001$ ), the  $IVC_{dmax}$  threshold value of 2.03 before volume expansion had the sensitivity of 68.1% and specificity of 94.3% for prediction of fluid responsiveness (Figure 4).



**Figure 4:** ROC curve of  $IVC_{dmax}$  predicting fluid responsiveness.

**Kappa Test Consistency Analysis of SVV, PPV and dIVC Predicting Fluid Responsiveness:** According to ROC results, taking  $SVV > 13.2$ ,  $PPV > 13.5$  and  $dIVC > 12.4$  as the cutoff value of fluid responsiveness to consistently analyze the results, showing that the Kappa coefficient of SVV and PPV was 0.729,  $P < 0.001$ ; The Kappa coefficient of SVV and dIVC was 0.607,  $P < 0.001$ ; The Kappa coefficient of PPV and dIVC was 0.607,  $P < 0.001$ .

### The influence of PEEP on airway pressure and TTE indices

**a)** In fluid responsiveness positive group, with PEEP increasing, there are overall differences among groups about PIP,  $P_{mean}$ , CVP, CO, SVV, PPV and dIVC ( $P < 0.05$ ).  $IVC_{dmax}$  increased with PEEP, there are no significant differences in comparison among groups ( $P > 0.05$ ), while there are significant differences in linear trend ( $P < 0.01$ ). After pairwise comparison between  $PEEP_5$ ,  $PEEP_{10}$ ,  $PEEP_{15}$  and  $PEEP_0$  (after volume expansion test, the following are the same) respectively by Dunnet-t, there were significant differences of  $IVC_{dmax}$  and dIVC between  $PEEP_{15}$  and  $PEEP_0$ , while there were significant differences of CO, SVV and PPV between  $PEEP_{10}$ ,  $PEEP_{15}$  and  $PEEP_0$ . There were significant differences of CVP between  $PEEP_{5}$ ,  $PEEP_{10}$ ,  $PEEP_{15}$  and  $PEEP_0$  (Table 1).

**Table 1:** TTE indicators of different PEEP in fluid responsiveness positive group.

PEEP	0(Before Volume Expansion )	0(After Volume Expansion)	5	10	15	F	P	Trend of P
PIP	15.41±1.59	15.73±1.39	19.59±2.46	25.14±2.13	29.26±1.63	211.6	<0.001	<0.001
P <sub>mean</sub>	5.24±0.51	5.35±0.43	9.84±0.82	14.24±1.34	19.78±2.04	491.7	<0.001	<0.001
CO	4.88±0.35	5.81±0.46	5.64±0.46*	5.38±0.35	5.09±0.27	16.08	<0.001	<0.001
CVP	4.73±1.39	5.00±1.66	6.59±1.68	9.76±1.26	12.61±1.41	112.13	<0.001	<0.001
SVV	17.63±4.11	17.56±4.09	21.24±5.70*	23.58±6.44	28.12±7.15	12.38	<0.001	<0.001
PPV	17.92±6.07	17.86±6.04	21.57±6.76#	25.83±10.17	27.69±9.80	6.14	<0.001	<0.001
IVC <sub>max</sub>	1.51±0.30	1.53±0.31	1.53±0.40 <sup>△</sup>	1.71±0.33*	1.77±0.32	2.58	0.06	<0.01
dIVC	26.74±18.67	26.66±18.72	22.70±13.45 <sup>§</sup>	17.94±13.13 <sup>◇</sup>	14.07±7.60	3.58	<0.05	<0.001

Note : 1. Comparison between before volume expansion test and after : PIP (P=0.48) 、P<sub>mean</sub> (P=0.44) 、CO (P=0.00) 、CVP (P=0.56) 、SVV (P=0.96) 、PPV (P=0.97) 、IVC<sub>dmax</sub> (P=0.83) 、dIVC (P=0.99) ;  
 2. Comparison with PEEP0 cmH<sub>2</sub>O (after volume expansion test) : ※ : P=0.29 ; \* : P=0.11 ; # : P=0.33 ; △ : P=0.63 ; ☆ : P=0.14 ; § : P=0.66 ; ◇ : P=0.10 ; all of others :P<0.05.

**b)** In fluid responsiveness negative group, with PEEP increasing, there are overall differences among groups about PIP, P<sub>mean</sub>, CVP, CO and SVV (P<0.05) . PPV and IVC<sub>dmax</sub> increased with PEEP, there are no significant differences in comparison among groups (P>0.05), while there are no significant differences linear trend (P<0.05). dIVC increased with PEEP, there are no significant differences in comparison among groups and linear

trend (P>0.05). After between PEEP<sub>5</sub>, PEEP<sub>10</sub>, PEEP<sub>15</sub> and PEEP<sub>0</sub> respectively by Dunnet-t, there were no significant differences between PEEP<sub>5</sub>, PEEP<sub>10</sub>, PEEP<sub>15</sub> and PEEP<sub>0</sub> respectively about IVC<sub>dmax</sub>, dIVC and PPV; there were significant differences between PEEP<sub>15</sub> and PEEP<sub>0</sub> about SVV. There were significant differences between of PEEP<sub>10</sub>, PEEP<sub>15</sub> and PEEP<sub>0</sub> respectively about CO. There were significant differences between PEEP<sub>5</sub>, PEEP<sub>10</sub>, PEEP<sub>15</sub> and PEEP<sub>0</sub> respectively about CVP (Table 2).

**Table 2:** TTE indicators of different PEEP in fluid responsiveness negative group.

PEEP	0(Before Volume Expansion )	0(After Volume Expansion)	5	10	15	F	P	Trend of P
PIP	10.78±1.22	11.17±1.54	19.44±1.42	23.39±1.04	29.28±1.49	540.16	<0.001	<0.001
P <sub>mean</sub>	5.13±0.45	5.18±0.45	9.47±0.67	15.39±0.92	19.00±1.85	554.34	<0.001	<0.001
CO	5.00±0.31	5.80±0.37	5.57±0.55	5.41±0.44*	5.13±0.39*	7.19	<0.001	<0.001
CVP	7.56±1.34	8.50±1.86	10.50±1.76#	12.11±1.91 <sup>△</sup>	14.56±1.62*	36.97	<0.001	<0.001
SVV	6.94±2.83	6.92±2.82	8.41±2.91	9.24±3.38	10.31±3.68 <sup>§</sup>	3.56	<0.05	<0.01
PPV	8.50±4.67	8.46±4.65	9.37±4.16	11.26±6.30	13.21±9.06	2	0.12	<0.05
IVC <sub>max</sub>	1.94±0.23	1.96±0.23	2.03±0.24	2.07±0.25	2.12±0.23	1.4	0.25	<0.05
dIVC	7.61±3.46	7.58±3.44	6.86±3.03	7.15±2.55	7.02±2.13	0.22	0.89	0.64

Note : 1. Comparison between before volume expansion test and after : : PIP (P=0.41) 、P<sub>mean</sub> (P=0.74) 、CO (P=0.00) ; CVP (P=0.09) ; SVV (P=0.98) ; PPV (P=0.98) ; IVC<sub>dmax</sub> (P=0.80) 、dIVC (P=0.98) ;  
 2. Comparison with PEEP0 cmH<sub>2</sub>O (volume expansion test) : ※ : P=0.03 ; \* : P=0.00 ; # : P=0.00 ; △ : P=0.00 ; ☆ : P=0.00 ; § : P=0.01 ; all of others :P<0.05.

**c) Spearman Variable Correlation Analysis:** In fluid responsiveness positive group, There are positive correlation between the SVV (r=0.58, P=0.000) , PPV (r=0.50, P=0.000) , IVC<sub>dmax</sub> (r=0.35, P=0.001) and PEEP respectively. There are negative correlation between the CO (r=-0.60, P=0.000) , dIVC (r=-0.59, P=0.000) and PEEP respectively. In fluid

responsiveness negative group, there are positive correlation between the SVV (r=0.35, P=0.003) 、PPV (r=0.40, P=0.000) , IVC<sub>max</sub> (r=0.28, P=0.019) and PEEP respectively. There are negative correlation between the CO and PEEP (r=-0.54, P=0.000) ; it had no correlation between dIVC and PEEP (r=-0.04 , P=0.771) .

## Discussion

### The Value of SVV, PPV, dIVC and IVC<sub>dmax</sub> Evaluating Fluid Responsiveness

Using three dynamic indicators (SVV, PPV and dIVC) in our study, we selected 13.2%, 13.5% and 12.4% as cut-off values respectively to evaluate fluid responsiveness. They all have sensibility and specificity. Kappa consistency test analysis suggested that the results had consistency. When positive pressure ventilation patients are in inspiratory phase, many factors lead to the increase of SV and PV, including transpulmonary pressure increase compresses the pulmonary vasculature, left ventricular preload increase and pleural pressure increase, aortic vascular transmural pressure decrease, left ventricular afterload decrease, right atrial filling decrease, ventricular septal shift right inducing left ventricular filling increase, while the right ventricular RV pressure decrease reducing the pericardium, left ventricular to pulmonary venous return. Whereas exhale opposite [21]. Therefore, the sensitivity of the two indicators is very high, reaching 98.9% and 94.3% respectively. Researches by the Feissel [13] have indicated that the sensitivity and specificity are 93% and 92% respectively when 12% as a cut-off value to predict the volume responsiveness.

It is similar to the results of this study. The sensitivity of dIVC is 80.7%, lower than the other two. Considering that IVC locates in the abdominal cavity, the diameter of the respiratory variability is not only affected by the heart-lung interaction, but also relevant to the venous external pressure produced by the movement of diaphragmatic with the respiratory changes of thoracic abdominal cavity and right atrial pressure (RAP) gradient. Nevertheless, the sensitivity of dIVC is still much lower than previous report (93%) [13]. It considers that many patients after abdominal operation in this group influence the measurement of IVC by TTE. IVC<sub>dmax</sub> is a static volume indicator. When positive pressure ventilation patients are in inspiratory phase, the diaphragm decrease, intra-abdominal pressure increase, RAP gradient increase, the inferior vena cava filling and the effect is largest to end inspiration [22]. The ROC curve analysis results by TTE to measure IVC<sub>dmax</sub> to evaluate capacity responsiveness in this study show that using IVC<sub>dmax</sub> 2.03 as the threshold value before fluid load to predict the sensitivity of fluid responsiveness is 68.1%, the specificity is 94.3%.

By comparing IVC diameter, CVP [4,11,23] and RAP [12] through the TTE, previous research considers that it has a good correlation between them. This study also suggests that although IVC<sub>dmax</sub> is a static volume indicator, it still shows the value of better prediction of fluid responsiveness to a certain degree. This may be related to these reasons such as there are mostly surgical patients in this group, the average age is less than 50 years, previous heart-lung function better, less complication, less factors effect on static volume indicator. But the area under ROC curve of IVC<sub>dmax</sub> is significantly lower than SVV, PPV and dIVC, suggesting that the value of dynamic volume indicator is better than the static volume indicator.

### The Effect of PIP, P<sub>mean</sub>, CO and CVP on PEEP

The optimal PEEP can dilate small airway throughout the respiratory cycle and maintain the end expiratory alveolar open, increase functional residual capacity (FRC), improve the chest wall compliance, reduce the elasticity resistance of respiratory system. The setting of PEEP increases transpulmonary pressure and pleural cavity pressure, thereby increasing the airway pressure when positive pressure ventilation. This study finds that the values of PIP and P<sub>mean</sub> in all patients of the volume expansion test (+) and (-) group significantly rise with the increase of PEEP, P value and P value trend are both less than 0.001 between groups. This result indirectly suggests that high PEEP setting may lead to excessive overexpansion of the lungs and produce lung injury. With the increase of PEEP, CO of both groups decreases. This is also related to the decline of cavity venous return induced by intrathoracic pressure increase caused by PEEP, the reduction of right ventricular preload, eventually the decline of left ventricular stroke volume. But there are no statistical differences comparing PEEP<sub>5</sub> and PEEP<sub>0</sub> of CO in two groups, suggesting that the body can play a compensatory function to a certain extent to offset the adverse effects on the circulation after a slight increase in PEEP. As a traditional volume evaluation indicator, CVP has extensive application in clinic. But as a static pressure marker, it is influenced by cardiac function of patients, compliance of thorax and many other factors. The changes of pleural pressure that caused by PEEP becomes the important factor of the pressure changes of the superior venous located at thorax. The data also indicates when PEEP reaches 5 cmH<sub>2</sub>O, volume expansion test (+) and (-) group show statistical difference comparing with PEEP<sub>0</sub>.

### The Effect of PEEP on SVV, PPV, dIVC and IVC<sub>dmax</sub> of Volume Expansion Test (+) Group

This research discusses that the effect of PEEP on the dynamic capacity indicators such as SVV, PPV and dIVC in volume expansion test (+) and (-) group. The results show when PEEP reaches 10 cmH<sub>2</sub>O, SVV and PPV both have statistical differences comparing with PEEP<sub>0</sub> in volume expansion test (+) group. However, dIVC shows statistical difference comparing with PEEP<sub>0</sub> when PEEP reaches 15 cmH<sub>2</sub>O, suggesting that dIVC is slight affected by PEEP in a certain range. This is consistent with the result of the high specificity of evaluation capacity reaction of dIVC as stated above. Spearman variate relativity analysis shows that SVV and PPV are positive correlation with PEEP, as confirmed by previous researchers [24]. In positive pressure ventilation patients on the basis of LSVV increase with inspiratory phase, PEEP may make the lung expansion and left ventricle extrusion, and further intensify SV of the inspiratory phase. However, PEEP increases intrathoracic pressure, leads to further decrease LSVV with expiratory phase, and make SVV and PPV increase. With the increase of PEEP, intra-abdominal pressure further increases, and RAP gradient increases [25]. This study shows that IVC<sub>dmax</sub> gradually increases in the

volume expansion test (+) group and P value between groups is less than 0.01. The  $IVC_{dmax}$  values of  $PEEP_{15}$  and  $PEEP_0$  have statistical differences.

This result is consistent with the research by Schefold [23]. With the increase of PEEP, dIVC of the volume expansion test (+) group gradually decreases, P value between groups is less than 0.05, and the trend of P value is less than 0.001. The dIVC values of  $PEEP_{15}$  and  $PEEP_0$  have statistical differences. Spearman variate relativity analysis shows that dIVC is negative correlation with PEEP. The reason of above results may be that the setting of PEEP leads to IVC diameter increases in end inspiration, IVC diameter increases in end expiration and increases more than end inspiration, thus make dIVC decrease. Kircher [26] thinks that collapsibility index less than 50% is effective indicator to evaluate right atrium more than 10 mmHg, using inferior vena cava collapsibility index (IVC-CI) to evaluate right atrium pressure of autonomous respiration patients. It also suggests that higher right atrium pressure, less breath variety of IVC. The animal model test of Duperret S1 [27] demonstrates that abdominal cavity pressure increasing leads to breath variety of IVC decrease, especially hypovolemia. These results indirectly verify our conclusion.

### The effect of PEEP on SVV, PPV, dIVC and $IVC_{dmax}$ of Volume Expansion Test (-) Group

In volume expansion test (-) group, SVV and PPV are positive correlation with PEEP increase. SVV shows statistical difference comparing with  $PEEP_0$  when PEEP reaches 15  $cmH_2O$ . With the increase of PEEP, the trend of P value of  $IVC_{dmax}$  is less than 0.001. But there are no statistical differences between increase groups and  $PEEP_0$ . P value the trend of P value of dIVC between groups is more than 0.05. Spearman variate relativity analysis shows that PEEP has no correlation with dIVC. The research about SVV by Michard et al. [19] reports that the positive correlation between PEEP and SVV is related to preload state. Our study about volume expansion test (+) and (-) group comparison indicates that the effect of PEEP on dynamic capacity responsiveness evaluation indicator is related to the location at starling curve of patients. This effect is more significant when locating on the steep rather than on the flat portion of the Frank-Starling curve. In the condition of full preload, the self-regulating mechanism of patients work, dynamic capacity responsiveness evaluation indicator is less influenced by PEEP.

This study selects various cases including many related diseases and the different pathophysiological states may affect the results. For example, although the  $IAP > 16 cmH_2O$  intra-abdominal hypertension patients have been ruled out in this group, but some patients experienced abdominal operation, abdominal wall compliance decrease causing by abdominal postoperative may influence the results of this study [28]. The effect of PEEP settings on respiratory mechanics in patients not only reflects on the changes of the intrathoracic pressure and transpulmonary pressure, but also the increase functional residual capacity and/

or a decrease pulmonary vasoconstriction induced by hypoxia to change the heart load [19]. Thus, it has an impact on the dynamic volume responsiveness evaluation. This study is according to the classic volume load test standard [4], using 500 ml saline to carry out volume load test (+). Although there are no significant differences between parameters of the (+) groups before and after the load test, but it cannot avoid the interference of observing PEEP influence caused by preload increase. These need to design more strict animal experiments and clinical studies in the future to further elucidate the internal relationship.

### Acknowledgement

This work was supported by the Scientific and technological project of Anhui Province (Grant No. 1301042206). Anhui Provincial Natural Science Foundation (Grant No. 1508085QC49), and the doctoral research fund project of the Second Affiliated Hospital of Anhui Medical University (Grant No.2014BKJ034).

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ISSN: 2574-1241

DOI: 10.26717/BJSTR.2019.16.002913

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