

First Aid Data Tables: Characteristics of Included Articles in ScopRev of Use of Supplementary Oxygen in First Aid

Table 1: Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Author; Year Published	Study Type	Setting	Population	Intervention	Comparison	Outcomes	Results/Key findings
Smith 1970 ¹	Retrospective case series	Prehospital and hospital emergency departments	Accidental and deliberate carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning (N=206)	Oxygen, oxygen carbon dioxide mixture, hyperbaric oxygen	No supplementary oxygen	Delirium, persistent psychiatric symptoms	Mostly epidemiological study. Found fewer persistent symptoms if oxygen administered, advised oxygen carbon dioxide mixture if hyperbaric oxygen not available.
Winter 1976 ²	Literature review	Pre- and in-hospital	Persons with carbon monoxide poisoning	100% oxygen as first aid, hyperbaric oxygen in hospital	Not specified	Reversal of hypoxemia and accelerated elimination of CO	Authors recommended 100% oxygen at atmospheric or hyperbaric pressures to reverse hypoxemia and accelerate CO elimination.
Olson 1984 ³	Literature review	Pre- and in hospital	Persons with carbon monoxide poisoning	100% oxygen as soon as possible, multiple non-first aid	Not specified	Time to resolution of neurological and neuropsychiatric symptoms	Recommends 100% oxygen as soon as carbon monoxide poisoning suspected, using a tight-fitting mask to deliver the highest percent oxygen.
Koster 2003 ⁴	Literature review	Pre- and in hospital	Persons with carbon monoxide poisoning	100% oxygen, recompression chamber if available	None	Not specified	The authors recommend administration of 100% oxygen.

Kao 2006 ¹	Literature review	Pre- and in hospital	Persons with carbon monoxide poisoning	Supplementary oxygen and hyperbaric oxygen	None	Not specified	Authors recommend supplemental oxygen and other supportive care.
Jüttner 2021 ⁵	Evidence based guideline	Pre- and in hospital	Persons with carbon monoxide poisoning	100% oxygen	None	Not specified	Authors recommend immediate administration of oxygen at the highest available concentration.

Table 2: Diving Emergencies

Author; Year Published	Study Type	Setting	Population	Intervention	Comparison	Outcomes	Results/Key findings
Dick 1985 ⁶	Retrospective case series	Pre- and in hospital	Scuba divers with DCI (N= 70) and air embolism (N=39)	100% oxygen	No oxygen treatment	Neurological decompression illness and cerebral air aneurysm	Authors describe improvement in cases where oxygen was administered immediately for decompression sickness or air embolism.
Shinnick 1994 ⁷	Literature review	Pre- and in hospital	Divers with compressed gas (probably recreational)	100% oxygen as first aid, hyperbaric oxygen in hospital	No oxygen treatment	Prevention of "permanent disability or even death"	Review focuses on delay in the initiation of treatment for diving emergencies and calls for emergency physicians to contact Divers Alert Network (DAN). Authors also emphasize the importance of the administration of 100% oxygen.
Spira 1999 ⁸	Literature Review	EMS and in	Divers with barotra	100% oxygen during	Not specified	Prevention of sequelae	Advises 100% oxygen during transport to a facility where hyperbaric

		hospital	uma include air embolism and DCI	transfer to unit with hyperbaric oxygen		of diving injuries	oxygen can be administered.
Lippman 2003 ⁹	Proceedings of conference	Prehospital	Divers with DCI	100% oxygen	Not specified	Relief of symptoms, post treatment residues	Authors emphasize the importance of having oxygen equipment that can provide high oxygen concentrations to responsive or unresponsive victims of diving emergencies.
Longphre 2007 ¹⁰	Retrospective cohort, 2,231 individuals	Prehospital	Divers using compressed gas (N = 2231)	"First aid oxygen" prehospital	No first aid supplementary oxygen	Resolution of symptoms and number of retreatment recompression	Authors noted that oxygen decreased the number of recompression treatments needed if administered within 4 hours of surfacing.
Liow 2009 ¹¹	Retrospective case series	Hospital and prehospital	Divers with DCI (N = 3)	Hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) and normobaric 100% oxygen	None	Neurological recovery	Recommends 100% normobaric oxygen until recompression therapy.
Moon 2009 81 ¹²	Literature review	Pre and in hospital	Recreational divers with DCI	First aid oxygen prehospital, multiple other in-hospital interventions	Not specified	Resolution of symptoms and need for more than one recompression treatment	Recommends oxygen administration within 4 hours of injury based on Longphre study ¹⁰ findings.
Vann 2011 ¹³	Literature review published in seminar	Pre-and in hospital	Divers using compressed gas	100% oxygen in prehospital setting	Not specified	Recovery from diving injury, symptom resolution	Recommends the administration of 100% oxygen(O2) for several hours, even after symptom resolution.

	proceedings						
Blake 2020 ¹⁴	Laboratory	Laboratory	Healthy volunteer divers (N = 12)	Oxygen breathed from 1) demand valve with intraoral mask and nose clip or 2) medical oxygen rebreathing system with oronasal mask and with intraoral mask	NRB with oxygen at 15 or 10 L/min	Transcutaneous measurement of tissue oxygen partial pressure in limbs	Tissue oxygen partial pressure and nasopharyngeal inspired oxygen concentrations similar with demand valve with intraoral mask, medical O2 rebreathing system with oronasal or intraoral mask, and NRB with flow rate 15 L/min. Values lower for NRB at flow rate 10 L/min.
Pollock. 2017 ¹⁵	Literature Review	Pre- and in hospital	Recreational divers (compressed gases including air, nitrogen and helium mixtures)	High partial pressure oxygen	Not specified	Not specified	Concludes that high partial pressure oxygen is the primary first aid measure for DCI, can use continuous flow with NRB or pocket mask in diving environment, but higher oxygen fraction can be achieved in spontaneously breathing patients with mask and demand valve and rebreather systems.
Whayne 2018 ¹⁶	Literature Review	Pre- and in hospital	Commercial and recreational divers using compressed gases	100% oxygen in prehospital setting	Not specified	"Decrease complications and save lives"	Authors recommends immediate administration of 100% oxygen and rehydration with intravenous isotonic fluids until hyperbaric oxygen therapy is available.

Abbreviations:

EMS Emergency Medical Service
 NRB Non-rebreather mask
 DCI Decompression Illness

Table 3. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Author; Year Published	Study Type	Setting	Population	Intervention	Comparison	Outcomes	Results/Key findings
Austin 2006 ¹⁷	Systematic review of randomized controlled trials (RCTs)	Prehospital	Acute exacerbation of Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (AECOPD)	High flow oxygen. Not defined except subgroup of flow for nebulized bronchodilators – “typically 6-8L/min”	“Controlled” oxygen	Mortality from respiratory causes <i>Secondary outcomes</i> 1. All cause mortality 2. Dyspnea score 3. Arterial blood gas (ABG) 4. Length of stay (LOS) 5. ICU admission 6. Mental status score 7. Consciousness score (i.e., GCS) 8. Invasive ventilation 9. Noninvasive ventilation 10. Lung function 11. Illness score	Only 2 RCTs were identified and were ongoing with no results published at the time of the review.
Austin 2010 ¹⁸	Cluster randomized trial	Prehospital	COPD, including AECOPD	Oxygen titrated to saturations of 88-	High concentration oxygen: High	Mortality, respiratory acidosis, hypercapnia,	Titrated oxygen treatment significantly reduced mortality, hypercapnia, and respiratory acidosis

			(N = 405)	92%; nebulized bronchodilators delivered with compressed air. (N=179)	flow oxygen treatment (8–10 L/min) administered via a non-rebreather face mask and bronchodilators delivered by nebulization with oxygen flows of 6–8 l/min. (N=226)		compared with high flow oxygen in acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
Ntoumopoulos 2011 70008 ¹⁹	Review with Commentary	Prehospital	AECOPD	Titrated oxygen by NC to sat 88%-92%	High flow oxygen (8-10 L/min) via NRM	Pre- and in-hospital mortality; length of stay, ABGs.	Synopsis of Austin 2010 ¹⁸ study with commentary and review of risk of hypercarbia with high concentration oxygen therapy, current guidelines for oxygen delivery with AECOPD.
Wijesinghe 2011 ²⁰	Retrospective observational	Prehospital	AECOPD patients transported by ambulance (N = 250)	Oxygen administration at ≥ 3 L/min (N=168/92%), ≥ 8 L/min, defined as high flow, via	Oxygen administration at < 3 L/min (defined as low flow)	Death, required assisted ventilation, respiratory failure	When oxygen delivery was analyzed as a continuous variable according to documented flow rate, increased oxygen flow was associated with increased risk of death, assisted ventilation or respiratory failure with an odds ratio (OR) of 1.2 (95% CI 1.0–1.4)

				NC, mask or NRM (N=90; 49%)			per 1 L/min oxygen flow. Increasing PaO ₂ was associated with a greater risk of a poor outcome with an OR of 1.1 (95% CI 1.0–1.3) per 10 mmHg higher PaO ₂ . A nonsignificant association was reported for the dichotomous “high flow” vs. “low flow” oxygen for the main outcome composite of death, positive pressure ventilation or respiratory failure.
Cameron 2012 ²¹	Retrospective observational	Prehospital	AECOPD patients transported by ambulance who had ABG within 4 hours of triage (N=254)	Oxygen saturation on ABG within 4 hours of arrival in ED <88% or >96%	Oxygen saturation on ABG within 4 hours of arrival in ED 88-92%	Composite measure of hypercapnic respiratory failure, assisted ventilation or inpatient death	Adverse clinical outcomes were associated with both hypoxemia (OR 2.16, 95% CI 1.11 to 4.20) and hyperoxemia (OR 9.17, 95% CI, 4.08-20.6) compared with normoxemia (OR 2.16, 95% CI, 1.11 - 4.20). Results support titrating oxygen to target oxygen saturation.
Pilcher 2015 ²²	Literature Review	Pre- and in-hospital	AECOPD	Titrated oxygen and air-driven nebulization of bronchodilators	High concentration or high dose oxygen	Mortality	Authors describe evidence from Austin ¹⁸ of mortality risk if patients with AECOPD received high concentration oxygen, guidelines for use of oxygen only if SpO ₂ <88%, titration-to 88-92%, use of air-driven delivery of nebulized bronchodilators.
Ringbaek 2015 ²³	Observational study	Pre- and in-hospital	AECOPD patients transported by	Oxygen, varying flow rates	Oxygen, varying flow rates	Respiratory acidosis at hospital admission, length of	Review aimed to assess the frequency of “inappropriate oxygen therapy” (determined by an oxygen saturation of

			ambulance who received any oxygen (N=405)			stay, ventilatory support, in-hospital mortality	92% or greater) given in ambulance for AECOPD patients. A total of 352 (88.7%) of 397 patients were deemed to have received inappropriate oxygen therapy based on an O2 saturation of 92% or greater. Of this group of patients, 33.5% had respiratory acidosis at hospital admission.
Lumholdt 2017 ²⁴	Retrospective observational; Abstract	Prehospital	Patients brought to Emergency Department (ED) with "respiratory conditions" EMS care only provided with 100% oxygen. (N=125)	CO ₂ retention	No CO ₂ retention	Hypercapnic acidosis due to excessive prehospital oxygen	11 patients with respiratory conditions brought to ED by EMS and found to have CO ₂ retention and acidosis. The mean oxygen saturation of the 11 patients with CO ₂ retention was 84% on presentation to EMS and 95% on arrival in ED. They inferred this was due to excessive oxygen administration before arrival in hospital.
Bentsen 2020 ²⁵	Retrospective observational	Pre-hospital	COPD transported to hospital by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) before and after implementing a	High flow Oxygen	Titrated oxygen	30-day mortality	30-day mortality of 56 patients with AECOPD treated with high-flow oxygen was 11.5% vs 9.4% in the titrated oxygen group (P=0.41). A change of treatment protocols to titrated oxygen was associated with a lower 30-day mortality for patients with an acute exacerbation of COPD, but not for all COPD patients.

			change in prehospital oxygen protocolled from high flow to titrated oxygen. N=707				
Kopsaftis 2020 ²⁶	Cochrane review	Pre-hospital EMS	Adults with acute exacerbation of COPD	"Controlled oxygen"	"Standard oxygen" cited in the single paper as: High concentration oxygen: High flow oxygen treatment (8–10 L/min) administered via a non-rebreather face mask and bronchodilators delivered by nebulization with oxygen flows of	"Mortality"	The one included study (Austin) ¹⁸ found a reduction in pre/in-hospital mortality for the titrated oxygen arm compared to the high-flow control arm. However, the paucity of evidence limits the reliability of these findings and generalizability to other settings.

					6–8 l/min.		
Hodroge 2020 ²⁷	Evidence Based Guideline	Prehospital	Adult patients with respiratory distress	Titrated Oxygen	High Flow oxygen (not defined)	Mortality	Concluded that titration of oxygen to 94-96% for most patients and 88-92% for those with AECOPD was associated with lower mortality.
Barnett 2022 ²⁸	Evidence based guideline	Pre- and in hospital	COPD	N/A	N/A	N/A	Key recommendations: assess oxygenation, oxygen requires prescription and to set oxygen saturation targets of 88-92% for individuals with potential hypercapnia and 92-96% for others.
Gottlieb 2022 ²⁹	Evidence based guideline.	Prehospital	All patients considered for supplementary oxygen	titrated oxygen	High flow oxygen	Mortality and "functional outcome"	Recommends the use of pulse oximetry to assess the need for oxygen before administering it, except for in critical situations (e.g. during CPR).
Jensen 2023 ³⁰	Randomized control trial study protocol	Prehospital, gas used to drive inhaled bronchodilators (Planned N=1,888)	AECOPD	Titrated oxygen and compressed air driven inhaled bronchodilators to target SpO ₂ (oxygen saturation) 88-92%	Standard high flow oxygen	30-day mortality	Protocol for RCT comparing targeted prehospital oxygen therapy with standard high concentration/flow oxygen.
Gude NCT05703919 ³¹	Randomized control trial registered in USA. (Same	Prehospital, gas used to drive inhaled	AECOPD	Titrated oxygen and compressed air driven inhaled	Standard high flow oxygen	30-day mortality	N/A not completed

	trial as Jensen 2023 published study protocol.)	d bronc hodila tors		broncho dilators to target SpO2 (oxygen saturatio n) 88- 92%			
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Abbreviations Table 1-3:

ABG, arterial blood gas; AECOPD, acute exacerbation of COPD; CI, confidence interval; CO₂, carbon dioxide; COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; CPR; cardiopulmonary resuscitation; ED, emergency department; EMS, emergency medical services; GCS, Glasgow coma scale; HR, hazard ratio; ICU, intensive care unit; L/min, liters per minute; LOS, length of stay; N/A, not applicable; NC, nasal cannula; NRM, nonrebreather face mask; OR, odds ratio; RCT, randomized controlled trial; RR, relative risk

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