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## **COMBINING INHALATION BY A BREATH ACTUATED NEBULIZER WITH EXHALATION THROUGH AN OSCILLATING POSITIVE PRESSURE DEVICE OFFERS THE POTENTIAL FOR OPTIMAL COMBINED THERAPY**

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- To date Oscillating Positive Expiratory Pressure (OPEP) therapy to mobilize secretions and reduce dyspnea has been routinely given at a separate time to inhaled medical aerosol therapy
- OPEP therapy is associated with exhalation whereas medication delivery is undertaken during inhalation
- This separation between both modes of the respiratory cycle offers an opportunity to combine inhaled medication delivery to obstructed airways by nebulization with exhaled OPEP therapy in a single treatment
- We report the outcome of an in vitro study to verify that output of aerosolized medication from a Breath Actuated Nebulizer (BAN) is unaffected by the addition of a purpose-designed OPEP device (Aerobika\*) for use in this type of combined therapy
  
- Aerobika\* has recently been shown, in to be reported data, to improve significantly dyspnea in COPD patients when used as a stand alone therapy
- We also compared this condition with the BAN coupled to an alternative OPEP device that also has the potential to be connected to a nebulizer

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