



# Sleep apnoea: A model of airway drying during nasal positive air pressure breathing

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### Role of the nose Spheno-ethmoidal recess phenoidal Conch sinus Supr meatus Concha / mtd trium Middle meatus Concha inferior stibul Inferior meatus Balt Pulate palaterin Pharyngcal orifice of auditory tube

- Olfaction
- Heating and humidifying inhaled air
- **Recovering heat and** moisture from exhaled air
- **Filtration**

Pharyngeal recess

## **Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA)**



Affects 6% of adult population.3 times as likely to have car accidents.Causes excessive sleepiness whist awake.

Suffer other symptoms such as: •irritability •Depression •sexual dysfunction •Learning •memory difficulty

associated with:
irregular heartbeat
high blood pressure
heart attack
Stroke

Many n-CPAP patients use supplementary humidification to relieve airway drying symptoms.

Produce a computational model for use by engineers and physiologists to investigate nasal conditions during ambient and pressurised breathing.



## (in-vivo) Nasal Geometric Properties

Cross-Sectional Area Cross-Sectional Perimeter Volume Surface Area



Hydraulic diameter distribution along patent and congested airways at ambient pressure.

(in-vitro) ASL Water Supply



### **Purinergic Regulation**



#### ASL top up

#### When ADO>200nM

P1 receptor A2b opens Cl<sup>-</sup> channel – fluid leaves cell Na<sup>+</sup> channel closes – no extracellular fluid entry CBF increases

#### When ATP>1nM

P2Y2 receptor open Cl<sup>-</sup> channel – fluid leaves cell CBF increases

#### **ASL reduction**

When ADO<200nM

P1 receptor A2b closes Cl<sup>-</sup> channel – no fluid exit Na<sup>+</sup> channel opens – extracellular fluid enters cell CBF decreases

#### When ATP<1nM

P2Y2 receptor closes Cl<sup>-</sup> channel – no fluid exit CBF decreases



Button, B. & Boucher, R.C. (2008)



Wen, J. et al. (2008)

### Schematic representation of apparatus set up





Bovine tracheal maximal water flux during ambient and augmented pressure





MODEL APPROXIMATION







Inhalation inter-airway temperature  $(T_a)$ , absolute humidity (AH), molar water flux (N), heat flux (Q) and ASL water equivalent height  $(H_{e,ASL})$  distribution from rest to maximal change. Mask pressure ambient, AH=9.2g H<sub>2</sub>O/m<sup>3</sup> dry air (T=23°C, RH=45%).

- $\Delta = \text{Keck et al. (2000)},$   $\circ = \text{Wiesmiller et al. (2007)},$   $\diamond = \text{Lindemann et al. (2001)},$  $\Rightarrow = \text{Hanna (1983)},$
- $\approx = \text{Hanna} (1983),$
- $\Box = \text{Lindemann } et al (2002).$







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Schematic representation of ASL water equivalent height of 10  $\mu$ m representing the hydration difference between normal and severely dehydrated ASL. Diagram adapted from Button et al (2012).

### **Airflow Stress Stimulation**



