

# Volatile organic compounds as a biomarker in immune-mediated pulmonary arterial hypertension

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Primary Objective: 1. to determine unique inflammatory VOC profiles that distinguish patients with PAH-CTD, CTEPH and IPAH from SSc and SLE (CTD) patients without PAH. Secondary objectives: 1. to test whether these unique inflammatory VOCs associates...

<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruitment stopped
<b>Health condition type</b>	Autoimmune disorders
<b>Study type</b>	Observational invasive

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON52988

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

Volatile organic compounds and pulmonary arterial hypertension

### Condition

- Autoimmune disorders
- Vascular hypertensive disorders

### Synonym

high blood pressure in the arteries from heart to lungs, Pulmonary arterial hypertension

### Research involving

Human

### Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Medisch Universitair Ziekenhuis Maastricht

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Guy Peeters fonds en de Stichting ter

bevordering onderzoek en onderwijs Klinische Immunologie (eigen afdeling)

## Intervention

**Keyword:** Biomarker, Pulmonary arterial hypertension, Systemic sclerosis, Volatile organic compounds

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Determining unique inflammatory VOC profiles in four different groups of patients: PAH-CTD patients, CTEPH patients, IPAH patients and SSc/SLE patients without PAH.

### Secondary outcome

Unique inflammatory VOCs will be studied in relation to well-established biomarkers of immune activation and inflammation in PAH-CTD and idiopathic PAH. To this end, the selective inflammatory VOCs will be compared with baseline VOC profiles after 3, 6 and 12 months in all patients treated with PAH medication and/or immunosuppressive therapy.

## Study description

### Background summary

Pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) is a progressive disorder involving the pulmonary vasculature that leads to right heart failure and death. In idiopathic PAH (IPAH) and connective tissue disease associated PAH (PAH-CTD) (including systemic sclerosis) the role of altered immunity and inflammation increasingly has been recognized in earlier studies. Recently also inflammatory factors are described in chronic thromboembolic PH (CTEPH). The role of immunosuppressive therapy is currently still unclear. Consequently, a better understanding of inflammatory pathways and their role in the pathogenesis of PAH may lead to targeted therapeutic approaches. In this study, the analysis of exhaled air will be used as a biomarker of inflammation and autoimmunity in patients with autoimmune PAH in systemic sclerosis, SLE

(together CTD-PAH), in CTEPH patients and in IPAH. The analysis of exhaled air is known to contain a complex mixture of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The occurrence of inflammation, and subsequent oxidative stress, can result in the excretion of specific volatile compounds that generate unique VOC patterns. Our study uses VOC profiles of patients with CTD-PAH, CTEPH patients and patients with IPAH to investigate their role as a biomarker in immune-mediated PAH. Further, VOC profiles of PAH-CTD patients will be compared with those of SSc/SLE patients without pulmonary hypertension.

## **Study objective**

Primary Objective:

1. to determine unique inflammatory VOC profiles that distinguish patients with PAH-CTD, CTEPH and IPAH from SSc and SLE (CTD) patients without PAH.

Secondary objectives:

1. to test whether these unique inflammatory VOCs associates with well-established serum biomarkers of inflammation and autoimmunity in PAH as was demonstrated earlier. Markers which will be used:

- pro-inflammatory biomarkers (hsCRP, IL-6, CCL2, CXCL4)
- vascular biomarkers (VEGF, von Willebrand factor)
- IgG auto-antibodies against endothelial cells (AECAs)

2. to investigate whether unique inflammatory VOC products in all four groups of patients are affected by PAH and/or immunosuppressive therapy during 12 months follow-up.

## **Study design**

The study is performed in patients with PAH-CTD, CTEPH, IPAH and patients with SSc or SLE (CTD) without PAH.

The first baseline phase of two weeks is a cross-sectional study where baseline VOC profiles will be determined in patients with PAH-CTD, CTEPH, IPAH and patients with SSc or SLE (CTD) without PAH.

In the second follow-up phase, a explorative pilot study is performed to evaluate specific inflammatory VOC products of treated patients in all four groups. Treatment consists of PAH medication and/or immunosuppressive therapy.

## **Study burden and risks**

Risks of the study are related to known complications of the performed diagnostic tests. However, blood sampling, echocardiography, six minute walking test, pulmonary function testing, HR CT thorax and if necessary a right heart catheterization is considered standard of care in the clinical follow up of patients at risk for pulmonary arterial hypertension. In the noninvasive collection of exhaled air we do not expect any adverse events.

## Contacts

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### Scientific

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## Trial sites

### Listed location countries

Netherlands

## Eligibility criteria

### Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

### Inclusion criteria

1) PAH-CTD patients, inclusion criteria:

- classification as definite systemic sclerosis or systemic lupus erythematosus according to respectively the ACR-EULAR criteria and SLICC criteria
- minimal age of 18 year
- diagnosis of pulmonary arterial hypertension: mean pulmonary artery pressure (mPAP) of  $\geq 25$  mmHg, pulmonary capillary wedge pressure (PCWP)  $\leq 15$  mmHg, and a pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR)  $\geq 240$  dynes.s.cm-5 measured by right heart catheterization. , 2) IPAH patients, inclusion criteria:

- diagnosis of pulmonary arterial hypertension: mean pulmonary artery pressure (mPAP) of  $\geq 25$  mmHg, pulmonary capillary wedge pressure (PCWP)  $\leq 15$  mmHg, and a pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR)  $\geq 240$  dynes.s.cm-5 measured by right heart catheterization.

- no family history of PAH
- triggering factor is excluded: connective tissue disease, drugs or toxins, human immunodeficiency virus, congenital heart disease, portal hypertension, schistosomiasis
- minimal age of 18 year, 3) SSc and SLE patients without PAH, inclusion criteria:
  - classification as definite systemic sclerosis or systemic lupus erythematosus according to respectively the ACR-EULAR criteria (16) and SLICC criteria (17)
  - minimal age of 18 year
  - no signs of PAH at screening visit
- 4) CTEPH patients, inclusion criteria:
  - diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension: mean pulmonary artery pressure (mPAP) of  $\geq 25$  mmHg, pulmonary capillary wedge pressure (PCWP)  $\leq 15$  mmHg measured by right heart catheterization.
  - mismatched perfusion defects on V/Q lung scan

## Exclusion criteria

- active or treated malignancy
- tuberculosis or hepatitis B/C infection in case of immunosuppressive medication
- need to start immediately with immunosuppressive therapy
- already use of immune suppression

## Study design

### Design

Study type:	Observational invasive
Intervention model:	Other
Allocation:	Non-randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Basic science

### Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruitment stopped
Start date (anticipated):	08-02-2018

Enrollment: 150  
Type: Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO  
Date: 01-11-2017  
Application type: First submission  
Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO  
Date: 28-07-2020  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO  
Date: 01-06-2022  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

### Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

### In other registers

Register	ID
ClinicalTrials.gov	NCT03819777

**Register**

CCMO

**ID**

NL57351.068.17