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SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

- Does home-based pulmonary rehabilitation improve
- functional capacity, peripheral muscle strength and
- quality of life in patients with bronchiectasis
- compared to standard care?
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- Received 15 March 2017; received in revised form 26 April 2017; accepted 22 June 2017

16	KEYWORDS	Abstract
17 Q4	Rehabilitation;	Background: Home-based pulmonary rehabilitation (HBPR) is a promising intervention that may
18	Bronchiectasis;	help patients to overcome the barriers to undergoing pulmonary rehabilitation. However, HBPR
19	Exercise test;	has not yet been investigated in patients with bronchiectasis.
20	Exercise tolerance;	Objectives: To investigate the effects of HBPR in patients with bronchiectasis.
21	Quality of life	Methods: An open-label, randomized controlled trial with 48 adult patients with bronchiectasis
22		will be conducted. Interventions: HBPR: The program will consist of three sessions weekly
23		over a period of 8 weeks. Aerobic exercise will consist of stepping on a platform for 20 min
24		(intensity: 60-80% of the maximum stepping rate in incremental step test). Resistance training
25		will be carried out using an elastic band for the following muscles: quadriceps, hamstrings,
26		deltoids, and biceps brachii (load: 70% of maximum voluntary isometric contraction). Control:
27		The patients will receive an educational manual and a recommendation to walk three times
28		a week for 30 min. All patients will receive a weekly phone call to answer questions and to
29		guide the practice of physical activity. The HBPR group also will receive a home visit every 15
30		days. Main outcome measures: incremental shuttle walk test, quality of life, peripheral muscle
31		strength, endurance shuttle walk test, incremental step test, dyspnea, and physical activity in
32		daily life. The assessments will be undertaken at baseline, after the intervention, and 8 months
33		after randomization.

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Discussion: The findings of this study will determine the clinical benefits of HBPR and will contribute to future guidelines on HBPR for patients with bronchiectasis.

Trial registration: www.ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT02731482). https://register.clinicaltrials.gov/prs/app/action/SelectProtocol?sid=S00060X6&selectaction=Edit&uid=U00028HR&ts=2&cx=1ibszg

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42 Introduction

Pulmonary rehabilitation (PR) is the most effective non-43 pharmacological therapy to reduce dyspnea, improve 44 exercise tolerance, and enhance quality of life in patients 45 with chronic pulmonary diseases.¹ Despite strong evidence, 46 over 95% of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary dis-47 ease (COPD) who could benefit from PR are not referred 48 to this therapy.^{2,3} Of those who are referred to PR, 8% 49 to 50% do not take up the referral and, among those 50 who start the program, approximately 20% do not com-51 plete it.^{4,5} The causes for this low uptake and adherence 52 are multifactorial and include the lack of specialized 53 programs, particularly outside urban centers, the insuffi-54 cient number of gualified professionals, difficulties with 55 transportation and its costs, and the difficulty of reconcil-56 ing work activities with rehabilitation.⁶⁻⁸ In this context, 57 home-based PR (HBPR) may be an alternative option to 58 overcome the barriers to attendance at center-based pro-59 grams. 60

COPD is the most investigated lung disease both in 61 terms of outpatient PR and HBPR. In patients with 62 COPD, HBPR was first described in the mid-90s9 and 63 since then, numerous studies have shown that, simi-64 lar to outpatient rehabilitation, home-based programs 65 improve quality of life, increase exercise tolerance, 66 and improve dyspnea without serious side effects.¹⁰⁻²² 67 Since 2010, the effects of HBPR have been extended 68 to other chronic lung diseases, such as idiopathic pul-60 monary fibrosis, 23, 24 asthma, 7, 25 and tuberculosis, 26 with 70 similar results to those described in patients with COPD. 71 However, the effects of HBPR have not yet been inves-72 tigated in patients with bronchiectasis. Bronchiectasis is 73 a severe, progressive disease with high socioeconomic 74 impact,²⁷⁻²⁹ which includes extrapulmonary manifestations 75 such as reduced functional capacity and peripheral muscle 76 endurance.³⁰⁻³² 77

Patients with bronchiectasis usually receive PR in 78 an outpatient context,³³⁻³⁹ and as noted in other 79 chronic lung diseases, it improves the patient's phys-80 ical capacity and reduces dyspnea, fatigue, and the 81 number of exacerbations.¹ Therefore, HBPR could also 82 be beneficial for patients with bronchiectasis who can-83 not access an outpatient rehabilitation program. This 84 study will contribute to future guidelines regarding 85 HBPR for patients with bronchiectasis. The aim of this 86 clinical trial is to investigate the short- and long-87 term effects of HBPR on functional capacity, guality of 88 life, and peripheral muscle strength in patients with 89 bronchiectasis. 90

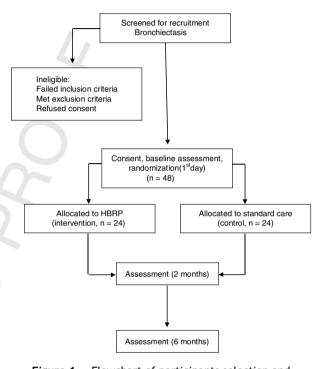


Figure 1 Flowchart of participants selection and procedures.

Methods

Design

This is a prospectively registered, two-arm, open-label, randomized controlled trial.

Recruitment and random selection of patients

Participants will be recruited personally by the researchers from the Obstructive Disease Outpatient Clinic (Hospital das Clínicas of Universidade de São Paulo) and will be referred to the University Center for tertiary cardiopulmonary rehabilitation (Universidade Nove de Julho). The flow of participants through the study will follow the recommendations of the *Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials Statement* and is outlined in Fig. 1. After written and verbal explanation regarding the objectives and procedures of the study, all participants will sign a consent form before starting the assessments. This study received approval from the Human Research Ethics Committee of Universidade Nove de Julho, São Paulo/SP, Brazil (no. 1249073), and the

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