



Venous Congestion Countermeasure Study (VCCM)

Brandon R. Macias, PhD

Cardiovascular and Vision Laboratory

CVL Technical Lead Scientist

KBR, NASA Johnson Space Center

K. Marshall-Goebel¹, B.R. Macias¹, D. Ebert¹, S.S. Laurie¹, S.M.C. Lee¹, S. Greenwald¹, D. Martin¹, K. Dias², A. Hargens³, L. Kramer⁴, B.D. Levine², C.G. Petersen³, L. Petersen³, and M. B. Stenger⁵

¹ KBR, Houston, TX, ² University of Texas Southwestern, Dallas, TX, ³ University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA, ⁴ University of Texas Science Center Houston, Houston, TX, ⁵ NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston TX

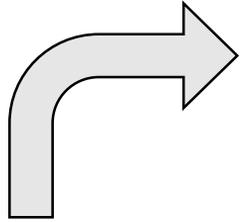
Human Research Program Investigators' Workshop

Galveston, TX

January 27-30, 2020

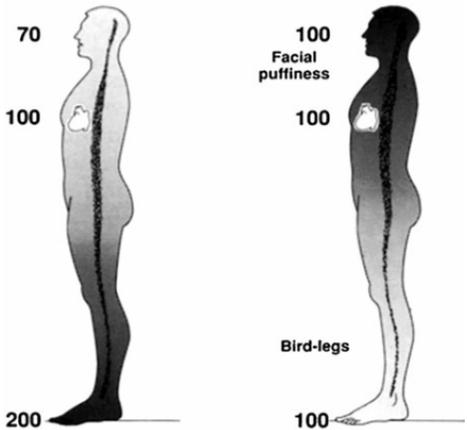


Headward Fluid Shift Hypothesis

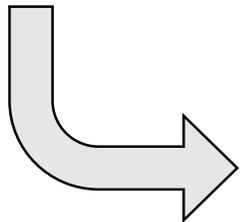


Elevated ICP

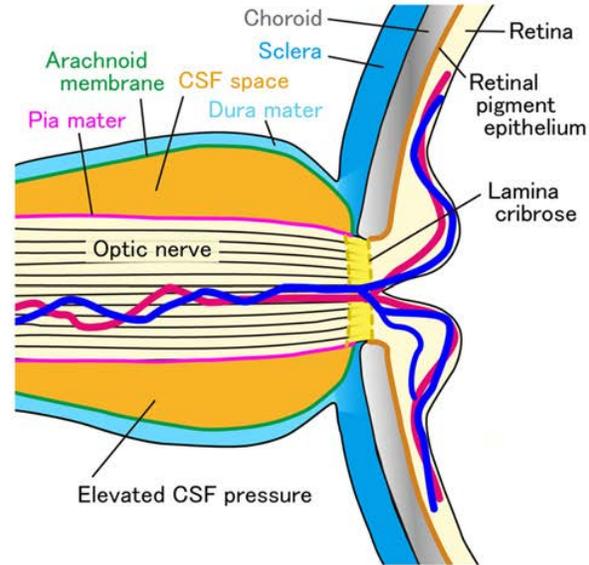
Earth Weightlessness



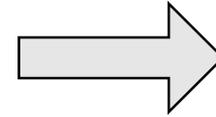
(Hargens, *Eur J Appl Physiol*, 2013)



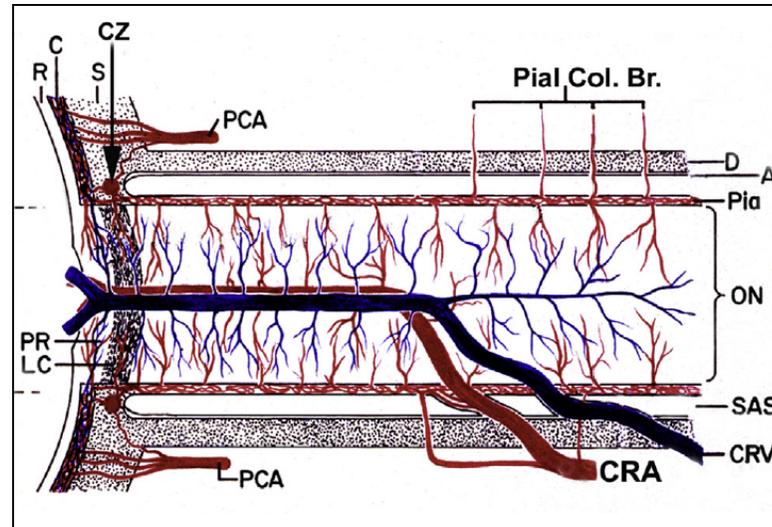
Vascular Effect



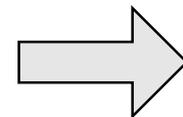
(Nakashima et al., 2013)



Axoplasmic stasis
Neuronal swelling



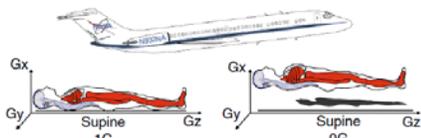
(Hayreh, 2016)



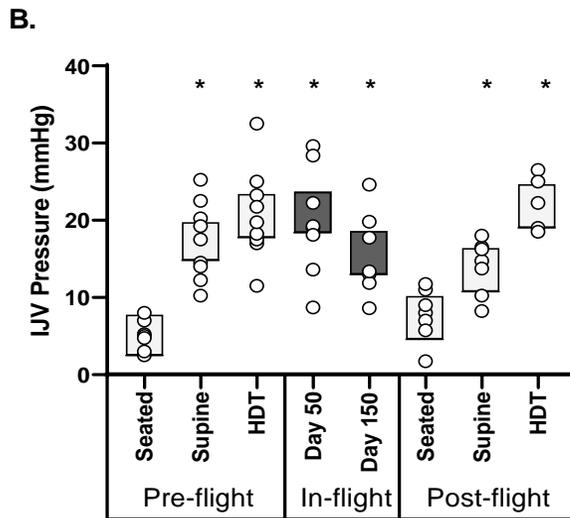
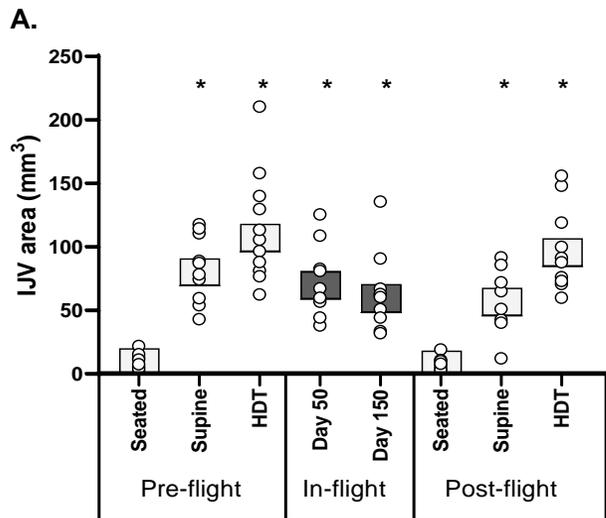
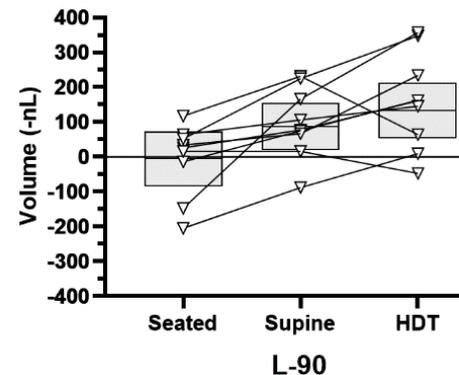
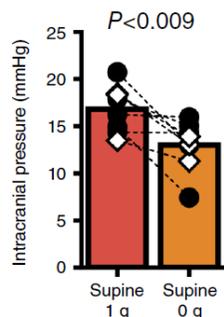
Increased capillary filtration
Accumulation of extravascular fluid



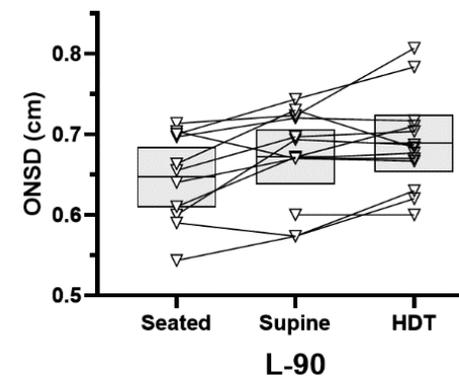
Intracranial Pressure During Weightlessness



(Lawley et al., 2017)



(Marshall-Goebel et al., 2019)



(Preliminary Data, Fluid Shifts Study)

ICP appears similar to, or less than, Supine posture on Earth; not pathologically elevated. Sustained over 24 hours without daily posture-induced lowering of ICP.

Countermeasures

- NASA & the SANS community are currently searching for the best countermeasure to reverse the headward fluid shift during spaceflight.
- Promising spaceflight-compatible techniques:
 - Lower Body Negative Pressure (LBNP)
 - Veno-constrictive thigh cuffs (VTC)
 - Impedance threshold device (ITD; resistance breathing mask)
- Novel combined countermeasure approach



+



+



VCCM Specific Aims

1. Determine if **individual countermeasures** are able to acutely reverse a seated-to-supine posture induced headward fluid shift
2. Determine if the use of **combined countermeasures** can acutely reverse a seated-to-supine posture induced headward fluid shift.



+



+





VCCM Study Overview



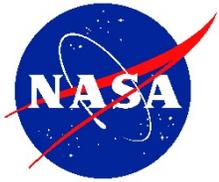
3-Part Study:

1. **CVL** (PI: Stenger): Study of individual and combined countermeasures
2. **UTSW** (PI: Levine): 3 day -6 degree HDT bedrest study with -20 mmHg LBNP (sleep sack) during sleep for 8 h

Lower body negative pressure during sleep safely attenuates choroid engorgement associated with simulated microgravity - 20520	Jan 28th, 2020	3:24 PM - 3:42 PM	Grand Ballroom B	SANS Research and Medical Updates
Can nightly prolonged lower body negative pressure preserve plasma volume during simulated microgravity? - 20361	Jan 27th, 2020	4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Exhibit Hall A	Poster Session A: Spaceflight Associated Neuro-ocular Syndrome

3. **UCSD/UTHSD-Houston** (PIs: Hargens/Kramer): MRI study of most effective combined countermeasure (TBD from **CVL** study)

Venous congestion countermeasure study	Jan 27th, 2020	4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Exhibit Hall A	Poster Session A: Spaceflight Associated Neuro-ocular Syndrome
--	----------------	-------------------	----------------	--

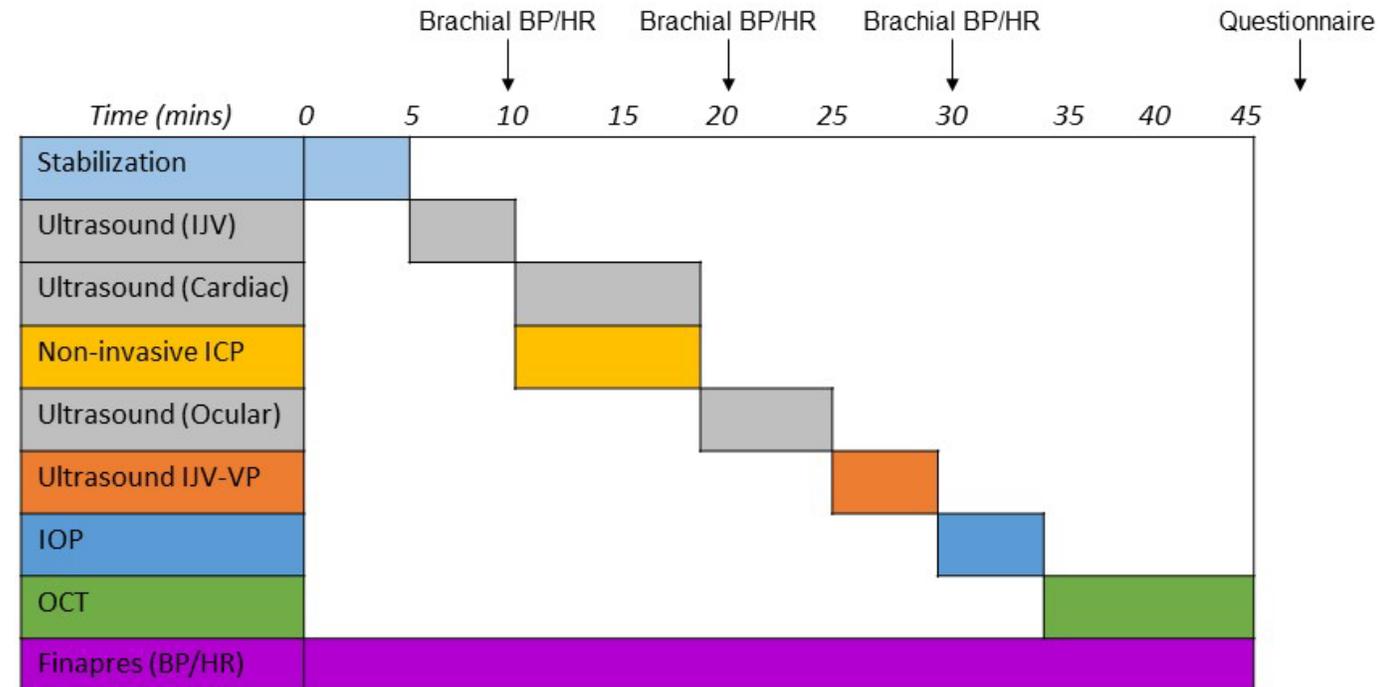


VCCM Study Overview

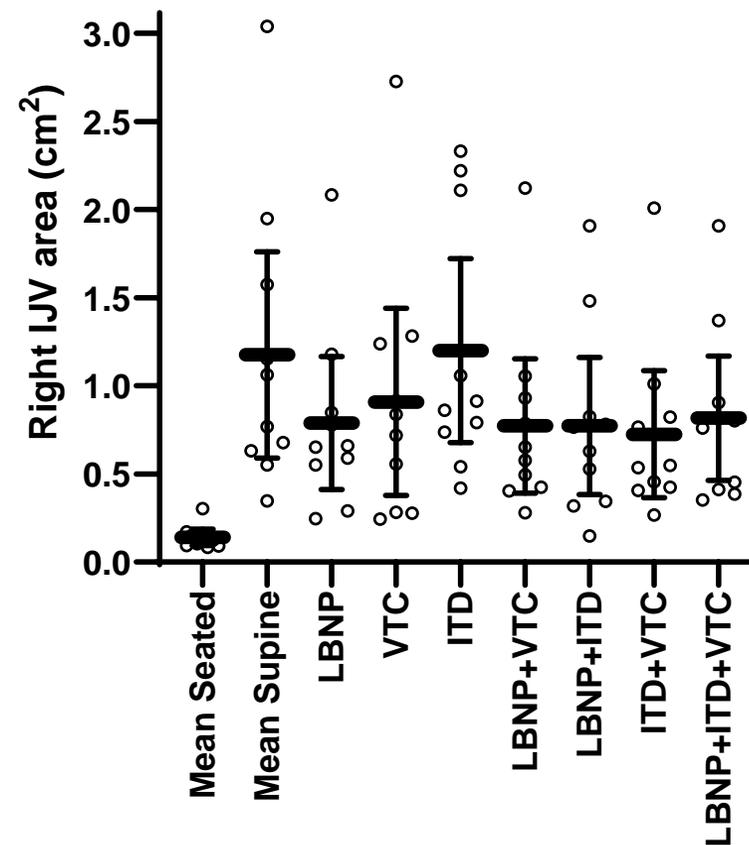
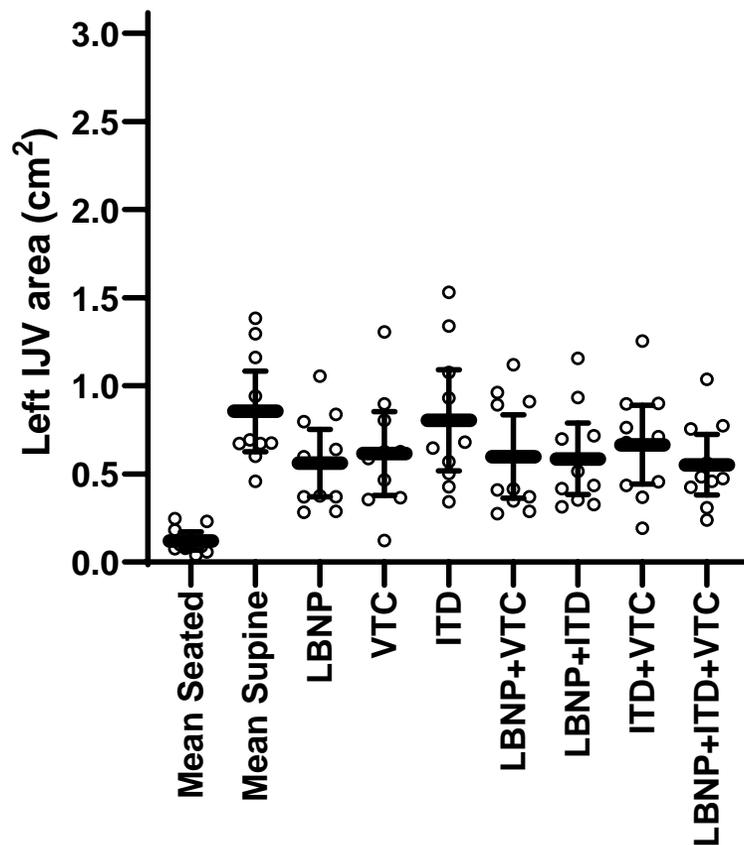
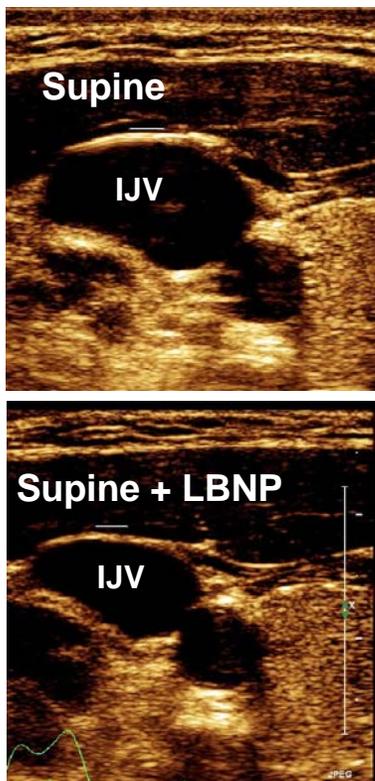
CVL Study:

- N = 10 subjects (M/F), ages 30-55
- Cross-over design study with 7 interventions over 3 test days

Day 1 (randomized order)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. LBNP2. VTC3. ITD
Days 2 & 3 (randomized order)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. LBNP + VTC5. LBNP + ITD6. ITD + VTC7. LBNP + VTC + ITD



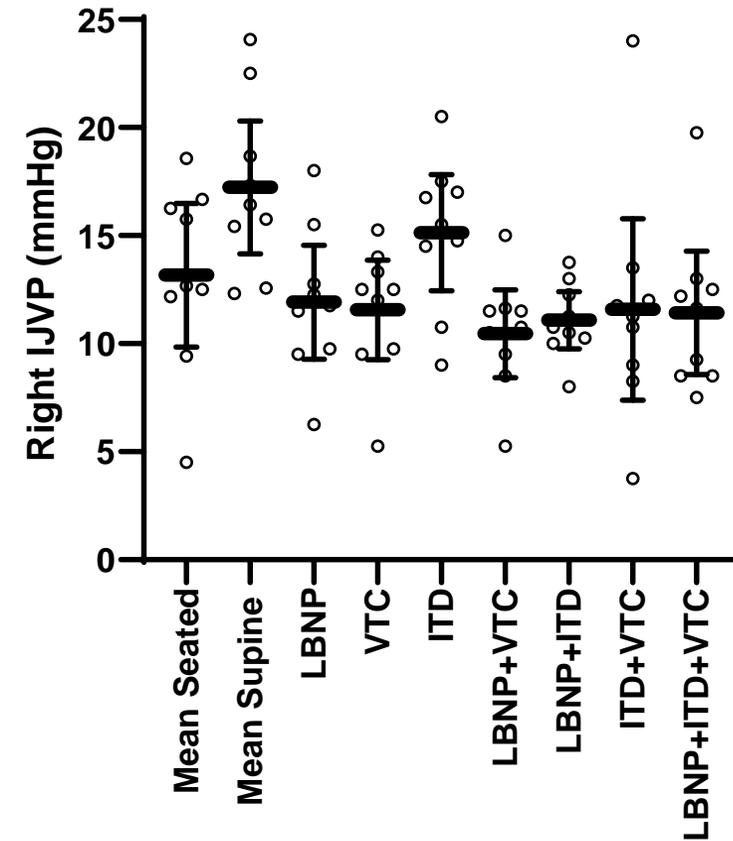
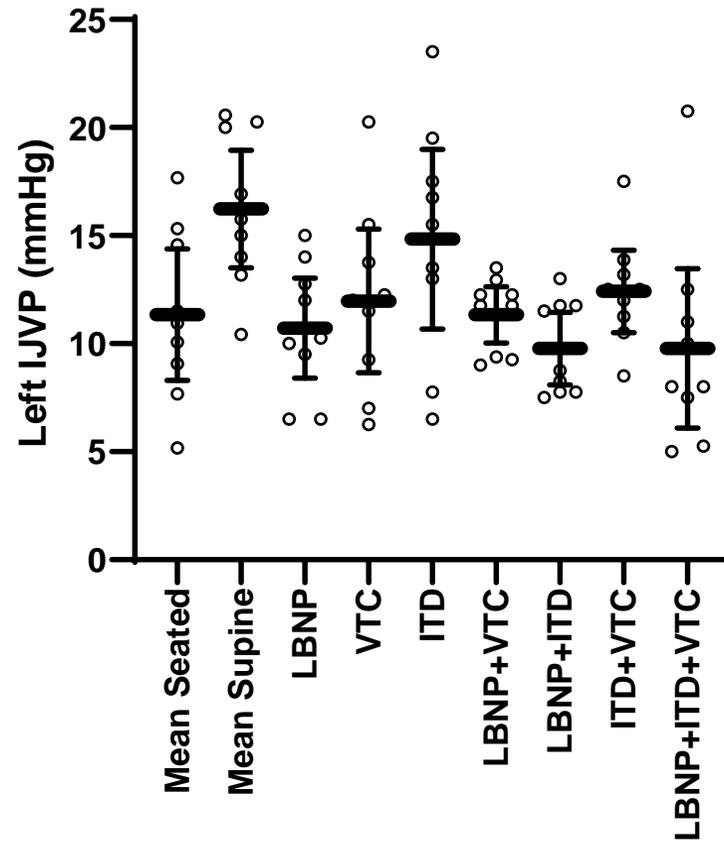
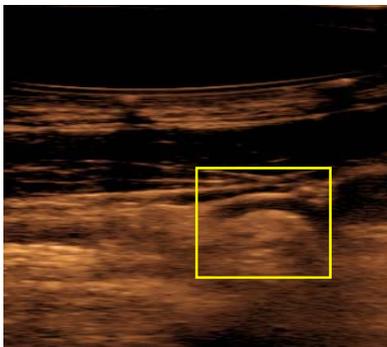
IJV Area at End-Expiration



- LBNP & VTC decrease IJV area by a similar magnitude
- ITD does not decrease IJV area
- Combined countermeasures do not provide additive effect over single countermeasure

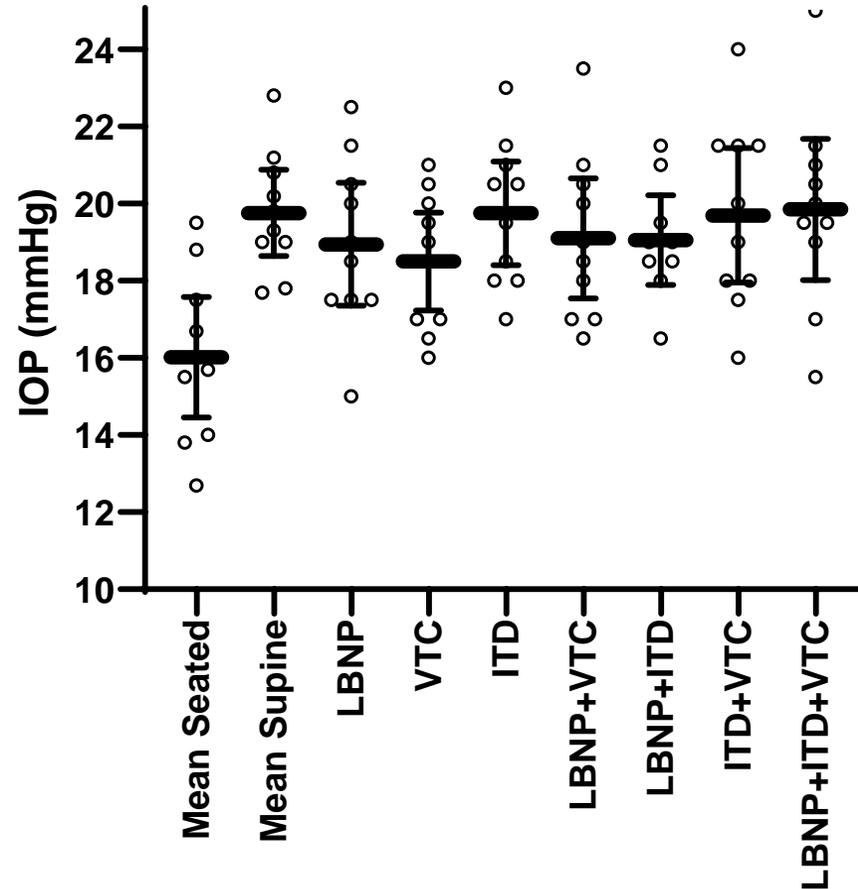
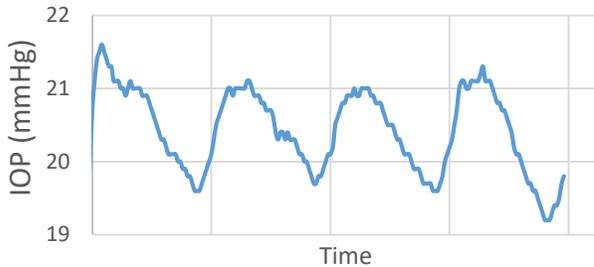
(bars are mean \pm 95% CI)

Non-invasive IJV Pressure



- LBNP & VTC decrease IJV pressure by a similar magnitude (bars are mean \pm 95% CI)
- ITD does not decrease IJV pressure
- Combined countermeasures do not provide additive effect over single countermeasure

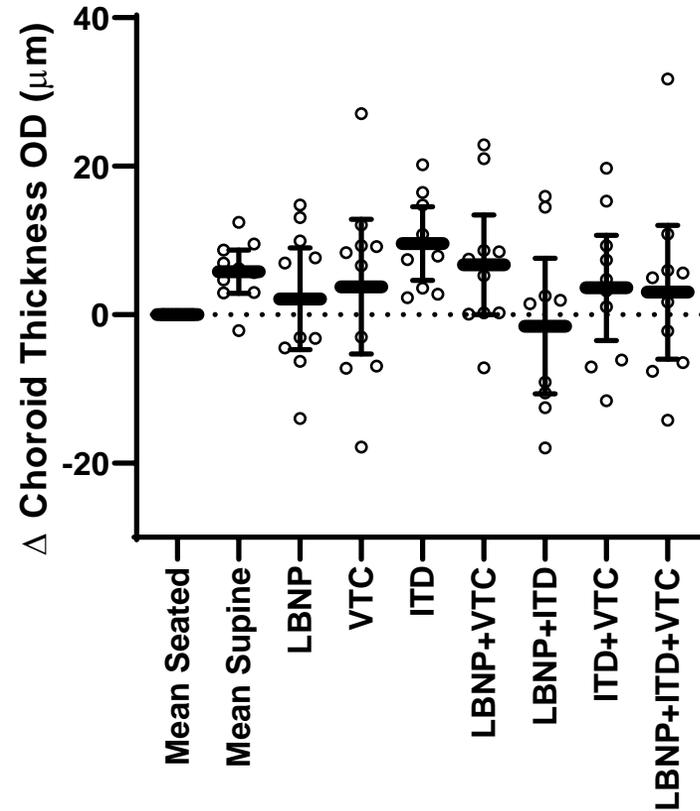
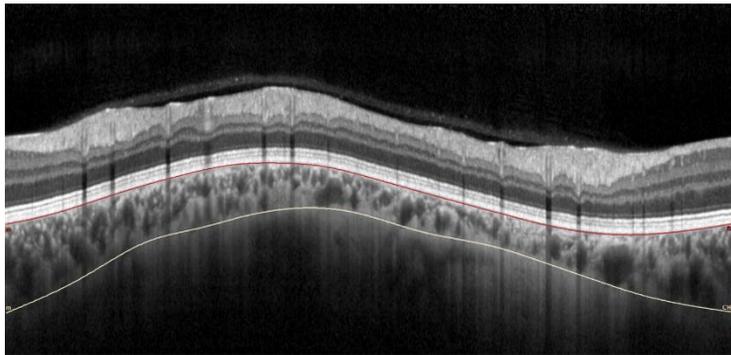
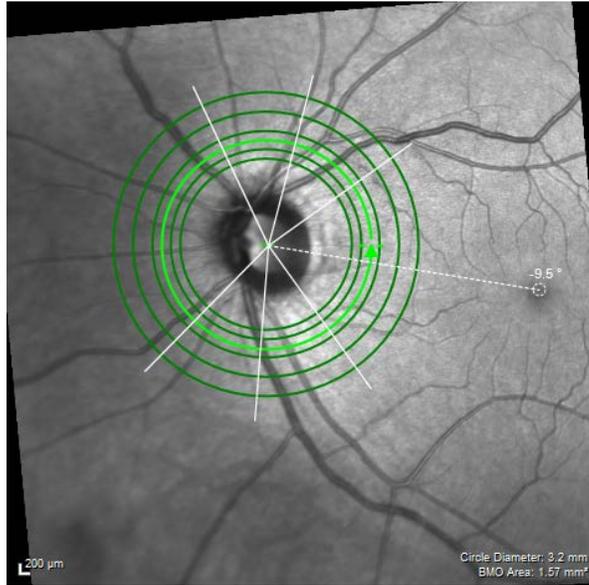
Intraocular Pressure



(bars are mean \pm 95% CI)

- LBNP & VTC decrease IOP by a similar magnitude
- ITD does not decrease IOP
- Combined countermeasures do not provide additive effect over single countermeasure

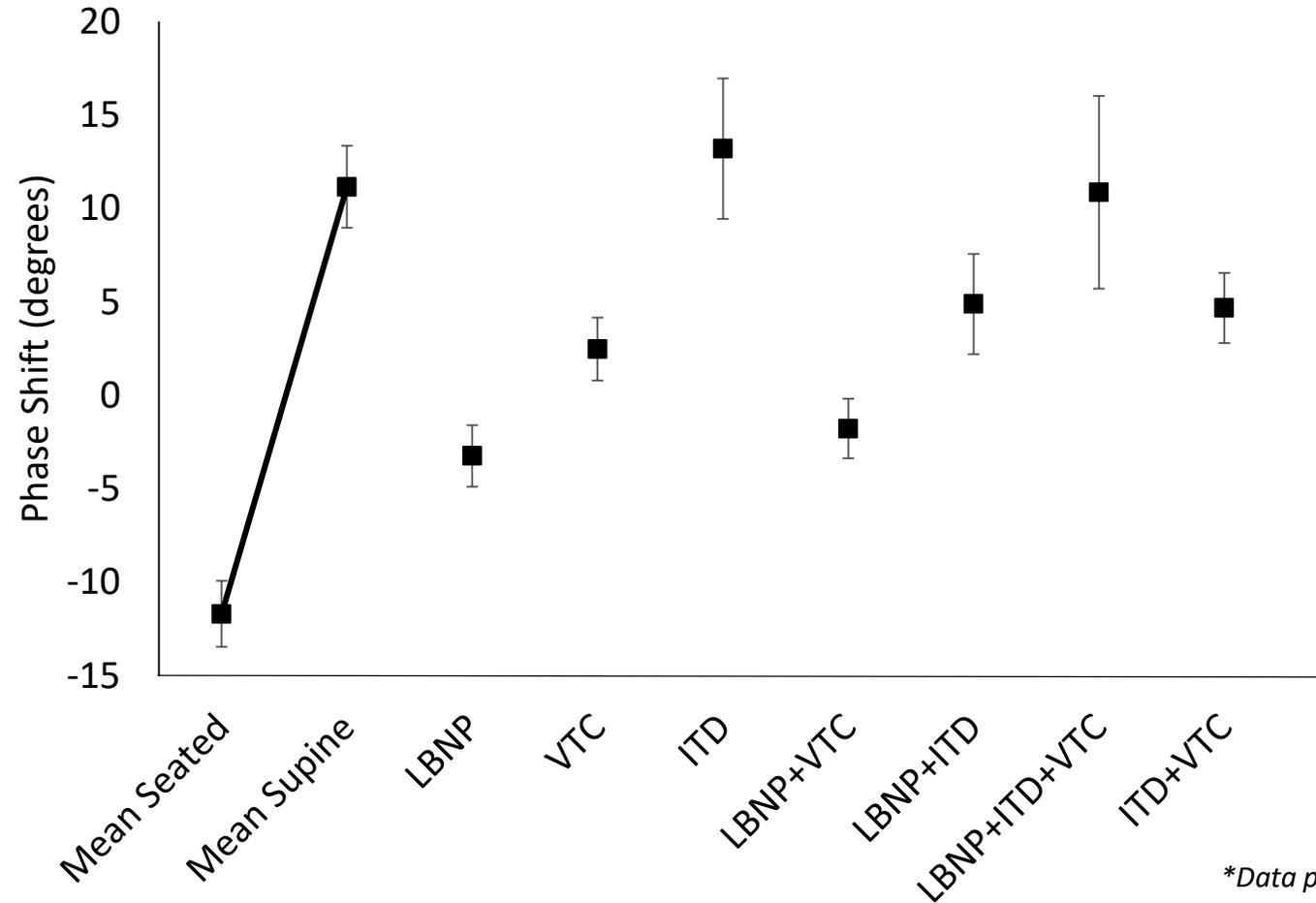
Choroid Thickness



(bars are mean ± 95% CI)

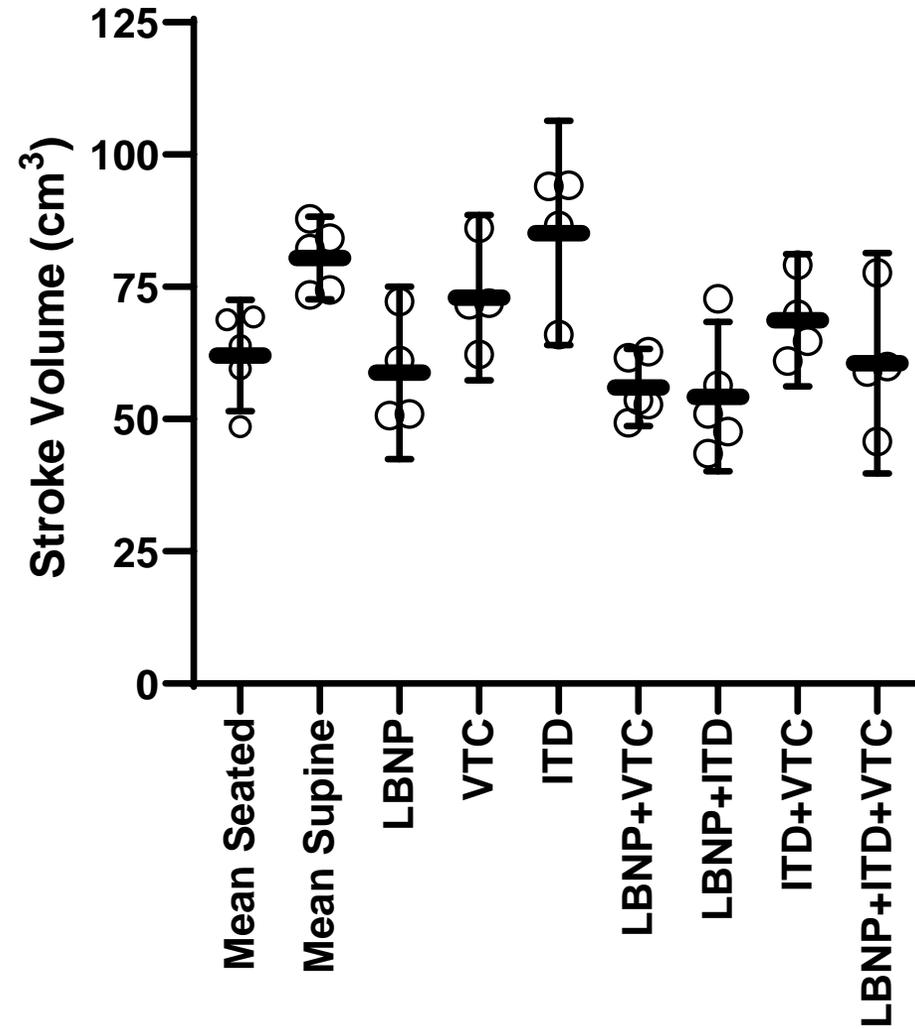


OAE



**Data presented as mean ± SE*

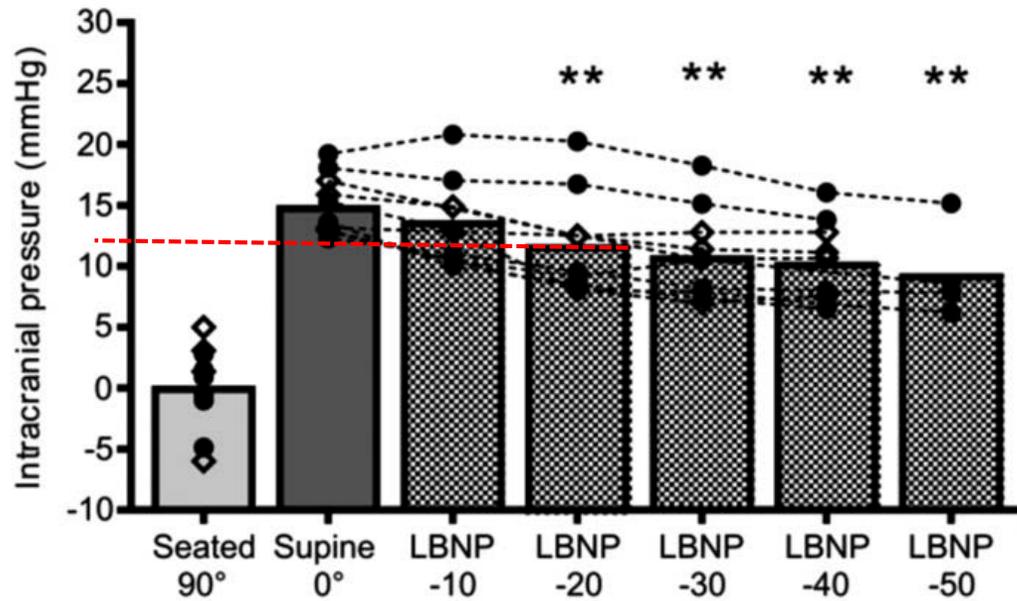
Stroke Volume



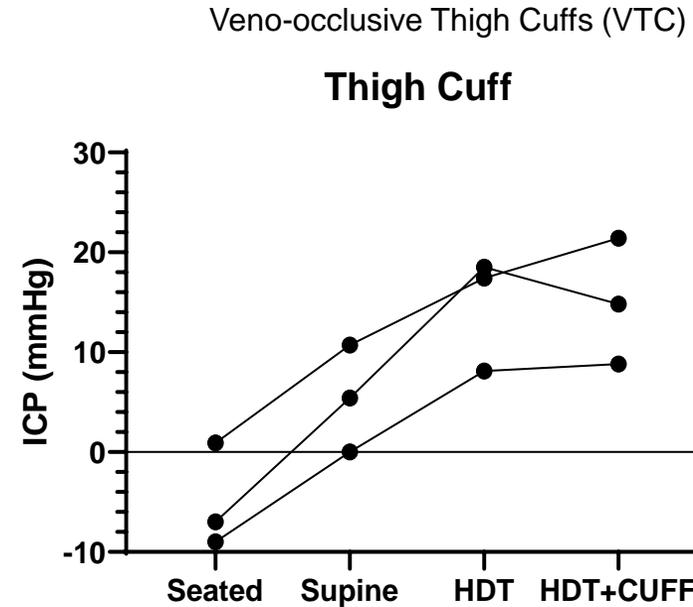
(bars are mean ± 95% CI)

*n=5

Changes in ICP with Countermeasures

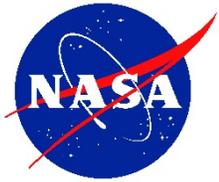


(Petersen, et al. *J Physiol*, 2019)



(Unpublished data courtesy of Brandon Macias)

- LBNP lowers ICP in the supine posture
- Veno-occlusive thigh cuffs do not decrease ICP in HDT position

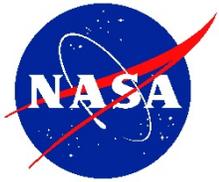


Discussion

- LBNP and VTC appear to be the most effective countermeasures to attenuate the venous fluid shift associated with supine posture
- Combined countermeasure approach does not significantly enhance countermeasure effect compared to LBNP alone.
- Duration of headward fluid shift countermeasure needed is unknown
- Future work:
 - UT/UCSD VCCM MRI study (PI: Hargens; ~Feb 2020)
 - UTSW VCCM LBNP during sleep study (PI: Levine; ongoing)
 - 30-day :envihab strict HDT bedrest SANS countermeasure study



Acknowledgements



NASA JSC - CVL

Elisa Allen
Rebecca Cox
Connor Ferguson
Sondra Freeman-Perez
Scott Greenwald
Steven Laurie
Stuart Lee
Brandon Macias
Karina Marshall-Goebel
David Martin
Annelise Miller
Chris Miller
Matthew Poczatek
Chris Ribeiro
Monica Randall
Michael Stenger
Michael Willig

KBR

Douglas Ebert

University College London

David Kemp

Univ. of Houston

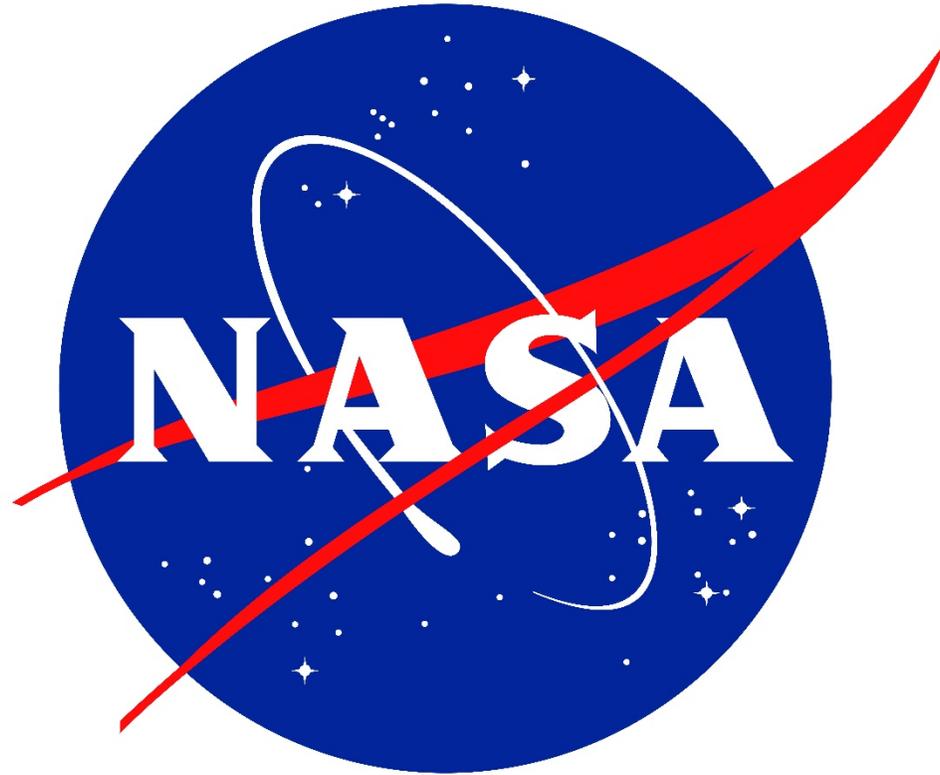
Nimesh Patel

Baylor College of Medicine

Richard Danielson



NASA JSC
Cardiovascular & Vision Laboratory



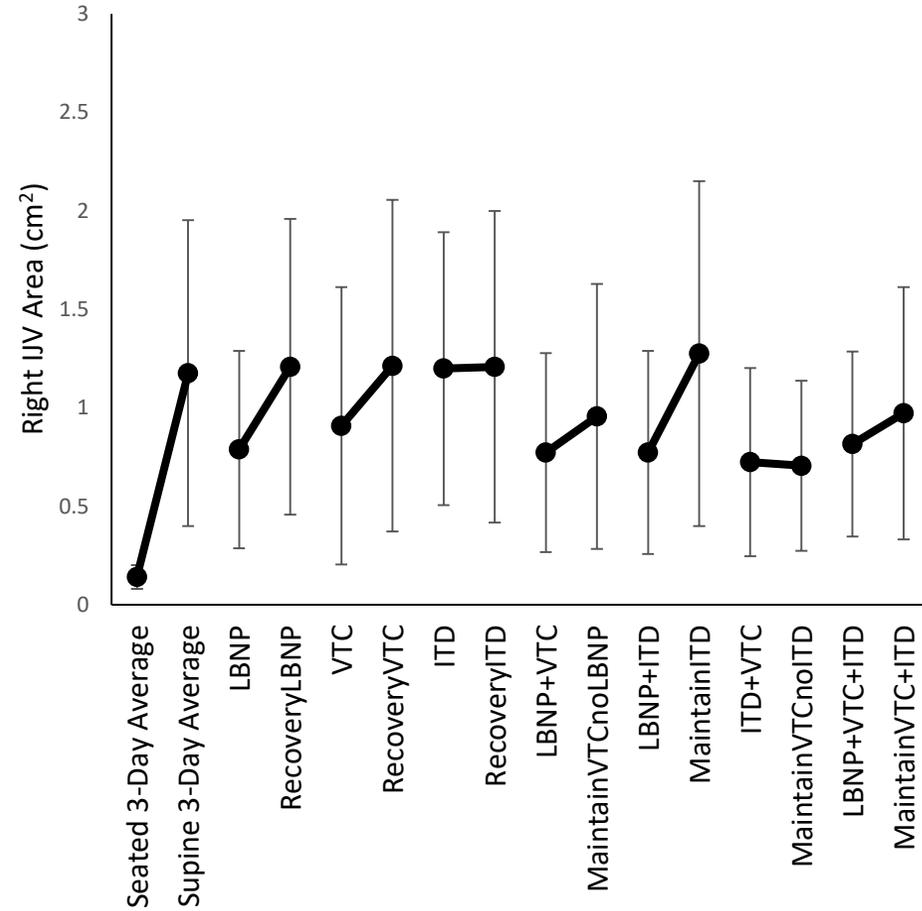
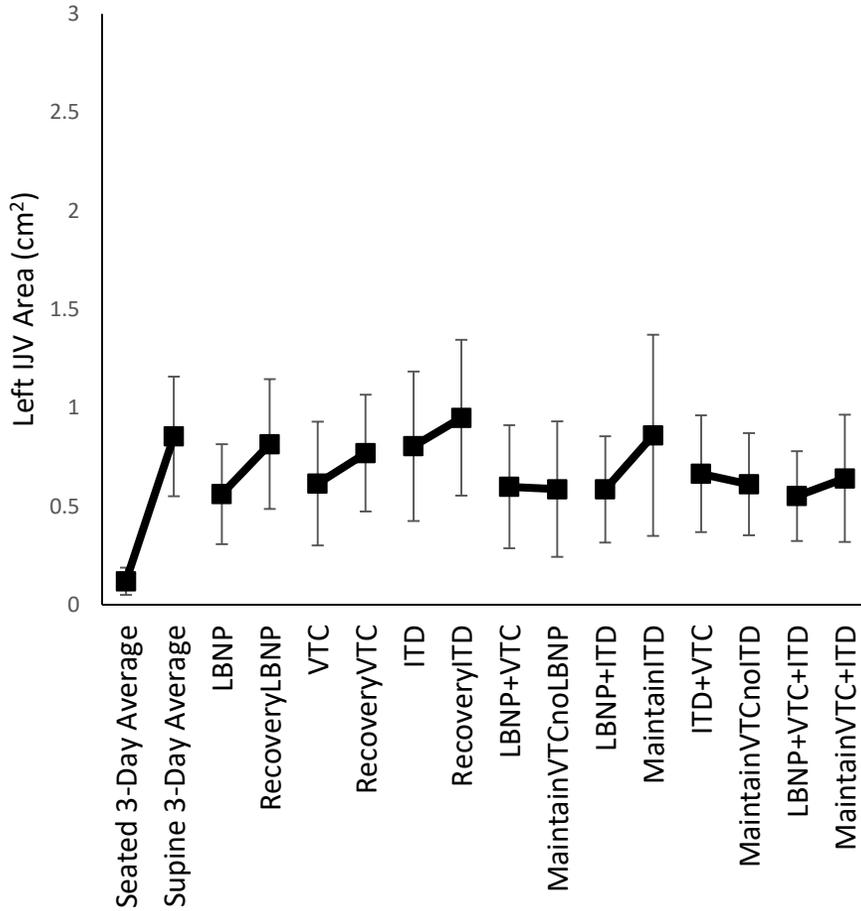


Backup Slides



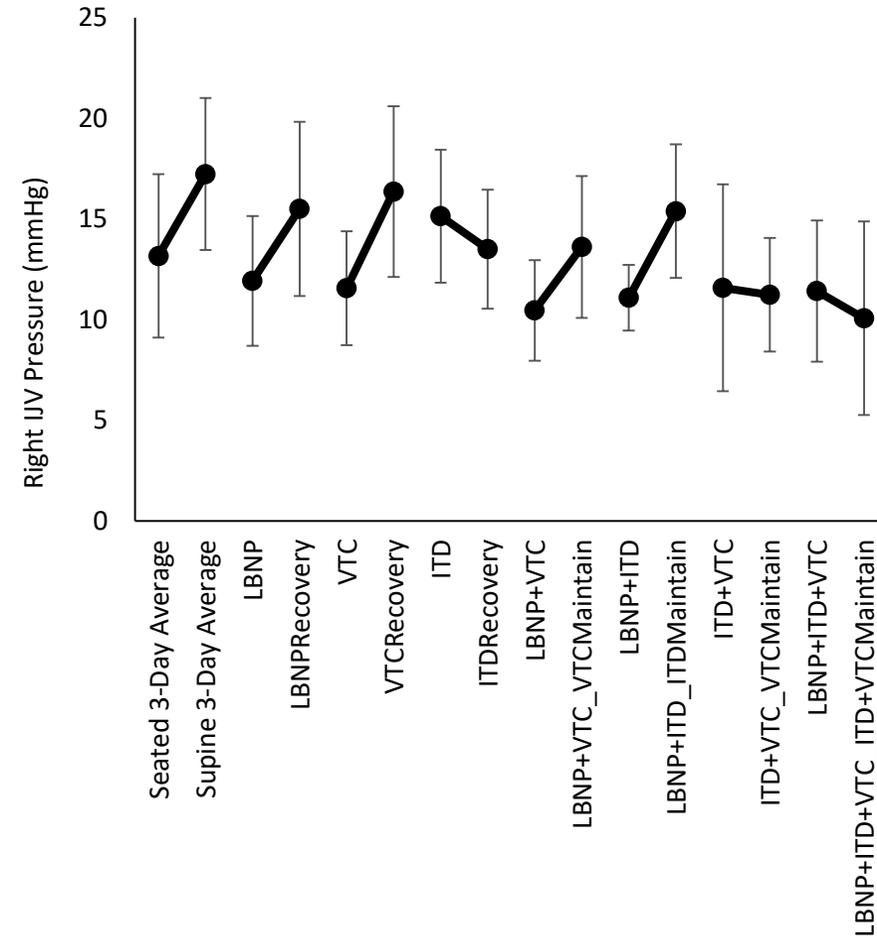
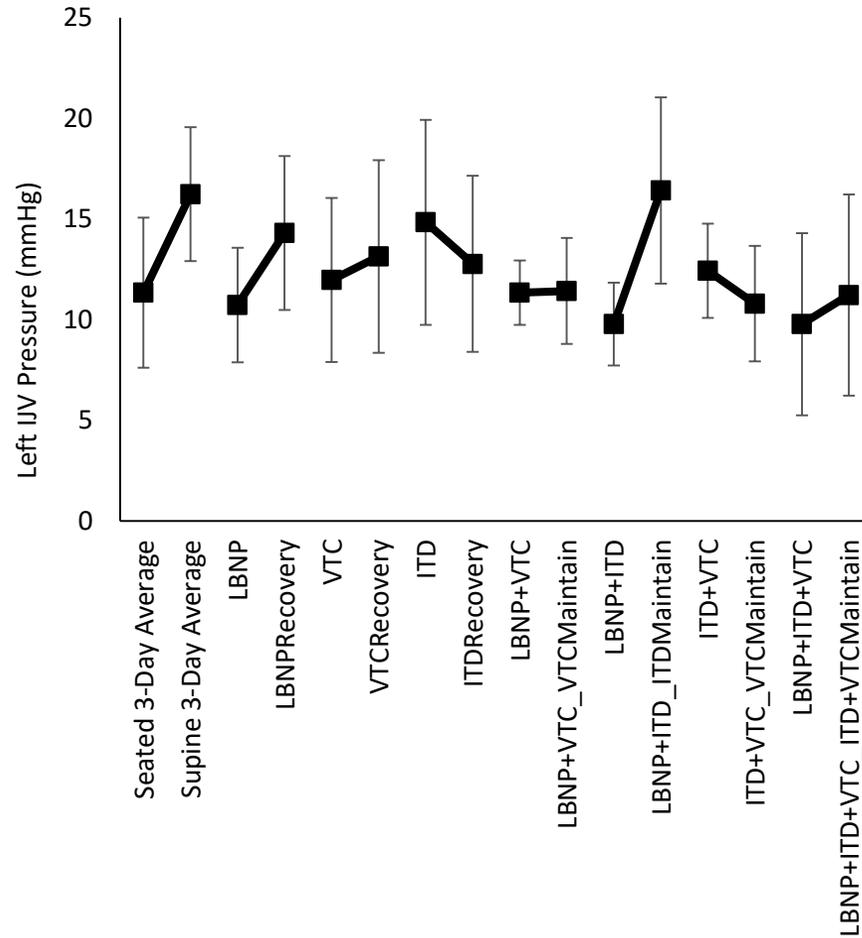


IJV Area with Maintained Countermeasures

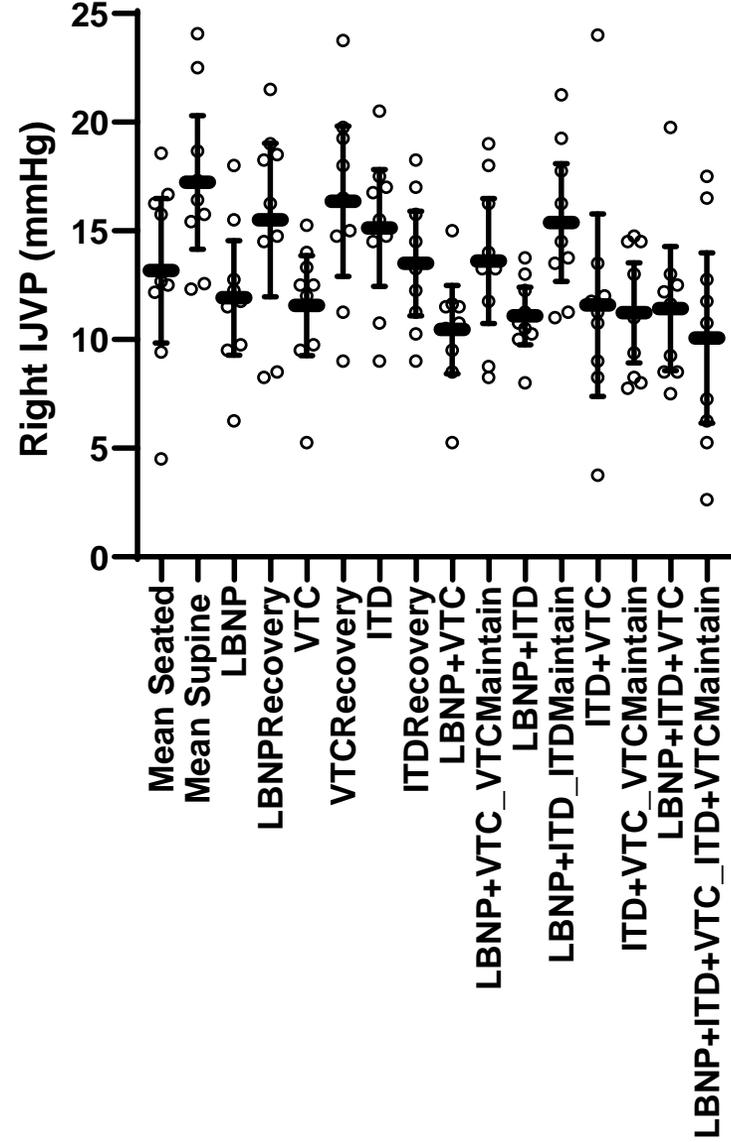
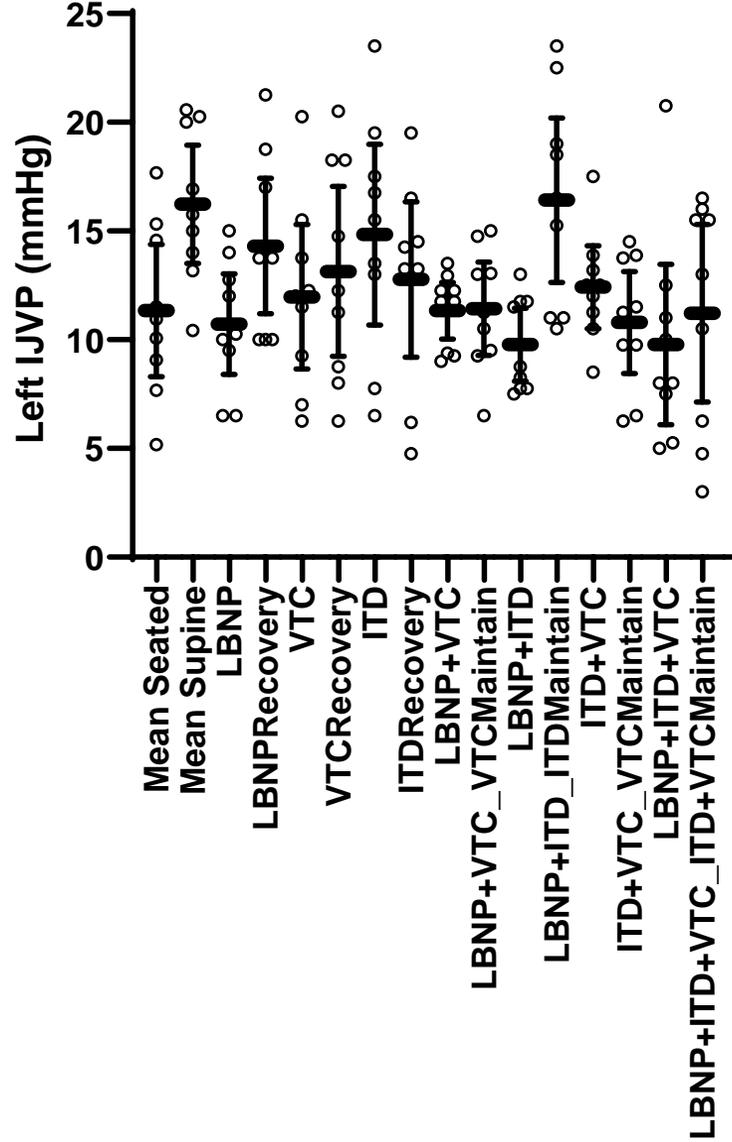




IJV Pressure with Maintained Countermeasures

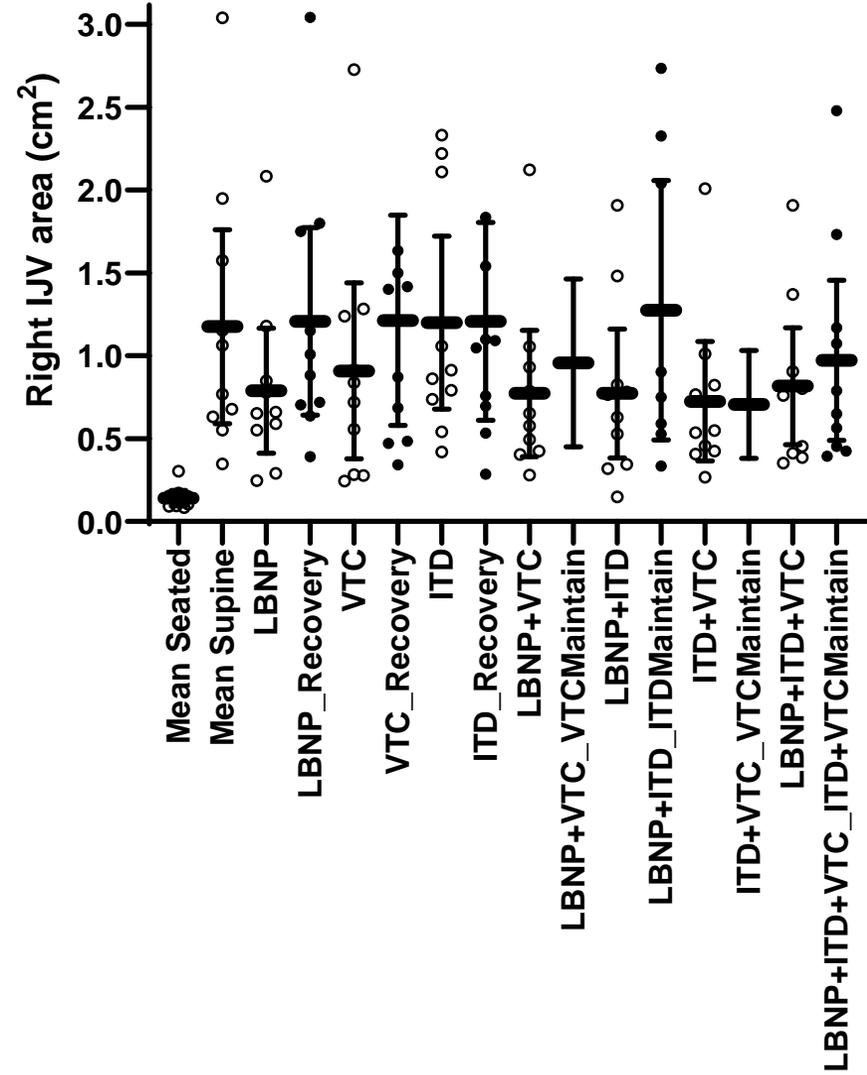
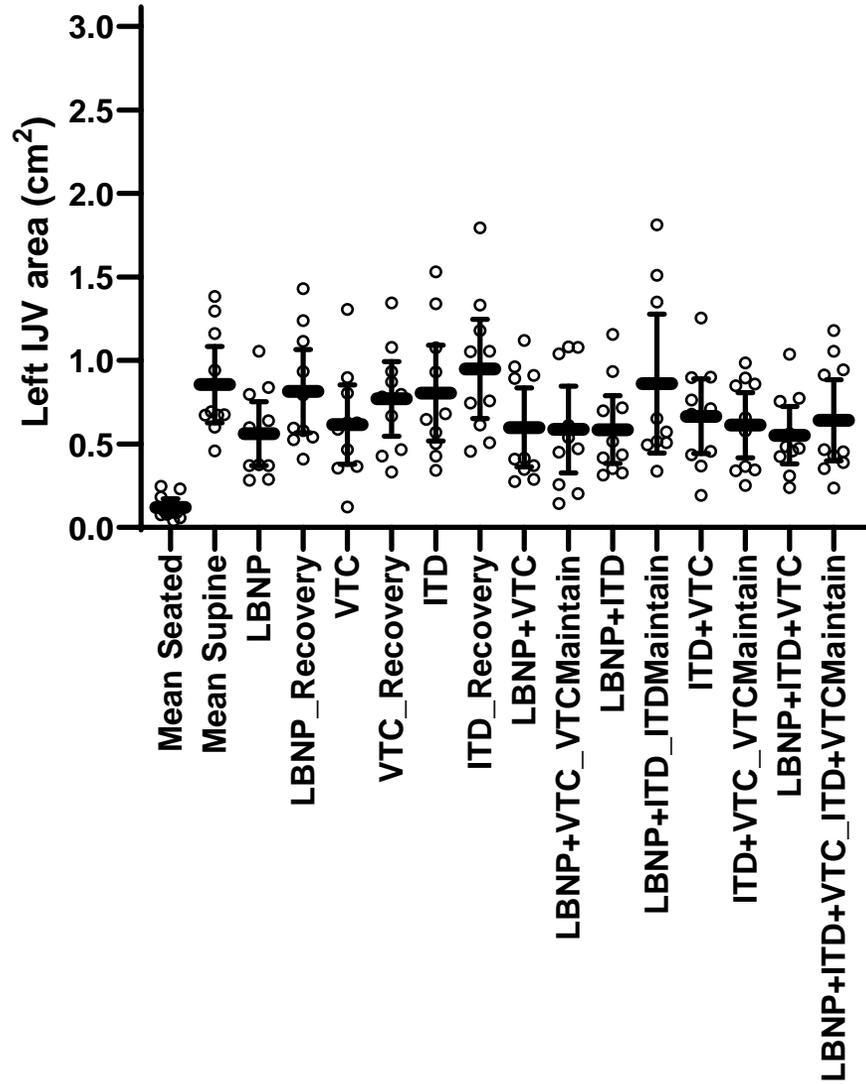


IJV Pressure with Maintained Countermeasures





IJV Area with Maintained Countermeasures



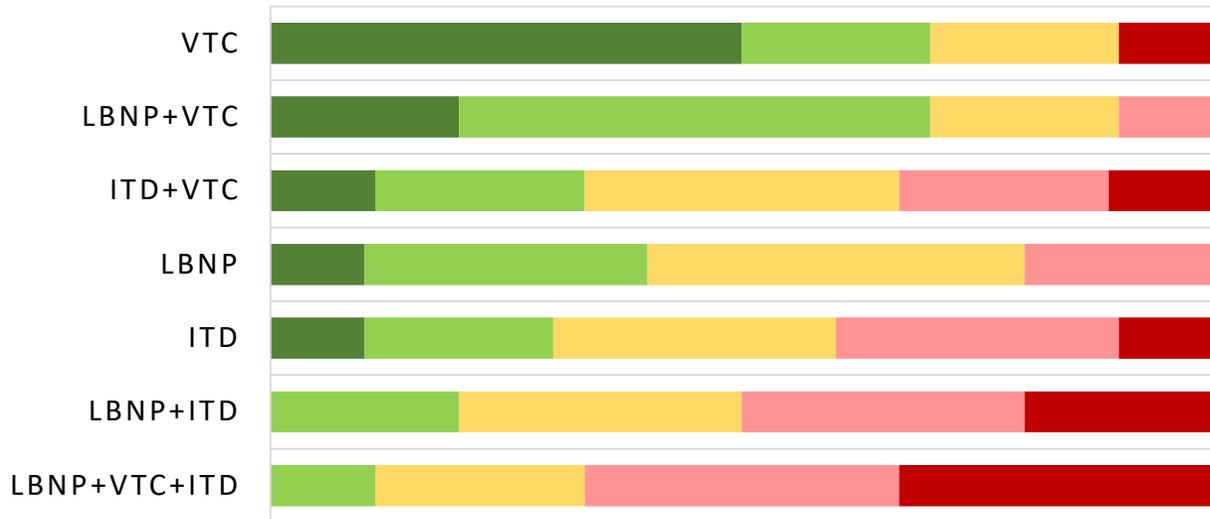


Results: Subject Questionnaire



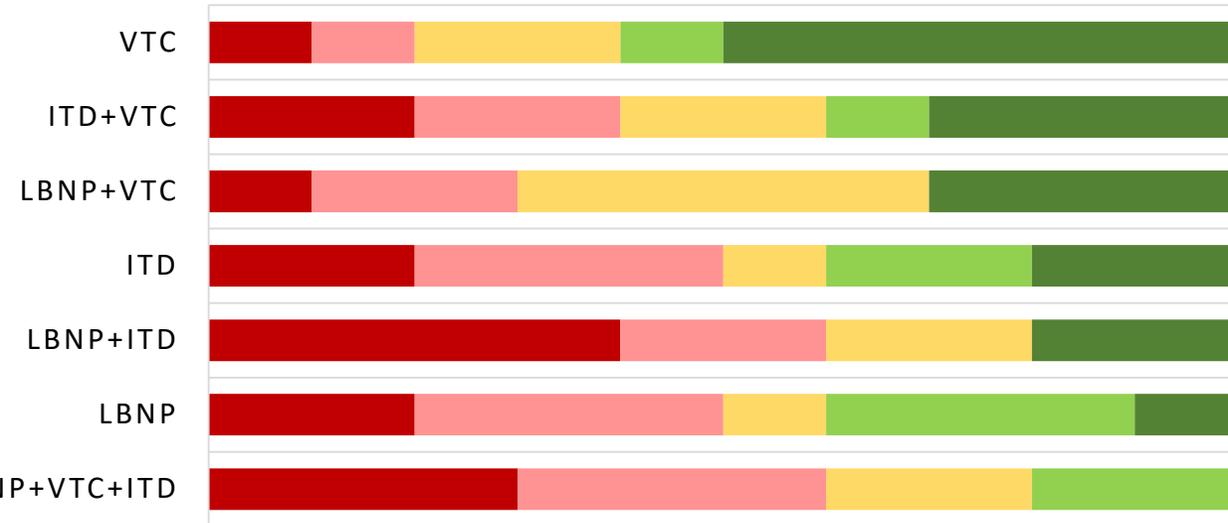
COUNTERMEASURE COMFORT

VERY COMFORTABLE 1 2 3 4 5 VERY UNCOMFORTABLE



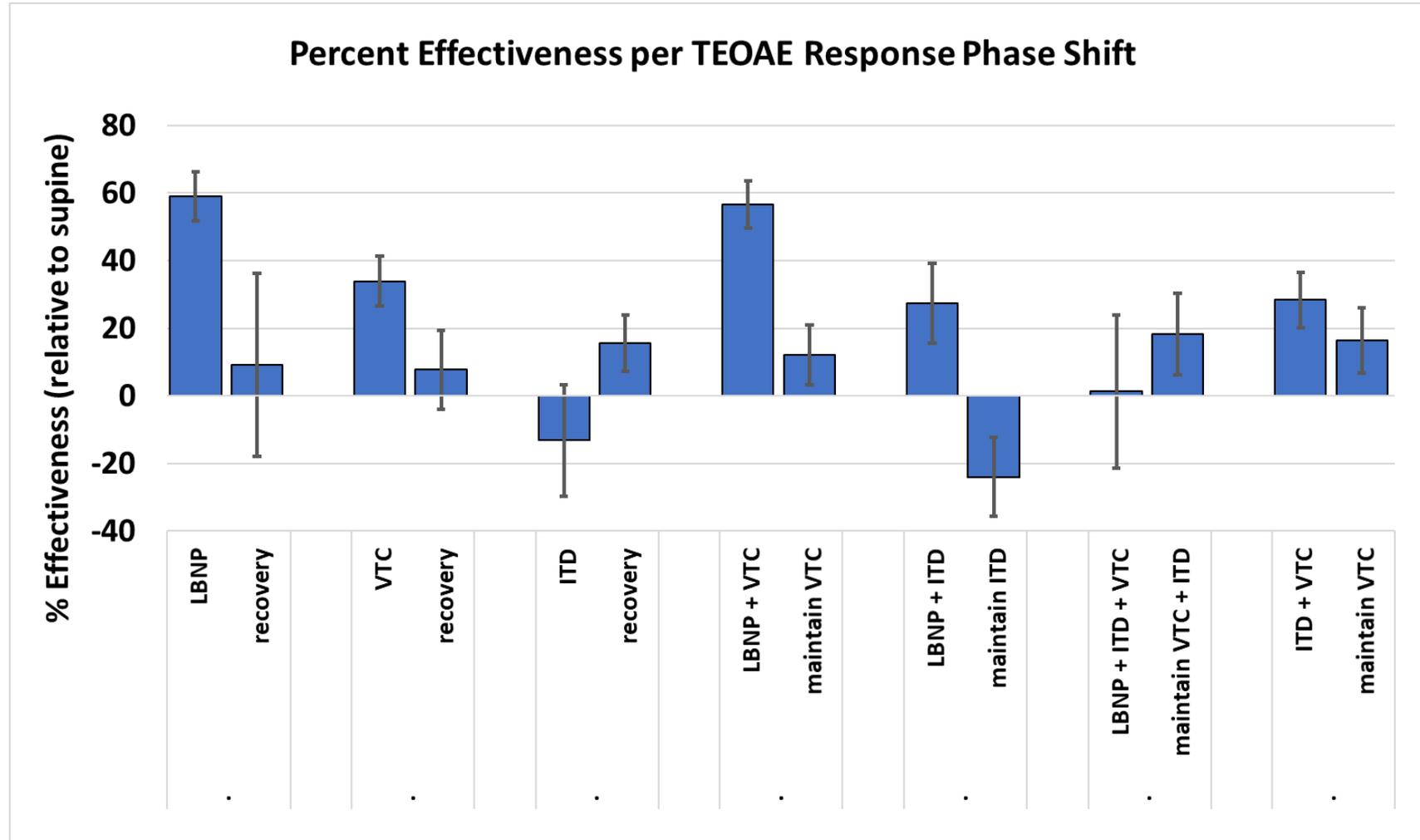
DURATION OF COMFORTABLE WEAR

< 30 min 30 min - 59 min 1 hr - 1 hr 59 min 2 hr - 2 hr 59 hrs 3+ hrs

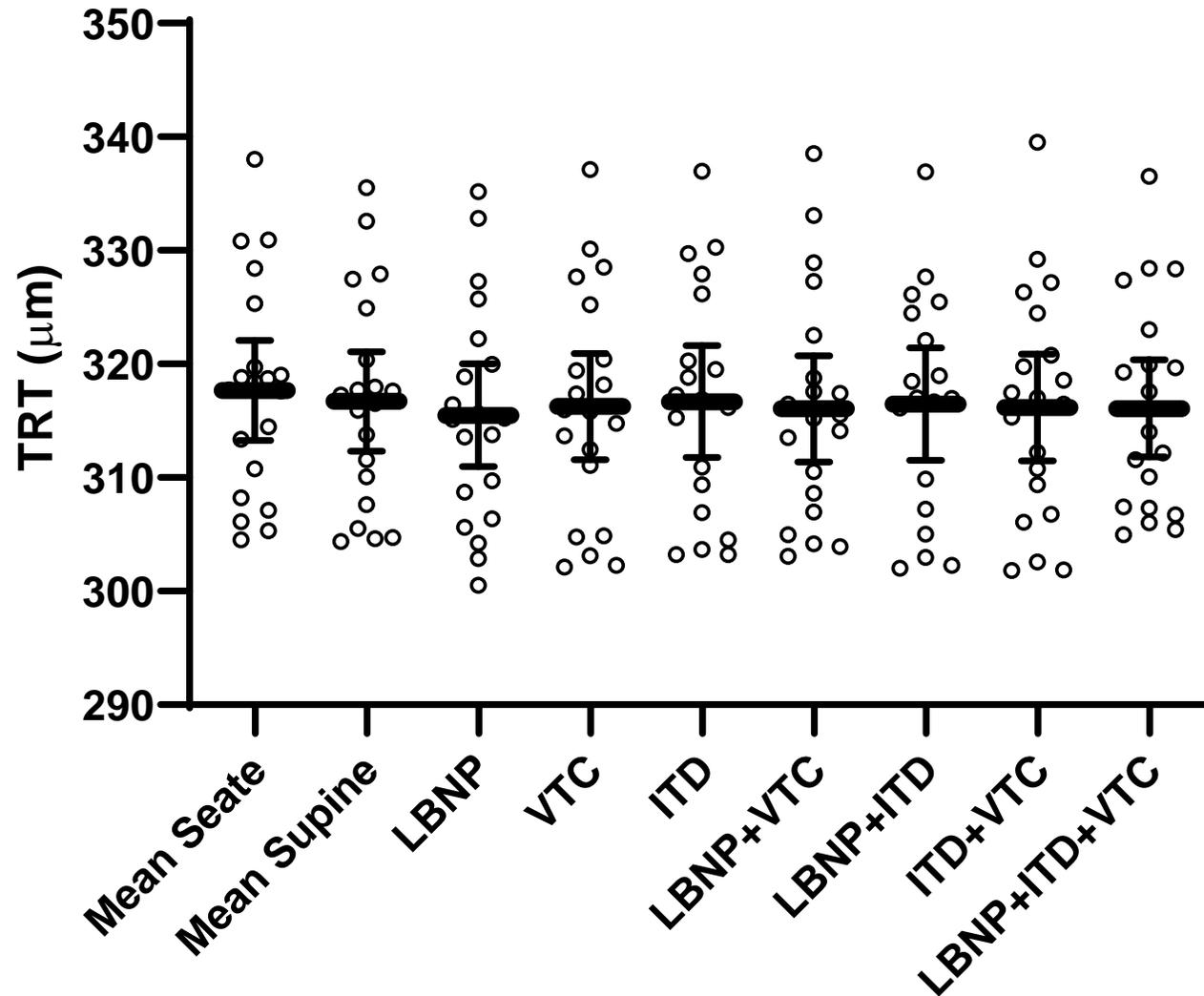


- Individual anatomical differences likely accounts for differences in comfort perception of countermeasures (VTC and LBNP)

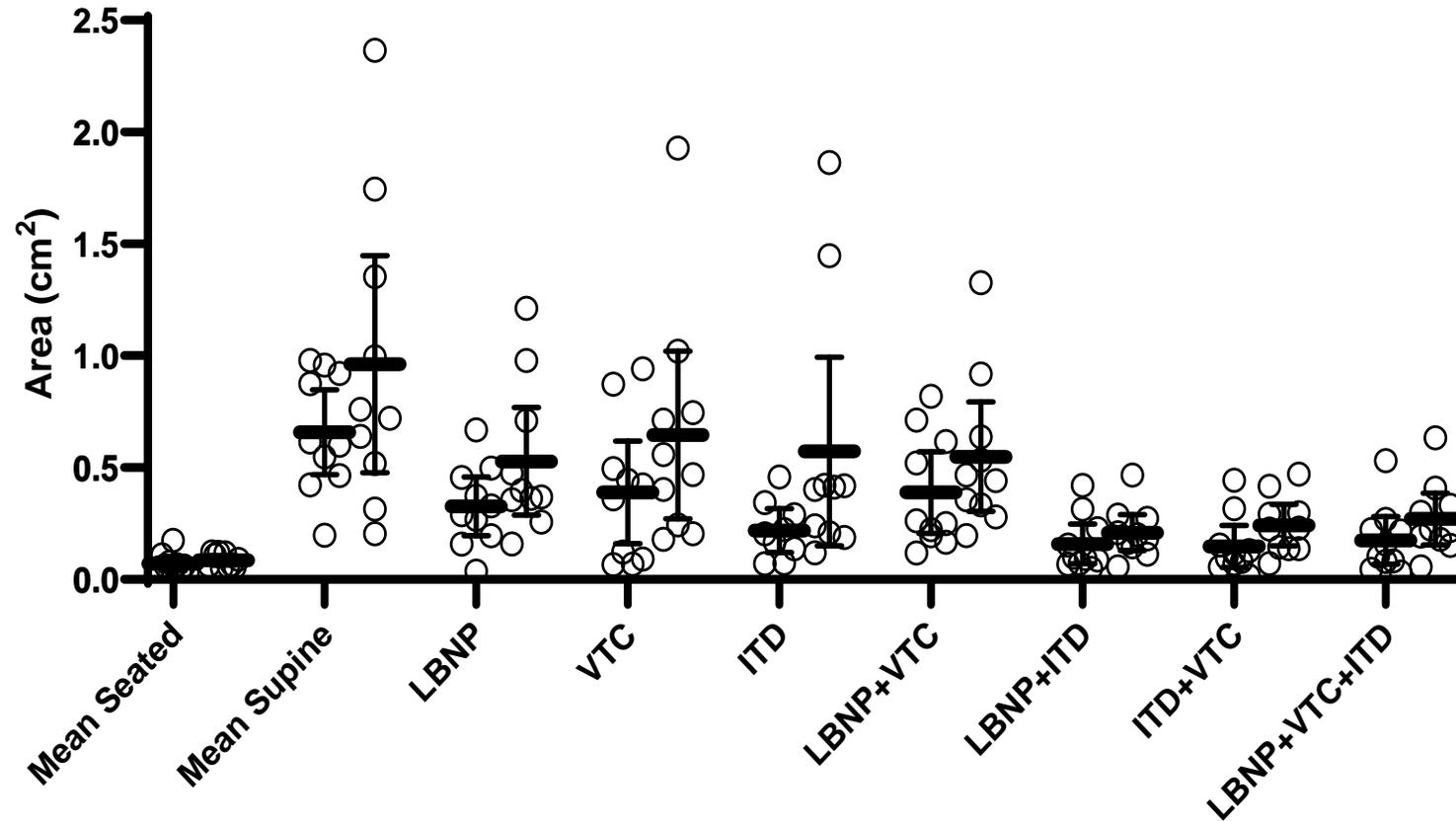
Results: OAE



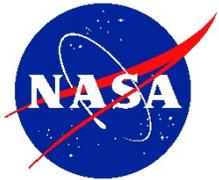
Total Retinal Thickness



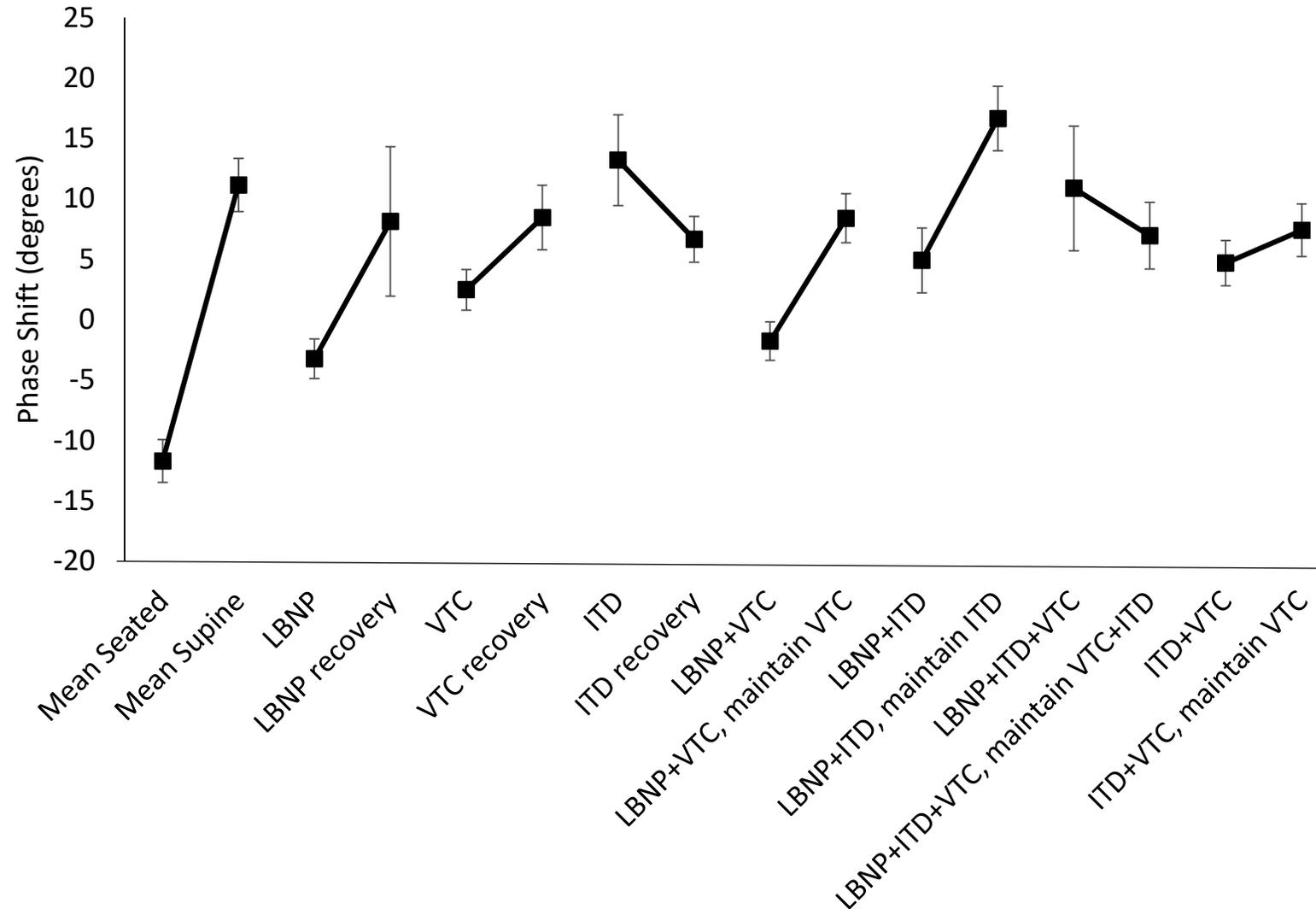
Results: IJV Area (End Inspiration)



Bilateral measurement (graph shows left and right IJV)



Results: OAE





Schedule for 1 Subject

