



Letter to the Editor



Comment on: Normative Values and Calculation Formulas of Respiratory Muscle Strength of Adults in Turkish Society: A Population-based Study

Mahmood Dhahir Al-Mendalawi

Department of Pediatrics, Al-Kindy College of Medicine, University of Baghdad, Baghdad, Iraq

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DEAR EDITOR,

The research published by Pehlivan et al.¹ in September 2024 issue of the Thoracic Research and Practice is interesting and commendable. Pehlivan et al.¹ set normative data (ND) for maximum inspiratory pressure (MIP) and maximal expiratory pressure (MEP) in the Turkish population and created specific equations to estimate these data. In addition to the numerous study limitations stated by Pehlivan et al.,¹ we present an insightful one. In addition to age, sex, and anthropometric characteristics,² ethnicity is an important determinant of respiratory muscle strength and influence the setting of MIP and MEP.³ Türkiye is an amalgam of multiethnic groups that recruits Turks, Kurds, and other minorities, such as Arabs, Bosniaks, Albanians, Chechens, Circassians, Romani, Georgians, and Laz people.⁴ In their study methodology, Pehlivan et al.¹ didn't take into account the ethnic categories of the study population. As a result, this limitation might significantly impact the introduction of the constructed ND of MIP and MEP into research and clinical setups. Putting aside the study limitations, the formulated ND of MIP and MEP¹ can help practicing physicians and researchers approach clinical practice, conduct scientific research, and administer suitable healthcare for the Turkish population.

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