

Experimental study on specialized ventilation system of airborne infection isolation room

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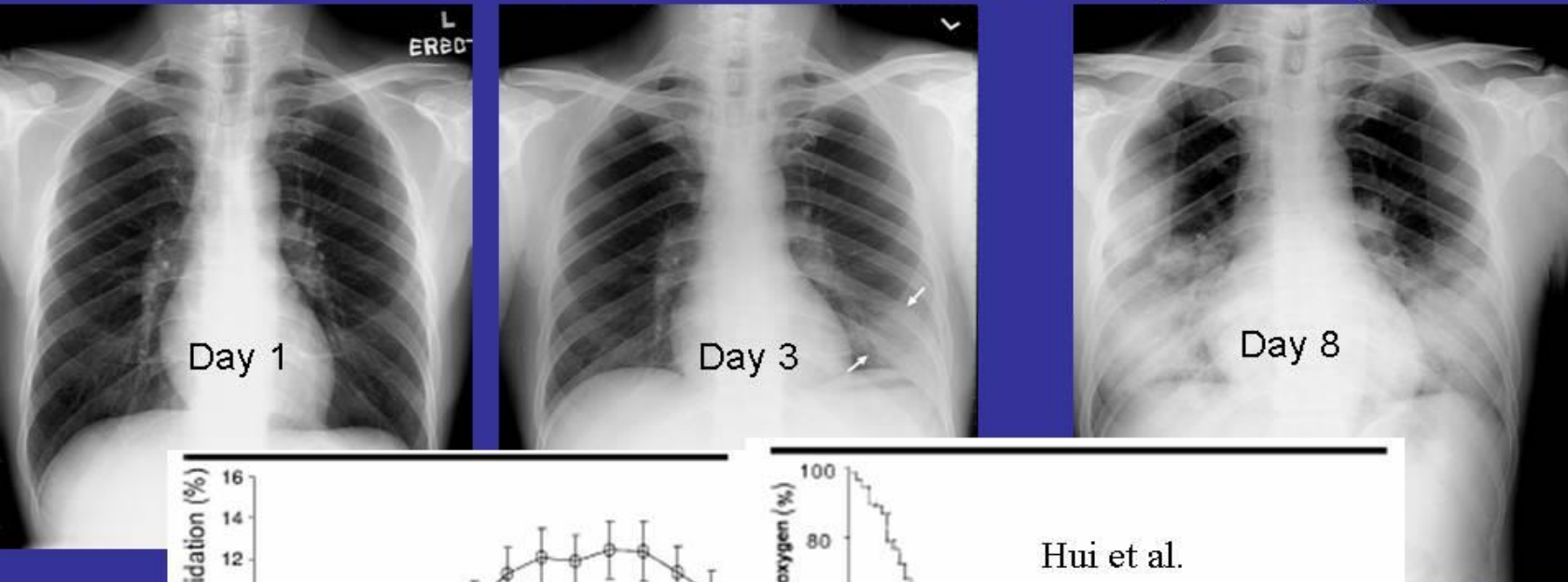
Photo taken with HPS at SARS Ward in 2003

Courtesy: Dr. Benny Chow

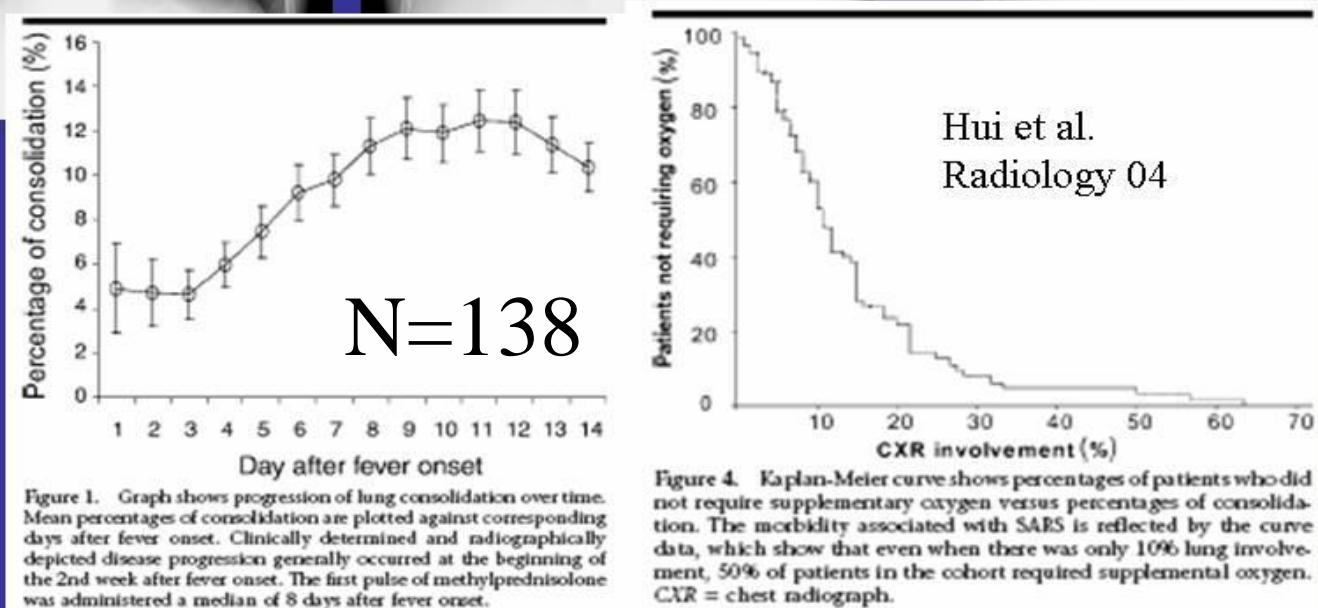


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Among **8,096** cases of SARS globally, **1,706 (~21%)** were HCWs. SARS patients ill & yet highly infectious esp in 2nd week of illness.



358 Pitzer et al. *Am J Epidemiol* 2007;166:355-363

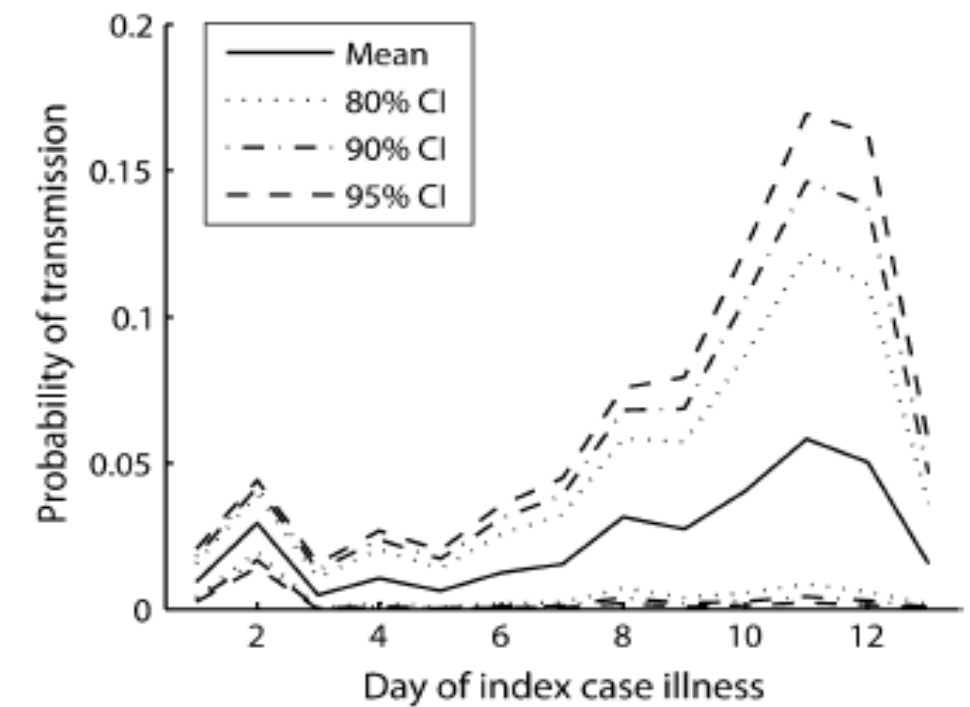
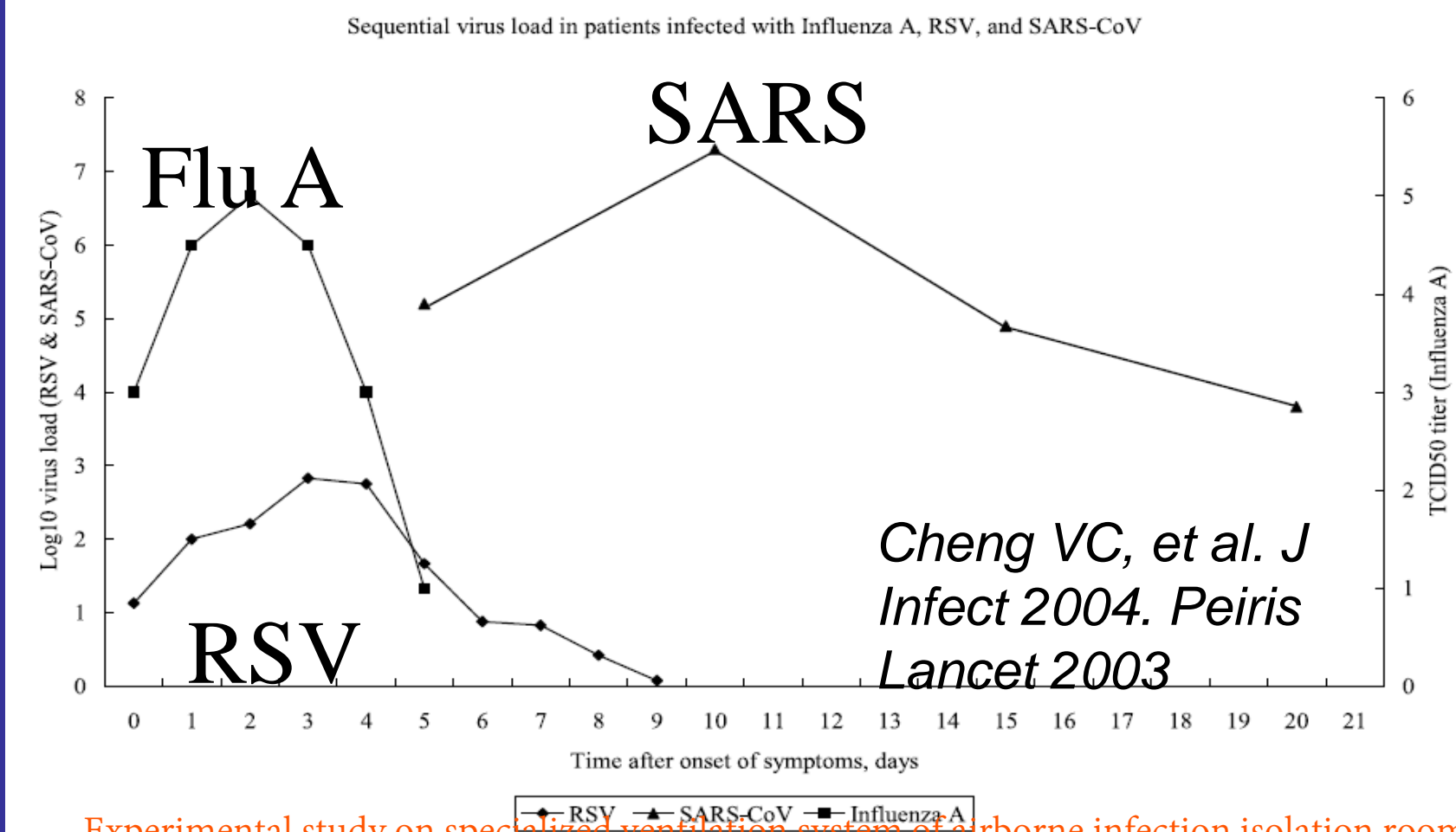


FIGURE 1. Probability of transmission of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) according to day of index case illness during the 2003 SARS epidemic in Hong Kong, China. The solid line represents the estimated mean transmission probability, while the dotted, dash-dotted, and dashed lines represent the 80%, 90%, and 95% credible intervals (CIs), respectively.

NPPV – Independent Risk Factor for Nosocomial Outbreak

Why Did Outbreaks of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Occur in Some Hospital Wards but Not in Others?

Ignatius T. Yu,^{1,2} Zhan Hong Xie,⁴ Kelvin K. Tsoi,¹ Yuk Lan Chiu,¹ Siu Wai Lok,¹ Xiao Ping Tang,⁵ David S. Hui,³ Nelson Lee,³ Yi Min Li,⁴ Zhi Tong Huang,⁶ Tao Liu,⁷ Tze Wai Wong,² Nan Shan Zhong,⁴ and Joseph J. Sung^{1,3}

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Background. Most documented “superspreading events” of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) occurred in hospitals, but the underlying causes remain unclear. We systematically analyzed the risk factors for nosocomial outbreaks of SARS among hospital wards in Guangzhou and Hong Kong, China.

Methods. A case-control study was conducted. Case wards were hospital wards in which superspreading events of SARS occurred, and control wards were wards in which patients with SARS were admitted, but no subsequent nosocomial outbreaks occurred. Information on environmental and administrative factors was obtained through visits to the wards and interviews with ward managers or nursing officers. Relevant information about host factors was abstracted from the medical records. Logistic regression analyses were used to identify the major risk factors for superspreading events.

Results. Eighty-six wards in 21 hospitals in Guangzhou and 38 wards in 5 hospitals in Hong Kong were included in the study. Six risk factors were significant in the final multiple-logistic regression model: minimum distance between beds of ≤ 1 m (odds ratio [OR], 6.94; 95% confidence interval [CI], 1.68–28.75), availability of washing or changing facilities for staff (OR, 0.12; 95% CI, 0.02–0.97), whether resuscitation was ever performed in the ward (OR, 3.81; 95% CI, 1.04–13.87), whether staff members worked while experiencing symptoms (OR, 10.55; 95% CI, 2.28–48.87), whether any host patients (index patient or the first patient with SARS admitted to a ward) required oxygen therapy (OR, 4.30; 95% CI, 1.00–18.43), and whether any host patients required bi-level positive airway pressure ventilation (OR, 11.82; 95% CI, 1.97–70.80).

Conclusions. Our results revealed that factors that were associated with the ward environment and administration were important in nosocomial outbreaks of SARS. The lessons learned from this study remain very important and highly relevant to the daily operation of hospital wards if we are to prevent nosocomial outbreaks of other respiratory infections in the future.

Yu, Ignatius T. Xie, Zhan Hong; Tsoi, Kelvin K. et al. (2007). “Why Did Outbreaks of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Occur in Some Hospital Wards but Not in Others?”, *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 44 (8), pp. 1017-1025.

NPPV – Independent Risk Factor for Nosocomial Outbreak

Type of factor, factor	Guangzhou		Hong Kong		Overall	
	OR (95% CI)	P	OR (95% CI)	P	OR (95% CI)	P
Environmental or administrative factors						
Minimum distance between beds of ≤ 1 m	11.77 (1.54–90.13)	.02	10.28 (0.58–182.10)	.11	6.94 (1.68–28.75)	.008
Washing or changing facilities for staff	...	>.15	...	>.15	0.12 (0.02–0.97)	.05
Never used exhaust fan	4.16 (0.98–17.72)	.05	...	>.15	...	>.15
Performance of resuscitation	...	>.15	...	>.15	3.81 (1.04–13.87)	.04
Staff working while experiencing symptoms	11.18 (1.99–62.81)	.006	19.27 (1.12–332.48)	.04	10.55 (2.28–48.87)	.003
Host factors						
Requiring oxygen therapy	10.14 (1.70–60.37)	.01	...	>.15	4.30 (1.00–18.43)	.05
Use of BIPAP ventilation	6.67 (0.90–49.23)	.06	...	>.15	11.82 (1.97–70.80)	.007
Systemic symptoms	12.71 (0.70–232.03)	.09	...	>.15	...	>.15

Figure: The summary of the major risk factors associated with the nosocomial outbreak in medical ward environments (Yu 2007).



Source: Yu, Ignatius T. Xie, Zhan Hong; Tsoi, Kelvin K. et al. (2007). "Why Did Outbreaks of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Occur in Some Hospital Wards but Not in Others?", Clinical Infectious Diseases. 44 (8), pp. 1017-1025.

Nosocomial Infection (hospital-acquired)

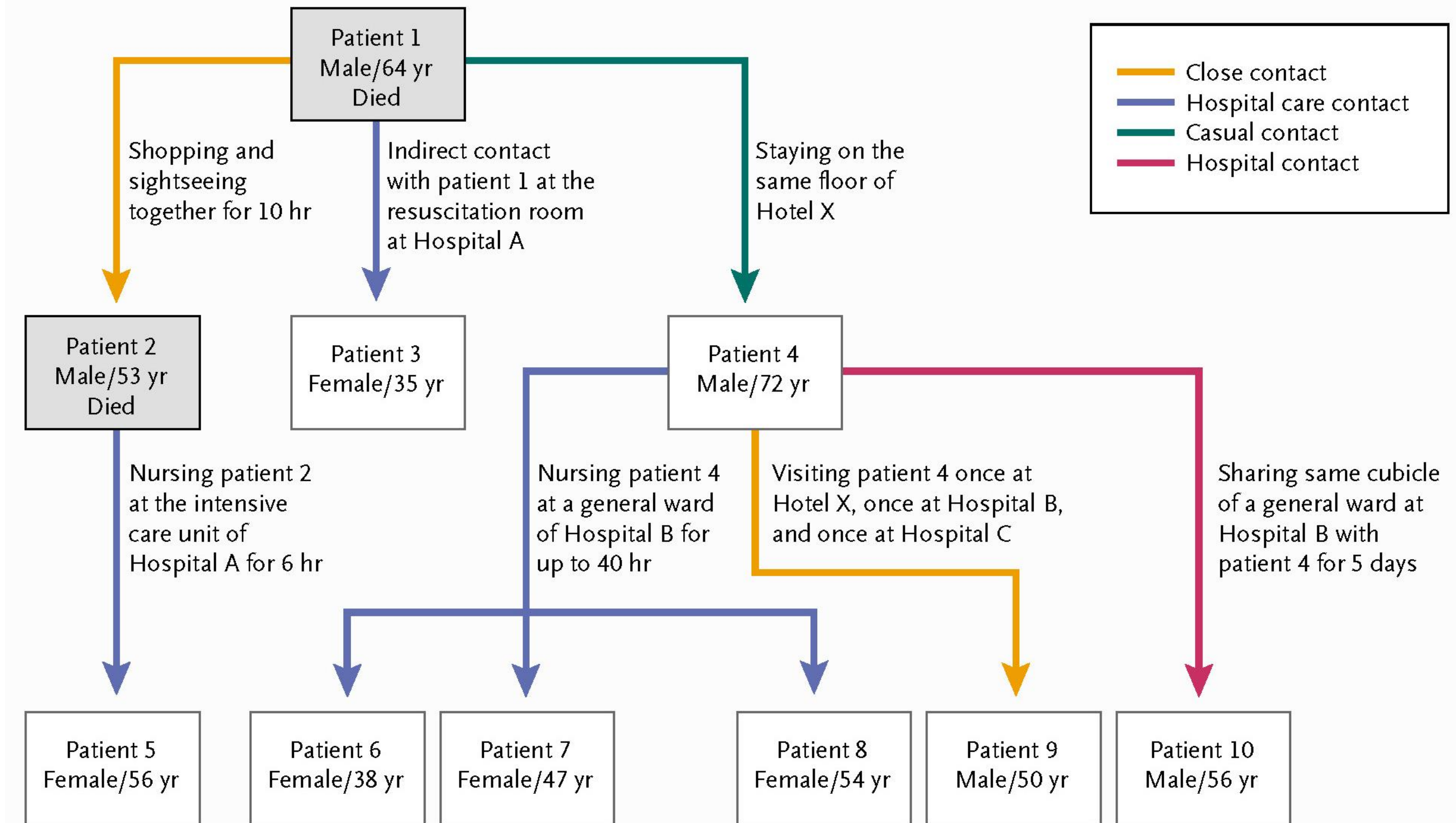
“Even with the current stringent design and practice guidelines, nosocomial (hospital-acquired) infection of healthcare workers (HCWs) and inpatients continues to occur. What might be the limitations in current isolation ward designs?”



Source: <https://medstudentinmoz.wordpress.com/page/2/>

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Nosocomial Infection (hospital-acquired)



Source: Tsang, K.W. et al. "A Cluster of Cases of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in Hong Kong." New England Journal of Medicine 348, no. 20 (May 15, 2003): 1977–85.

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Nosocomial Infection (hospital-acquired)



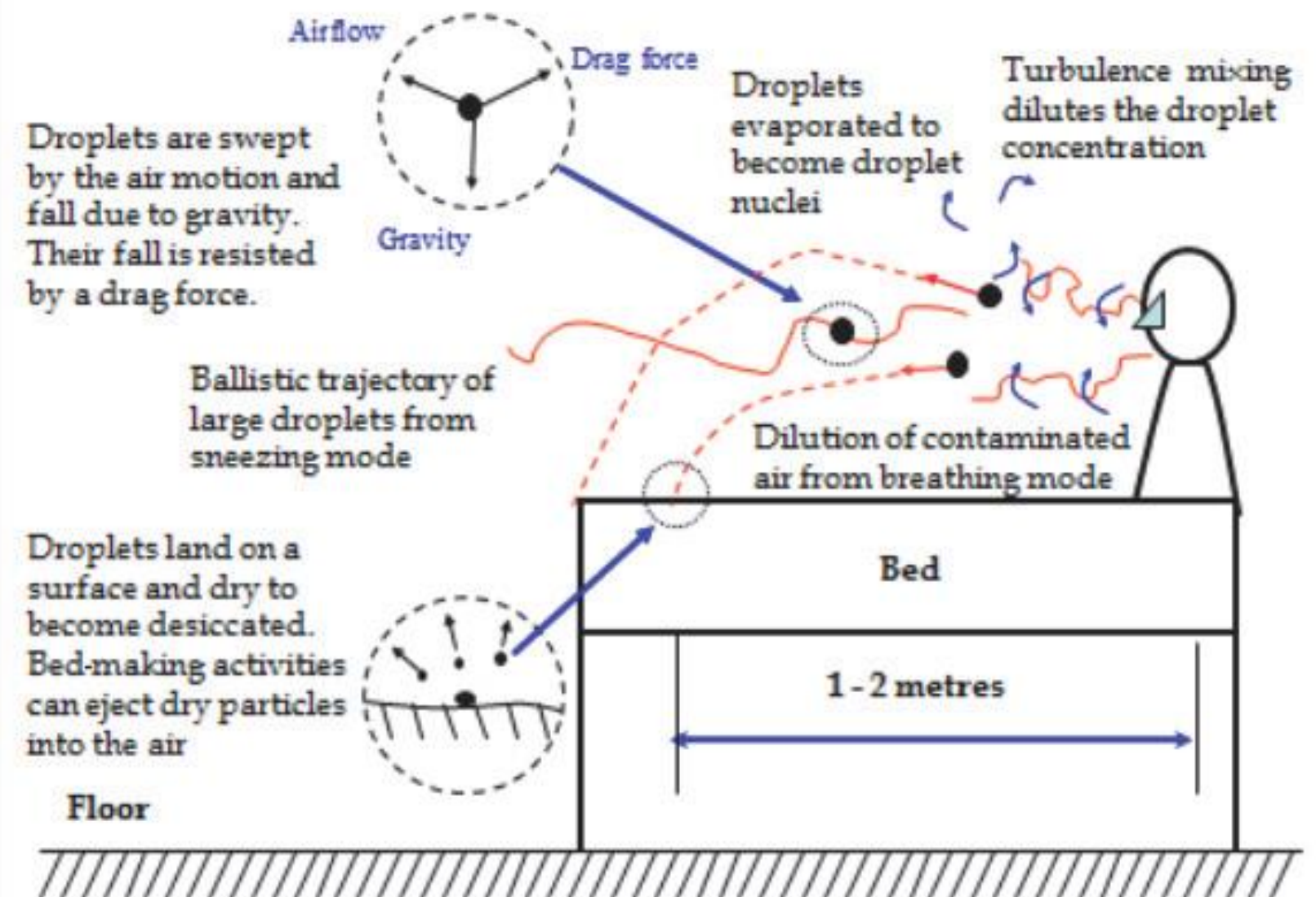
ASHRAE Position Document on Airborne Infectious Diseases

Approved by ASHRAE Board of Directors
January 19, 2014

Reaffirmed by Technology Council
January 31, 2017

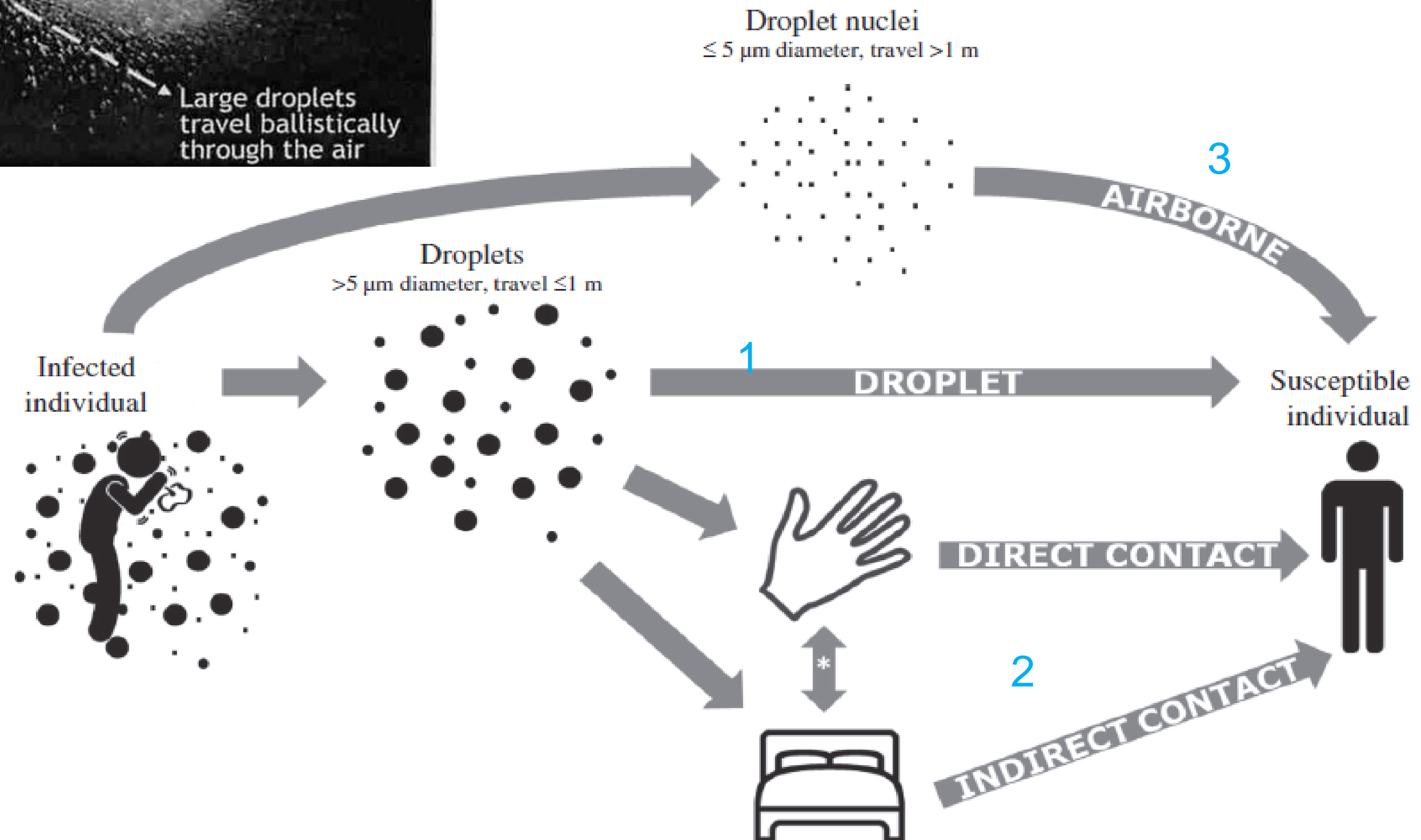
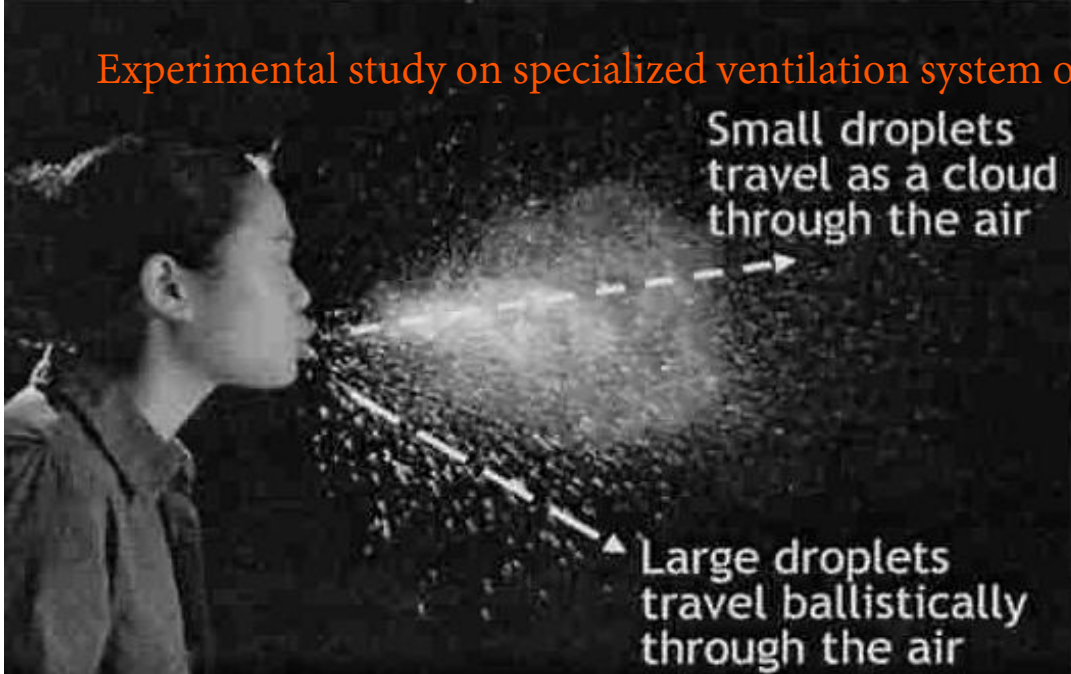
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Source: ASHRAE Position Document on Airborne Infectious Diseases (2017)

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* Transmission routes involving a combination of hand & surface = indirect contact.

Figure 1. Transmission routes: droplet, airborne, direct contact, and indirect contact. (Indirect contact: routes involving a combination of hand and surface.) Definitions of 'droplet' and 'droplet nuclei' are from Atkinson *et al.*⁵

Exhaled Air and Aerosolized Droplet Dispersion During Application of a Jet Nebulizer* *(CHEST 2009; 135:648–654)*

David S. Hui, MD, FCCP; Benny K. Chow, MPh; Leo C. Y. Chu, MBChB; Susanna S. Ng, MBChB; Stephen D. Hall, PhD; Tony Gin, MD; and Matthew T. V. Chan, MD

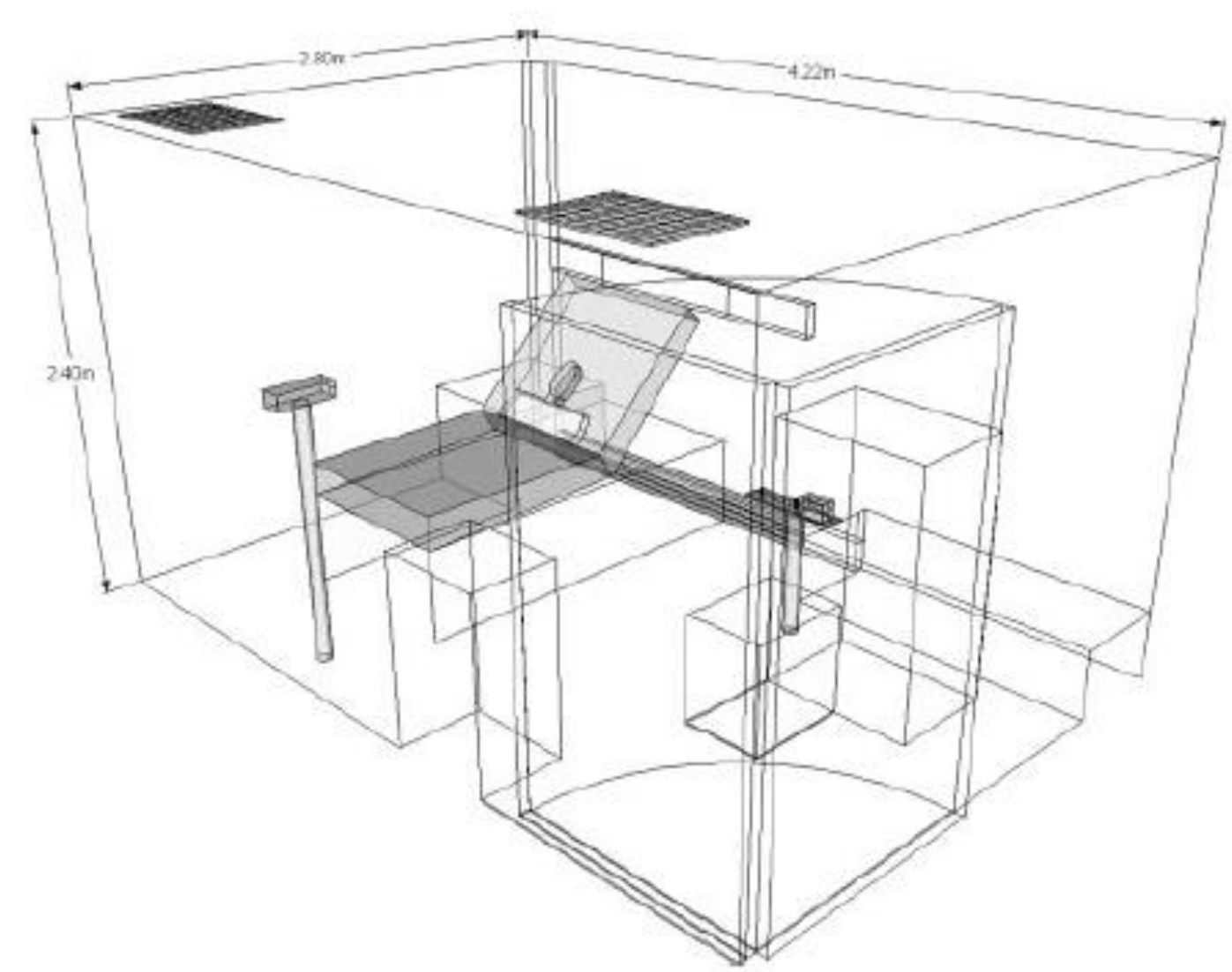


FIGURE 1. The room dimension and equipment layout inside the negative pressure isolation room. The room measured 4.22 m (depth) by 2.80 m (width) by 2.4 m (height). The camera and laser device were positioned along the sagittal plane and the coronal plane of the head of patient, respectively. Two fresh air diffusers as air inlet were mounted on the ceiling. The negative pressure of the isolation room was provided by the air exhausts positioned at the bottom of the bed.

Table 1—Three Different Lung Settings of HPS Applied in this Study*

Settings	Normal Lung Condition	Mild Lung Injury	Severe Lung Injury
Oxygen consumption, mL/min	200	300	500
Lung compliance, mL/cm H ₂ O	70	35	10
Respiratory rate, breaths/min†	12	25	40
Tidal volume, mL†	700	300	150

*From Kuhlen et al¹⁶ and Light.¹⁷
†Respiratory rate and tidal volume were adjusted by the HPS program to achieve primarily the target oxygen consumption and lung compliance.

Jet Nebulizer (negative pressure isolation ward)

airflow rate: 6L/min Mild lung injury (TV 300mL / RR 25 breaths/min)



Jet nebulizer (negative pressure isolation ward)

(Hui DS, Chow Benny, et al. Chest 2009;135:648-54)

Main Topics for Today

1. Verify the **ventilation performance** based on the detailed indoor airflow environment of existing isolation wards for both renovation and new construction hospitals;
2. Examine the **distinctive patient exhaled airflow patterns**, from different oxygen delivery interventions for patient with different lung breathing conditions and oxygen flow rate settings, as modeled by a human patient simulator (HPS);
3. Investigate the dynamic airflow interaction between **patient exhaled air plumes** as induced by common clinical oxygen administration and the indoor airflow environment of an AII room.

ISOLATION WARD DESIGN



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Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities

**Guidelines
for Healthcare Engineering Systems
of Private Hospitals**

Department of Health
Hong Kong SAR, China
December 2018

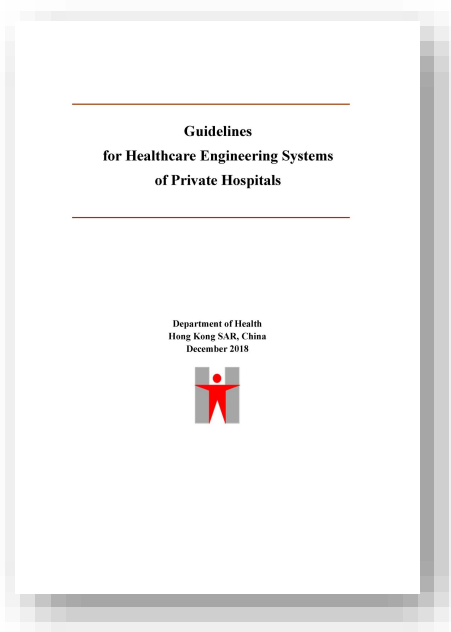


Guidelines for Healthcare Engineering Systems of Private Hospitals

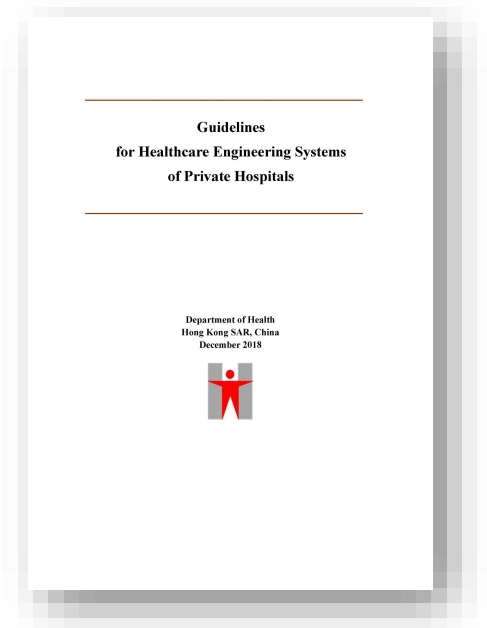
Department of Health Hong Kong SAR,
China December 2018

Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities

<i>Overview</i>	3
<i>Interpretation of Terms</i>	4
<i>Chapter 1 Electrical installations</i>	6
1.1 General Requirements	6
1.2 Design and Installation	6
1.3 Operation and Maintenance	8
<i>Chapter 2 Specialised Ventilation Systems</i>	9
2.1 General Requirements	9
2.2 Design and Installation	10
2.3 Operation and Maintenance	11
<i>Chapter 3 Medical gas supplies</i>	13
3.1 General Requirements	13
3.2 Medical Gas Pipeline Systems (MGPS)	14
3.3 Operational Management of Medical Gas Supplies	16
<i>Annex 1 Back-up power supply requirements</i>	18
<i>Annex 2A Specialised Ventilation Requirements</i>	19
<i>Annex 2B Exhaust Discharge Requirements</i>	22
<i>Annex 3A Back-up Sources Requirements of MGPS</i>	23
<i>Annex 3B Flow and Pressure Requirements of MGPS</i>	24
<i>Annex 3C Test Requirements of MGPS</i>	25
<i>Annex 3D Sample Permit-to-Work Form</i>	26
<i>References</i>	29



Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities



2.2 Design and Installation

- 2.2.1 The design and installation of the specialised ventilation systems are of internationally acceptable healthcare standards such as ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170 – “Ventilation of Health Care Facilities” of the US, or Health Technical Memorandum (HTM) 03-01 – “Specialised ventilation for healthcare premises” of the UK, or equivalent.
- 2.2.2 In specialised ventilation areas, including but not limited to airborne infection isolation (AII) rooms, protective environment (PE) rooms, operating theatres/rooms and aseptic preparation clean rooms, the ventilation systems provide appropriate pressure relationship, air change rate, filtration efficiency, temperature and relative humidity, and air movement generally from clean to less clean areas. (Detailed guidelines on the specialised ventilation requirements are provided in Annex 2A.)
- 2.2.3 Where gaseous anaesthetic agents are used, appropriate gas administration devices and exhaust systems are in place, and relevant requirements on occupational safety are observed.
- 2.2.4 Outdoor air intakes for air handling units are situated away from vehicle staging areas, exterior designated smoking area, cooling towers and all exhaust and vent discharges.
- 2.2.5 The discharges from general extract systems are placed at a suitable location to minimise the recirculation of discharged air back into the building. In addition, the discharges from AII rooms and local exhaust ventilation systems are preferably vertical and at sufficient height above roof level. (Detailed guidelines on the exhaust discharge requirements are provided in Annex 2B.)

1. Airborne Infection Isolation (AII) Rooms (Isolation Ward),
2. Protective Environment (PE) Rooms,
3. Operating Theatres (OT)

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Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities

Annex 2A

Specialised Ventilation Requirements

1. Specialised ventilation areas are ventilated according to the following requirements :

	Function of Space	Pressure Relationship to Adjacent Areas	Min. Outdoor ACH	Min. Total ACH	All Room Air Exhausted Directly to Outdoors	Air Recirculated by Means of Room Units ¹	Design Relative Humidity %	Deign Temp. °C	Min. Filter Efficiency
1	Operating theatre / room (OT/OR)	Positive	4	20	NR	No	20-60	20-24	MERV-14
2	Airborne Infection Isolation (AII) room	Negative	2	12	Yes	No	Max 60	21-24	MERV-14
3	Protective Environment (PE) room	Positive	2	12	NR	No	Max 60	21-24	HEPA

Note:

NR – no requirement

¹ Recirculating devices with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters may be used in existing facilities to achieve the required room ACH, provided the specified minimum outdoor ACH is supplied.

Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities

2. Airborne Infection Isolation (AII) rooms

- 2.1 AII rooms are sealed to provide a minimum differential pressure of -2.5 Pa across the envelope.
- 2.2 AII rooms have a permanently installed device and / or mechanism to constantly monitor the differential air pressure between the room and the corridor. A local visual means is provided to indicate whenever negative differential pressure is not maintained.
- 2.3 Exhaust air grilles in the patient room are located directly above the patient bed, on the ceiling or on the wall near the head of the bed.

Airborne Infection Isolation
Negative Pressure -2.5Pa
Differential Air Pressure Monitor
Exhaust air grilles location

3. Protective Environment (PE) rooms

- 3.1 PE rooms are sealed to provide a minimum differential pressure of +2.5 Pa across the envelope.
- 3.2 PE rooms have a permanently installed device and / or mechanism to constantly monitor the differential air pressure between the room and the corridor. A local visual means is provided to indicate whenever positive differential pressure is not maintained.
- 3.3 Supply air diffusers are located above the patient bed and return/exhaust grilles are located near the patient room door.

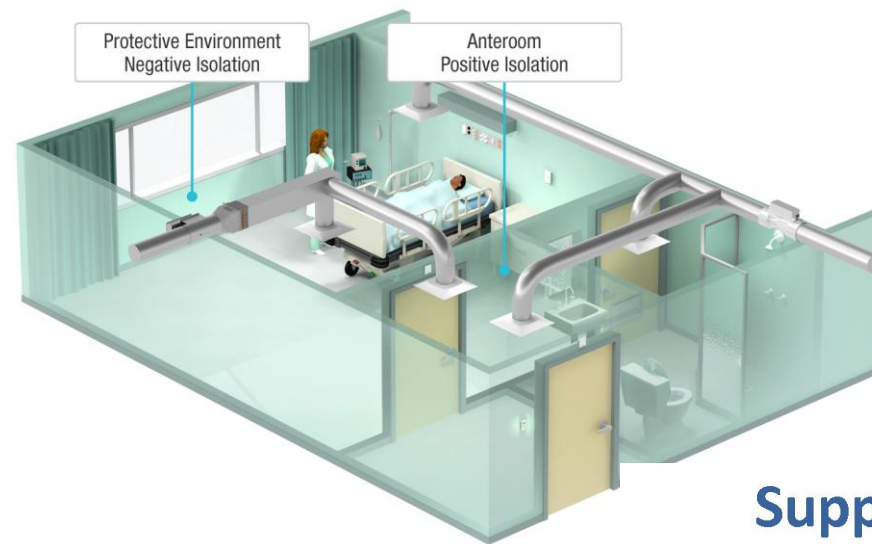
Protective Environment
Positive Pressure +2.5Pa
Differential Air Pressure Monitor
Supply Air Diffusers Location

4. Operating theatres/rooms (OTs/ORs)

- 4.1 OTs/ORs are maintained at a positive pressure with respect to all adjoining spaces at all times.
- 4.2 A pressure differential is maintained at a value of at least +2.5 Pa.
- 4.3 Each room has individual temperature control.

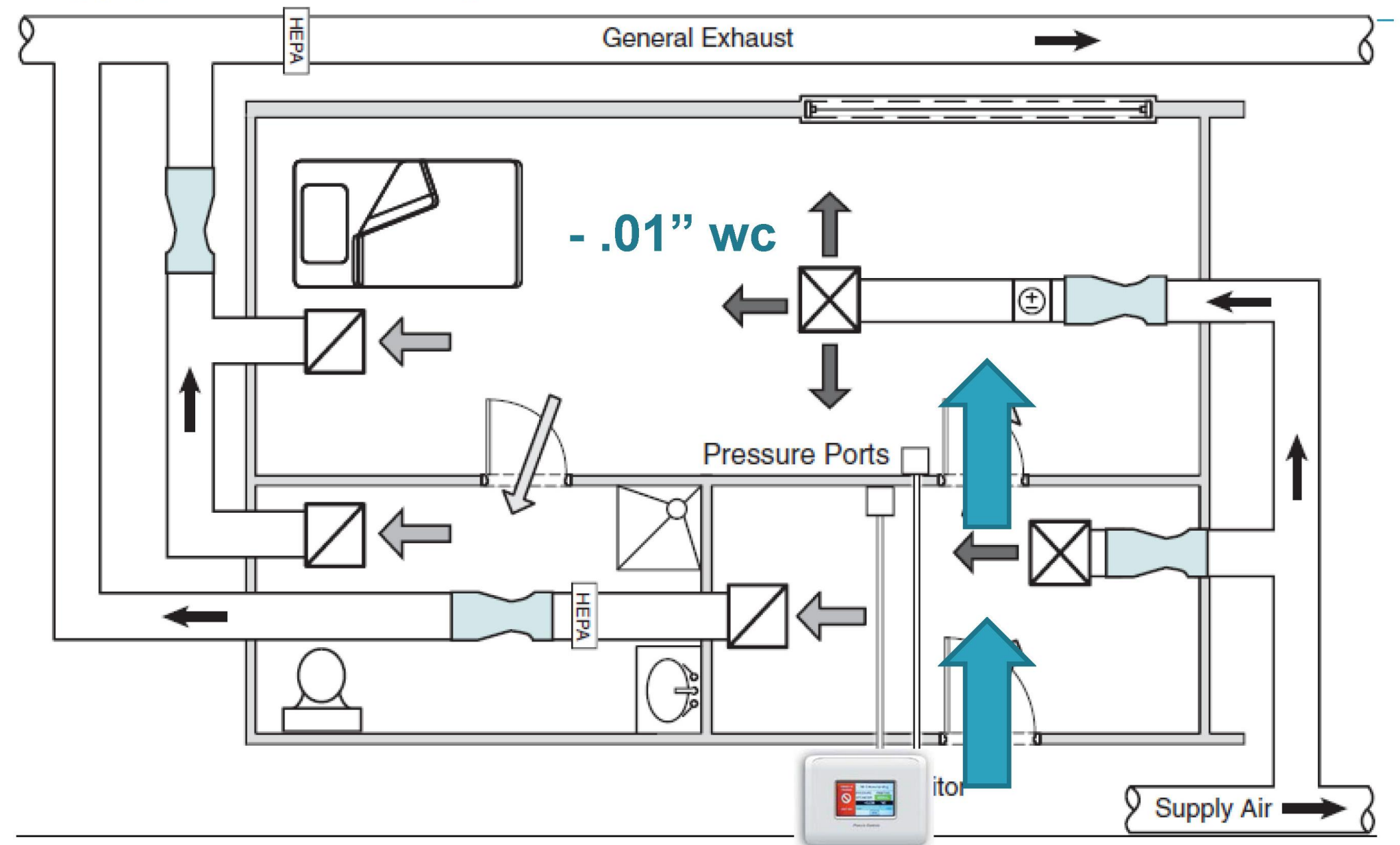
**Guidelines for Healthcare Engineering Systems of
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Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities



Airborne Infection Isolation
Negative Pressure -2.5Pa
Differential Air Pressure Monitor
Exhaust air grilles location

Supply / Exhaust Tracking Pairs



Source: ASHRAE Madison Chapter (Don MacDonald, Phoenix Controls)

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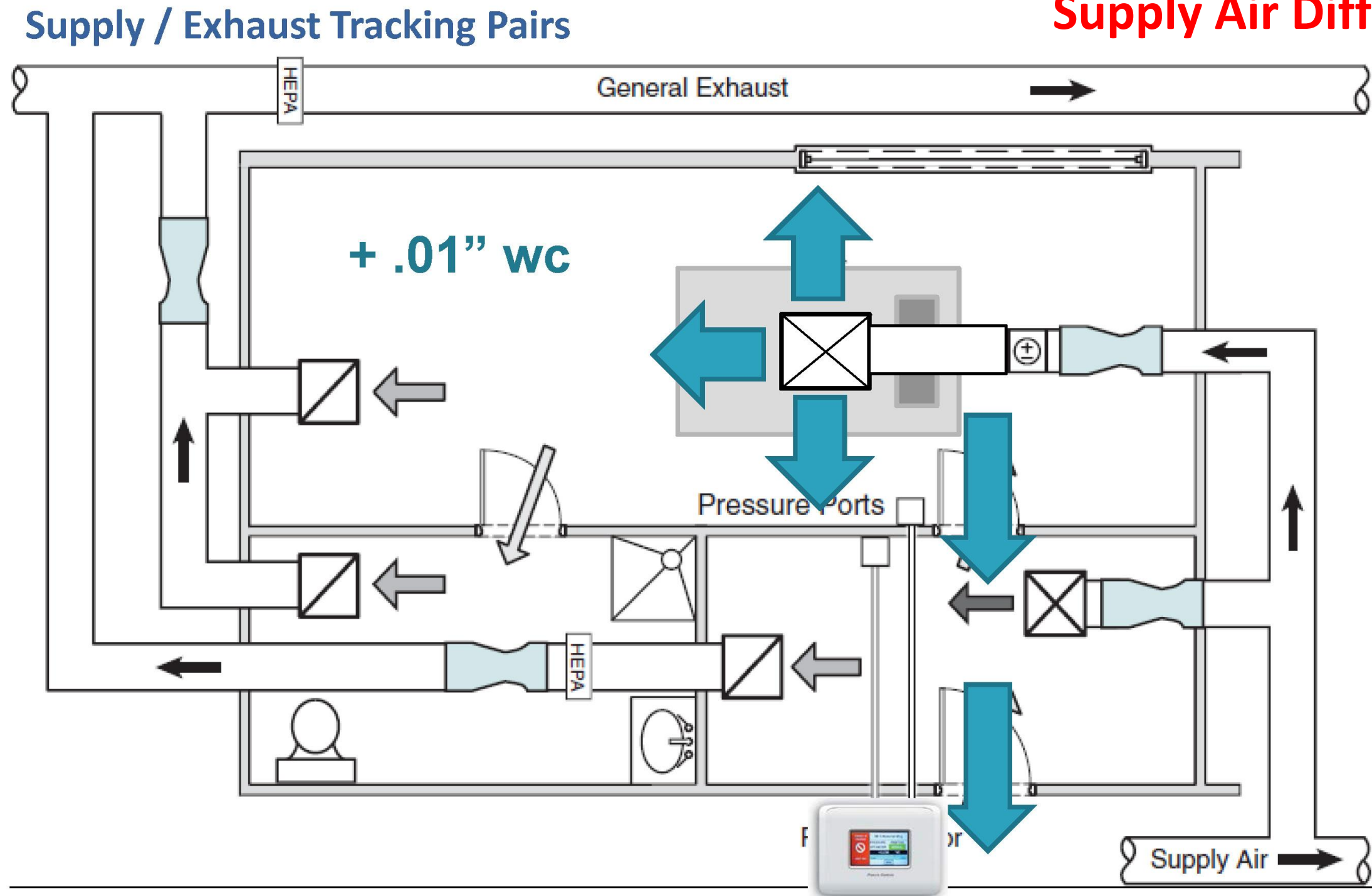
Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities

Protective Environment

Positive Pressure +2.5Pa

Differential Air Pressure Monitor

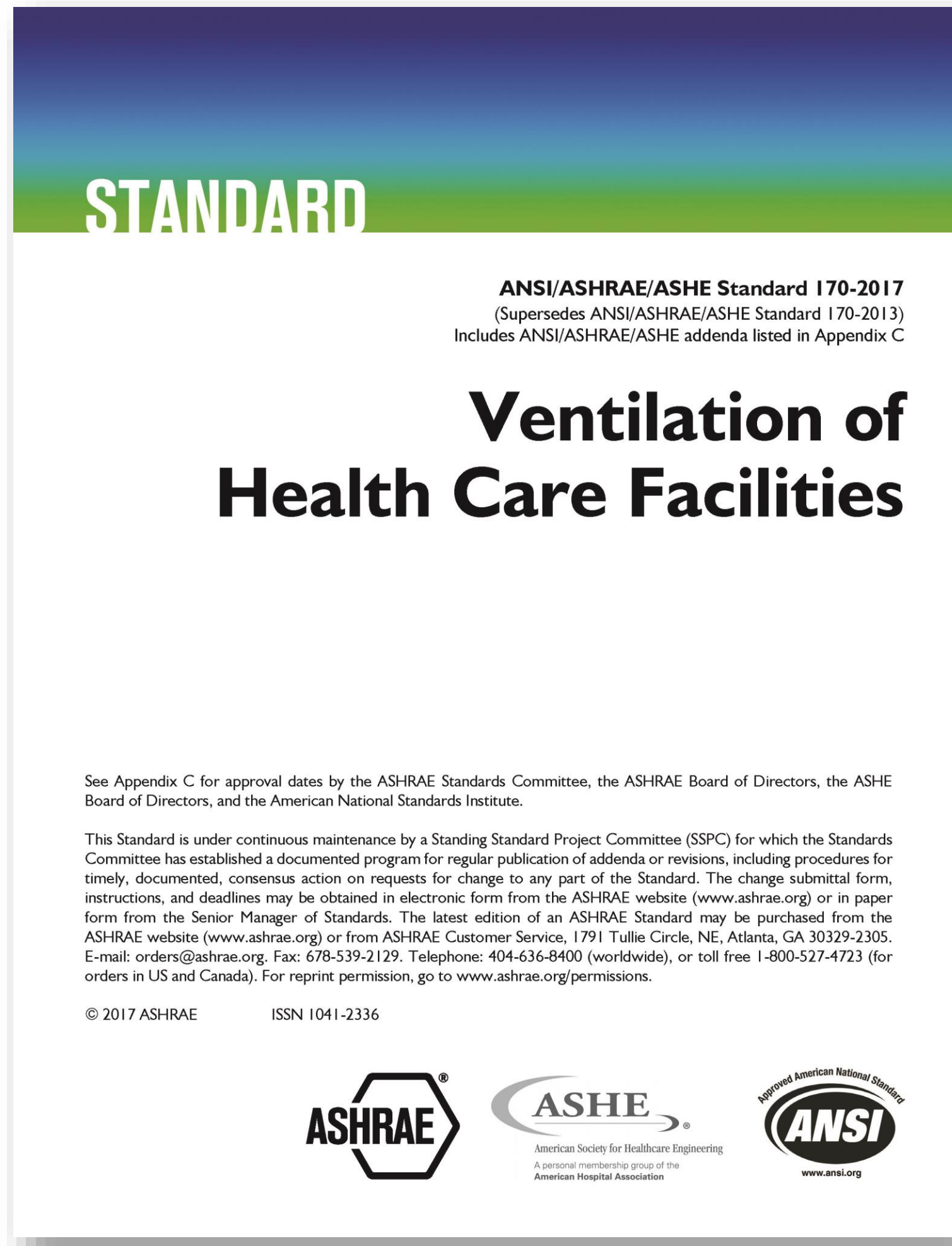
Supply Air Diffusers Location



Source: ASHRAE Madison Chapter (Don MacDonald, Phoenix Controls)

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Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities



ASHRAE Standard 170-2017

(Supersedes ASHRAE Standard 170-2013) Includes ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE addenda listed in Appendix C

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Ventilation Design for Health Care Facilities

SECTION

Foreword

1 Purpose

2 Scope

3 Definitions

4 Compliance

5 Planning

6 Systems and E

7 Space Ventil

8 Space Ventil

9 Space Ventil

10 Planning, Con

11 Normative Ref

Informative Appen

Informative Appen

Informative Appen

CONTENTS

ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2017
Ventilation of Health Care Facilities

Table 7.1 Design Parameters—Hospital Spaces

Function of Space	Pressure Relationship to Adjacent Areas (n)	Minimum Outdoor ach	Minimum Total ach	All Room Air Exhausted Directly to Outdoors (j)	Air Recirculated by Means of Room Units (a)	Design Relative Humidity (k), %	Design Temperature (l), °F/°C
SURGERY AND CRITICAL CARE							
Critical and intensive care	NR	2	6	NR	No	30–60	70–75/21–24
Delivery room (Caesarean) (m), (o)	Positive	4	20	NR	No	20–60	68–75/20–24
Emergency department decontamination	Negative	2	12	Yes	No	NR	NR
Emergency department exam/treatment room (p)	NR	2	6	NR	NR	Max 60	70–75/21–24
Emergency department public waiting area	Negative	2	12	Yes (q)	NR	Max 65	70–75/21–24
Intermediate care (s)	NR	2	6	NR	NR	Max 60	70–75/21–24

Normative Notes for Table 7.1:

- a. Except where indicated by a "No" in this column, HVAC units (with heating or cooling coils) are required that portion of the minimum total air change rate required by Section 7.1 (subparagraph a)[5]. Because of the difficulty and potential for buildup of contaminants in rooms with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtration, the use of such units shall not be permitted in existing facilities as interim, supply controls to meet requirements for the control of airborne agents. The design of either portable or fixed systems shall also allow for easy access for scheduled maintenance and cleaning.
- b. Pharmacy compounding areas may have additional pressure, and filtering requirements beyond this table, depending on the type of pharmacy, the level of risk of the work, and the equipment used. *NOTE:* See USP (2017a) in Appendix B.
- c. The term *trauma room* as used herein is a first-aid department room used for general initial treatment of victims. The OR within the trauma center that emergency surgery is considered to be an OR.
- d. Pressure relationships need not be maintained in unoccupied rooms.
- e. See Section 7.2 and its subsections for pressure requirements.
- f. Higher ventilation rates above the total ach list dictated by the laboratory program requirement of the potential contaminants in each laboratory. Laboratory ventilation rates shall be permitted when a laboratory is formed as part of an effective Laboratory Ventilation Plan per ANSI/AIHA/ASSE Z9.5, *American National Standard for Laboratory Ventilation*.³ determines that either the concentrations in the laboratory work area are lower than the minimum total ach ventilation rate or (b) a demand control approach with active sensors is used as described in *HVAC Applications*, Chapter 16, "Laboratory Ventilation." See ASHRAE [2015] in Informative Appendix.
- g. All air need not be exhausted if darkroom equipment exhaust duct attached and meets ventilation requirements of NIOSH⁵, OSHA, and local employee exposure limits.
- h. A nonrefrigerated body-holding room is applicable that do not perform autopsies on-site and use the body while waiting for the body to be transferred to the morgue.
- i. Minimum total air changes per hour (ach) shall provide proper makeup air to kitchen exhaust systems. ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 154⁶. In some cases infiltration to or from exit corridors compromise restrictions of NFPA 90A⁷, the pressure requirement or the maximum defined in the table. During the number of air changes to any extent required be permitted when the space is not in use.
- j. In some areas with potential contamination, exhaust air shall be discharged directly to the outdoors to other areas. Individual circumstances shall be considered for air exhausted to the outdoors. To satisfy exhaust needs, constant replacement air from the outdoors is necessary when the system is in operation.
- k. The RH ranges listed are the minimum and/or maximum allowable at any point within the design temperature range required for that space.
- l. Systems shall be capable of maintaining the rooms within the range during normal operation. Lower or higher temperature shall be permitted when patients' comfort and/or medical conditions require those conditions.
- m. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) criteria documents⁸ regarding occupational exposure to waste anesthetic gases and vapors and control of occupational exposure to nitrous oxide indicate a need for both local exhaust (scavenging) systems and

- the individual space requirements as defined by this standard.
- ii. System minimum outdoor air quantity shall be calculated by the Ventilation Rate Procedure (multiple zone formula) of ASHRAE Standard 62.1¹. The minimum outdoor air change rate listed in this standard shall be interpreted as the V_{oz} (zone outdoor airflow) for purposes of this calculation.
- b. Air filtration for spaces shall comply with Table 6.4.
- c. Supply air outlets for spaces shall comply with Table 6.7.2.
- d. In AII rooms, protective environment rooms, wound intensive care units (burn units), and operating and procedure rooms, heating with supply air or radiant panels that meet the requirements of Section 6.5.3 shall be provided.

7.2 Additional Room-Specific Requirements

7.2.1 Airborne Infection Isolation (AII) Rooms. Ventilation for AII rooms shall meet the following requirements whenever an infectious patient occupies the room:

- a. Each AII room shall comply with requirements of Tables 6.4, 6.7.2, and 7.1. AII rooms shall have a permanently installed device and/or mechanism to constantly monitor the differential air pressure between the room (when occupied by patients with a suspected airborne infectious disease) and the corridor, whether or not there is an anteroom. A local visual means shall be provided to indicate when ever negative differential pressure is not maintained.
- b. All air from the AII room shall be exhausted directly to the outdoors.
- Exception to 7.2.1(b):** AII rooms that are retrofitted from standard patient rooms from which it is impractical to exhaust directly outdoors may be provided with recirculated air from the room's exhaust on the condition that the air first passes through a HEPA filter.
- c. All exhaust air from the AII rooms, associated anterooms and associated toilet rooms shall be discharged directly to the outdoors without mixing with exhaust air from any other non-AII room or exhaust system.
- d. Exhaust air grilles or registers in the patient room shall be located directly above the patient bed, on the ceiling or on the wall near the head of the bed, unless it can be demonstrated that such a location is not practical.
- e. The room envelope shall be sealed to provide a minimum differential pressure of 0.01 in. of water (2.5 Pa) across the envelope.
- f. Differential pressure between AII rooms and adjacent spaces that are not AII rooms shall be a minimum of -0.01 in. of water (-2.5 Pa). Spaces such as the toilet room and the anteroom (if present) that are directly associated with the AII room and open directly into the AII room are not required to be designed with a minimum pressure difference from the AII room but are still required to maintain the pressure relationships to adjacent areas specified in Table 7.1.
- g. When an anteroom is provided, the pressure relationship shall be as follows: (1) the AII room shall be at a negative pressure with respect to the anteroom, and (2) the anteroom shall be at a negative pressure with respect to the corridor.

room shall be at a negative pressure with respect to the corridor.

7.2.2 Protective Environment (PE) Rooms. Ventilation for PE rooms shall meet the following requirements:

- a. The room envelope shall be sealed to provide a minimum differential pressure of 0.01 in. of water (2.5 Pa) across the envelope.
- b. Each PE room shall comply with the requirements of Tables 6.4, 6.7.2, and 7.1. When occupied by patients requiring a protective environment, PE rooms shall have a permanently installed device and/or mechanism to constantly monitor the differential air pressure between the room and the corridor, regardless of whether there is an anteroom. A local visual means shall be provided to indicate whenever positive differential pressure is not maintained.

(This appendix is not part of this standard. It is merely informative and does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the standard. It has not been processed according to the ANSI requirements for a standard and may contain material that has not been subject to public review or a consensus process. Unresolved objections on informative material are not offered the right to appeal at ASHRAE or ANSI.)

INFORMATIVE APPENDIX A
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O&M)
PROCEDURES

A1. O&M IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

The following operations and maintenance (O&M) procedures are recommended for health care facilities.

A1.1 Operating Rooms (ORs)

- a. Each OR should be tested for positive pressure semi-annually or on an effective preventative maintenance schedule.
- b. When HEPA filters are present within the diffuser of ORs, the filter should be replaced based on pressure drop.
- c. Operating and Caesarean delivery room ventilation systems shall operate at all times, except during maintenance and during conditions requiring shutdown by the building's fire alarm system.

A1.2 Protective Environment (PE) Rooms. PE rooms should remain under positive pressure, with respect to all adjoining rooms, whenever an immunocompromised patient is present. PE rooms should be tested for positive pressure daily when an immunocompromised patient is present. When HEPA filters are present within the diffuser of PE rooms, the filter should be replaced based on pressure drop.

A1.3 Airborne Infection Isolation (AII) Rooms. All rooms should remain under negative pressure, relative to all adjoining rooms, whenever an infectious patient is present. They should be tested for negative pressure daily whenever an infectious patient is present.

A1.4 Filters. Final filters and filter frames should be visually inspected for pressure drop and for bypass monthly. Filters should be replaced, based on pressure drop, with filters that provide the efficiencies specified in Table 6.4.

A2. SPECIAL MAINTENANCE FOR HVAC UNITS

The following special maintenance procedures are recommended for health care facilities.

A2.1 Fan-Coil Unit and Heat Pumps. The fan-coil unit and heat-pump filters serving patient rooms should be inspected for pressure drop monthly, or on an effective preventative maintenance cycle, and should be replaced when that pressure drop causes a reduction in airflow. Fan-coil unit and heat-pump drain pans under cooling coils should be cleaned monthly or on an effective preventative maintenance cycle.

A2.2 Fin-Tube Radiation Units, Induction Units, and Convection Units. Fin-tube radiation units, induction units, and convection units serving patient rooms should be cleaned quarterly or on an effective preventative maintenance cycle.

A2.3 Fan-Powered Terminal Units. Fan-powered terminal-unit filters serving patient rooms should be inspected for pressure drop monthly, or on an effective preventative maintenance cycle, and should be replaced when the pressure drop causes a reduction in airflow.

A3. AIR INTAKE OPENING FOR AREAWAY

Figure A3 illustrates the provisions of Section 6.3.1.4 for air intake openings for areaways.

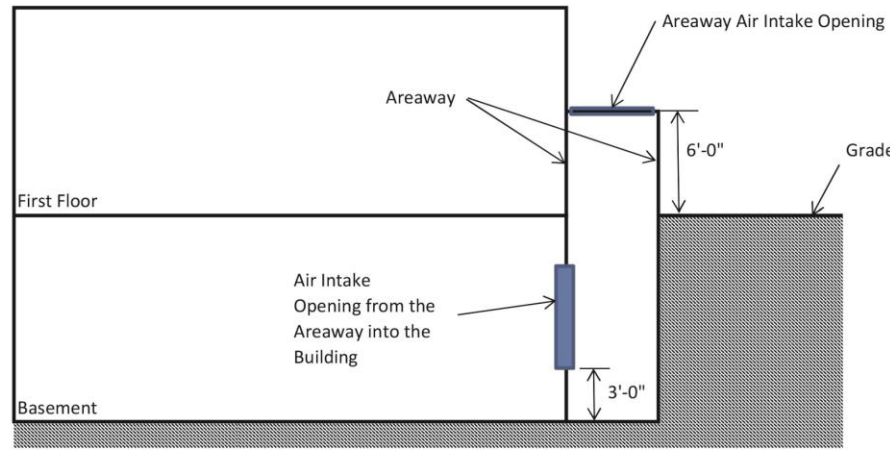


Figure A3 Provisions for areaways.

Isolation System in a Hospital

Level 1 - Administrative Control

Such as proper triage of patients, detecting infections early and, separating infectious patients from others (WHO 2007; CDC 2007); Adequate staff training and patients education; Effective communication with all relevant departments.

Level 2 - Environmental and Engineering Controls

Include cleaning of the environment, spatial separation, ventilation of spaces

Level 3 - Personal Protection

Have personal protective equipment (PPE), including, masks, respirators, gowns, gloves, eye protection, etc.

Figure: Three levels of isolation precautions controls as stipulated at WHO.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Negative Pressure Isolation Ward

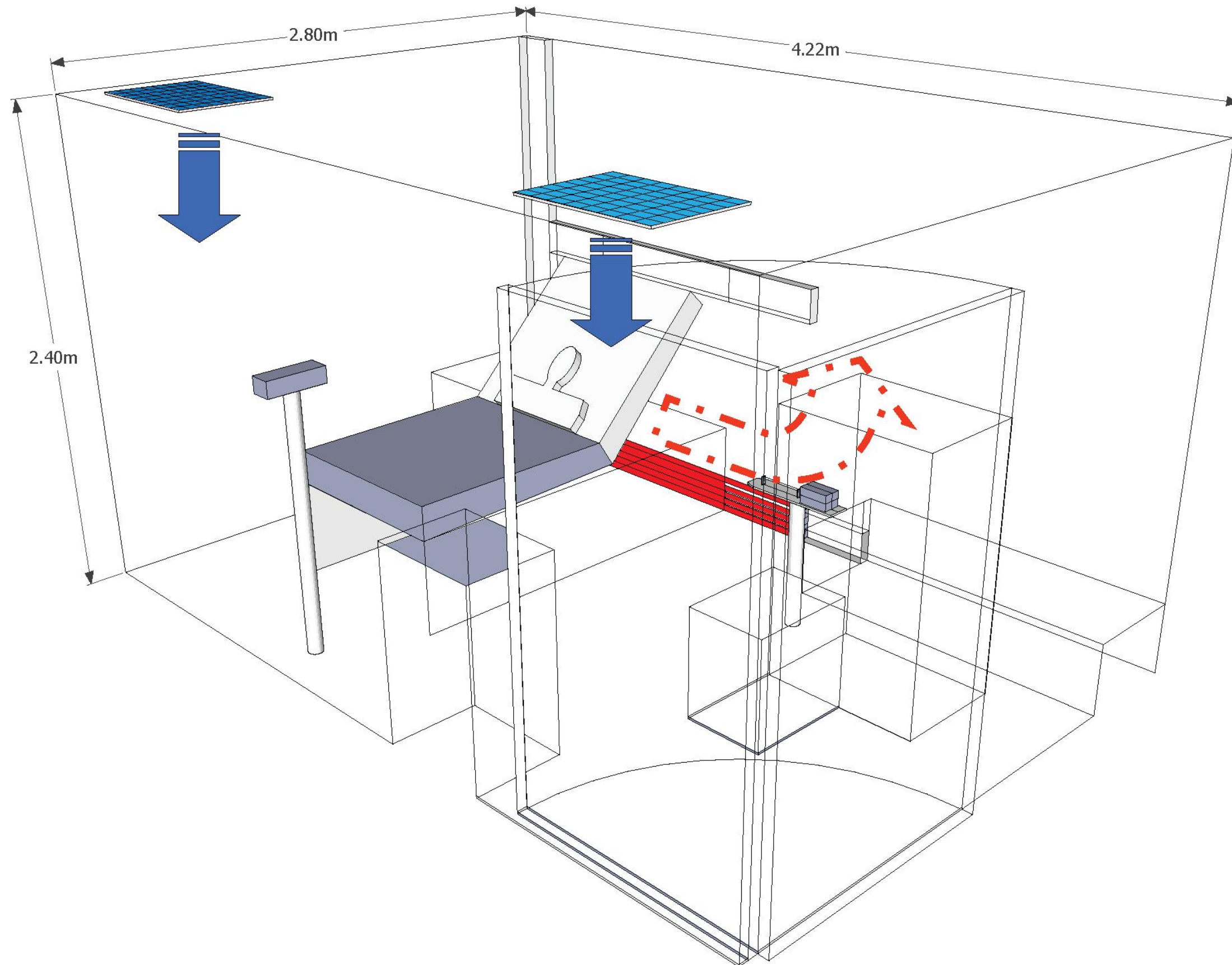


Figure: Downward ventilation system provides negative pressure to isolation room B of PWH. (Source : Benny Chow)

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Negative Pressure Isolation Ward

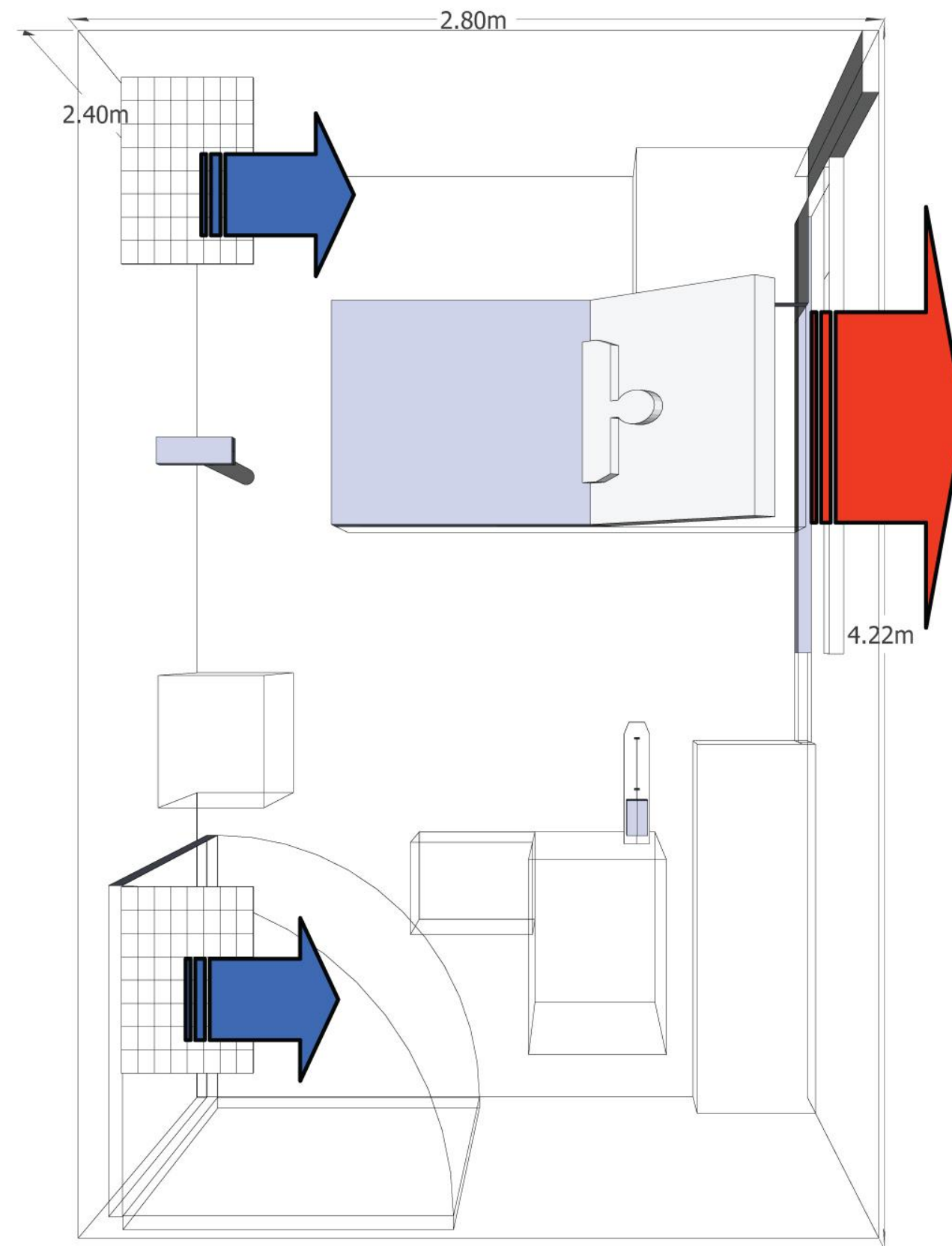


Figure: Downward ventilation system provides negative pressure to isolation room B of PWH.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Main Design Principles for an Isolation Room

1. The All room should be at least **2.5 Pa** (0.01-inch water gauge) **Negative Pressure** with respect to adjacent spaces, between patient rooms and the double door anteroom to prevent air leaking outward;
2. The **Dilution Ventilation Rate** should be at least 6 ACH for existing facilities and **12 ACH** for new facilities;
3. The All room can be constructed with or without an anteroom. An **anteroom** can act as an airlock space and is recommended to store personal protective equipment (PPE);
4. **Outdoor fresh air intakes** shall be located at not less than 7.6 m horizontally from **all exhaust outlets**. The exhaust shall be discharged above roof level. Avoid direct exhaust towards operable windows, walkways, public areas, and parking areas;

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Main Design Principles for an Isolation Room

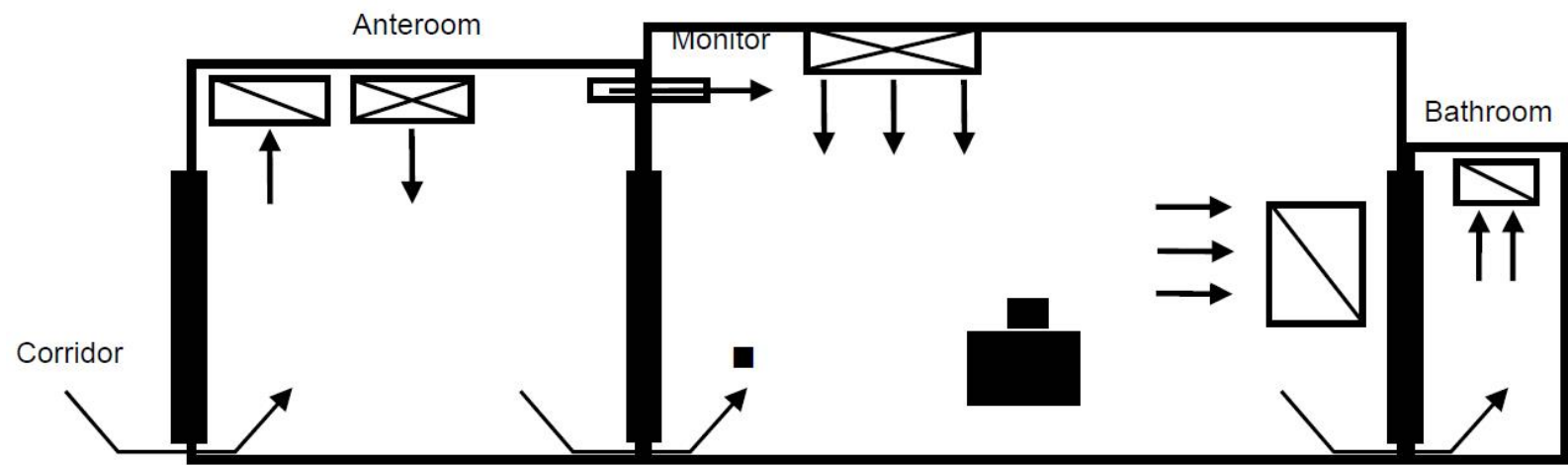
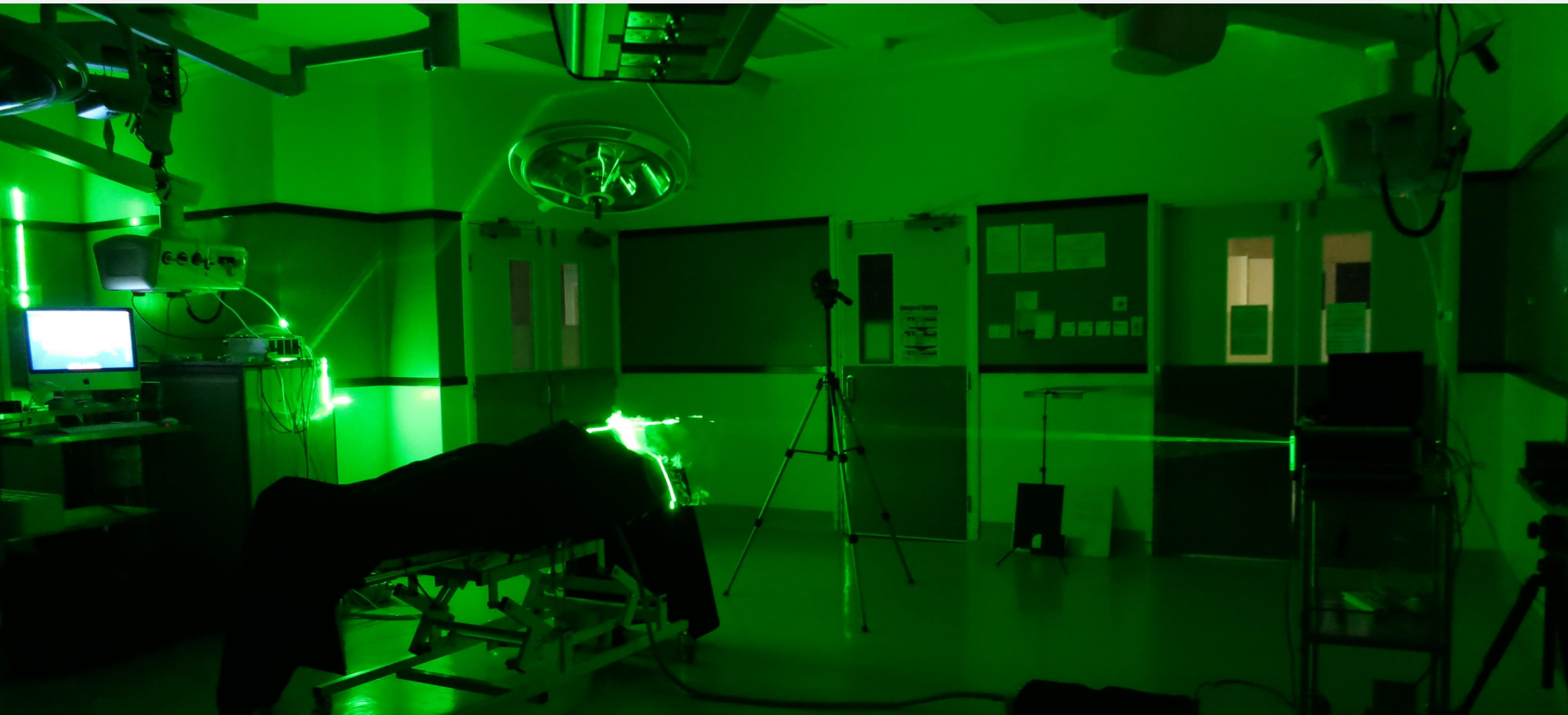


Figure: Sectional view of the conceptual of airflow diagram of All room with anteroom (CDC 2003)

[engineering features]	Airborne Infection Isolation room (AII)	Operating Theatres (OT)	Protective Environment (PE)
Air pressure	Negative	Positive	Positive
Pressure differentials in relation to the adjacent areas	> -2.5 Pascal (i.e. 0.01 inch water gauge)	Positive	> +2.5 to +8 Pascal
Room air changes per hour (ACH)	Minimum 6 ACH (for existing facilities); > 12 ACH (for renovation or new construction)	> 15 ACH	> 12 ACH
Sealed	Yes	Yes	Yes
Filtration efficiency of supply air	As per local hospital policy	> 90%	HEPA filter at 99.97% at 0.3μm
Filtration efficiency of exhaust air	Not required if direct exhaust air to the outside; or HEPA filter at 99.97% at 0.3 μm for re-circulated air	Not required if exhaust air to outside; or HEPA filters should be installed for re-circulated air	Not required
Recirculation	No, unless HEPA filters are installed	Yes	Yes
Clean to dirty airflow	All towards patient and exhausted	For supply across patient and exhausted	From supply across patient and exhausted

Figure: The summary of the engineering control specification for All room, operating theatres and protective environment issued by the Center for Health Protection (CDC 2003; WHO 2009; CHP 2007)

ON-SITE MEASUREMENT



Isolation Room A at PMH



Figure: Isolation Room A at PMH showing a spacious single bed patient room with an anteroom as airlock between corridor and patient room.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Clinical Settings & Human-centred Design



Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Isolation Room A at PMH



Figure: Fully glazed air-tight, auto-swing door (left) and the ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (UVGI) lamp mounted on the top of patient bed (right) for isolation room A at PMH.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Clinical Settings & Human-centred Design



Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Isolation Room A at PMH



Figure: Spacious single bed patient room of isolation room A at PMH, with air supply diffusers mounted on the ceiling at the end of the patient bed and floor level exhaust underneath the head of the patient bed.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Isolation Room B at PMH



Figure: The more congested isolation room B at PWH, with air supply diffusers mounted on the ceiling at the foot of the patient bed and floor level exhausts underneath the head of the patient bed.

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(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Common Oxygen Therapies



Mask Types	Technical Comments	Visual Appearance of Masks
<p>Simple (Hudson) Mask</p> <p>Brand: Well Lead</p> <p>Model: Oxygen mask, Adult elongated</p> <p>[www.welllead.com.cn]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Most commonly used oxygen mask;2. Cannot control O₂%; it depends on O₂flow rate, mask fit and patient IPAP;3. Performance: 4L/min, oxygen is around 35%; up to 14L/min, oxygen is around 65%.	
<p>Venturi Mask</p> <p>Brand: Salter Labs</p> <p>Model: Accu-Flow Venturi System (Adult)</p> <p>[www.salterlabs.com]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Design to deliver accurate O₂ concentration (24%, 28%, 31%, 35%, 40%) with five individual diluter jets;2. Operate with Venturi principle;3. Combination of oxygen flow rate and the diluter jets determine the O₂ concentration.	

Figure: The illustrations of the common oxygen masks and its laser flow visualization in a negative pressure isolation room.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Common Oxygen Therapies



Mask Types	Technical Comments	Visual Appearance of Masks
Nasal Cannula Mask Brand: Airlife Model: Nasal Oxygen Cannula Cat. 001325 [www.cardinal.com]	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Deliver supplementary oxygen directly to patient via nostrils directly;2. The oxygen flow rate ranges from 1 to 6 L/min; can deliver 28% to 44% oxygen;3. Allow patient to receive high volume of oxygen therapy accurately.	
Jet Nebulizer Brand: (Salter Labs Model: Nebulizer adult, REF 8924 [www.salterlabs.com]	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nebulizes 3cc in less than 10 minutes; Shortened treatment times;2. Nebulizes in horizontal or vertical position; Allow patient to be in a comfortable position for treatment;3. Larger surface area provided by unique convex cone design.	

Figure: The illustrations of the common oxygen masks and its laser flow visualization in a negative pressure isolation room.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Common Oxygen Therapies



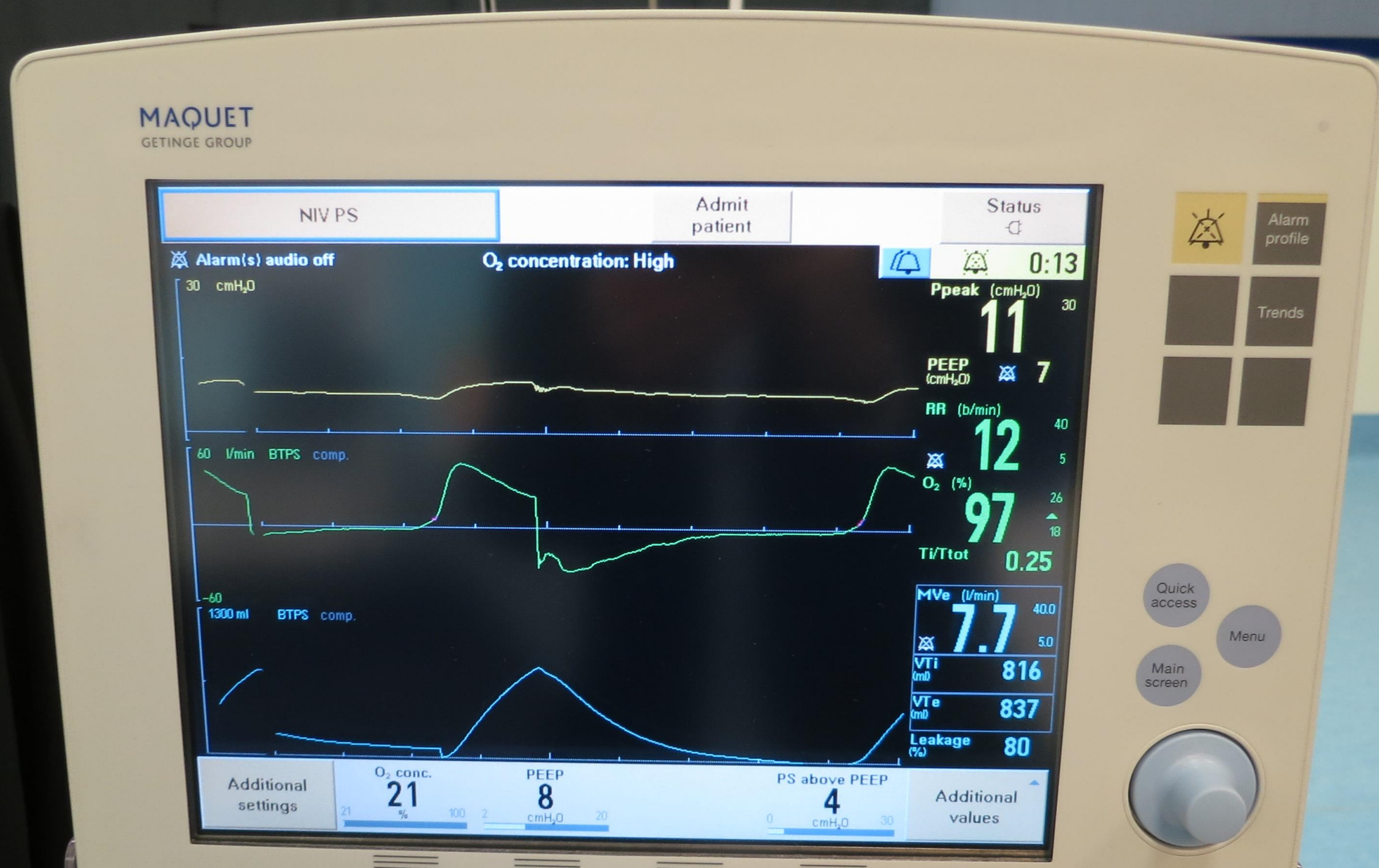
Mask Types	Technical Comments	Visual Appearance of Masks
<p>NPPV Mask</p> <p>Brand: Respironic</p> <p>Model: Image 3 full face mask,</p> <p>Lot. 040219/ 1004884 [www.respironics.com]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Exhalation device NOT INCLUDED;2. “Whisper Swivel” exhalation port was attached, which caused a large scale diffused contamination around the patient head;3. Entrainment valve included.	
<p>NPPV Mask</p> <p>Brand: Respironic</p> <p>Model: Comfort Full 2 full face mask,</p> <p>Lot. 070105/1004873 [www.respironics.com]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Exhalation device - “Quiet Diffuser” - Three rows of tiny ports creating a strong directional air jet projected towards the end of patient bed;2. Entrainment valve type - provides quick access to room air if pressure is less than 3cm H₂O.	

Figure: The illustrations of the common oxygen masks and its laser flow visualization in a negative pressure isolation room.

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(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

INSTRUMENTS



Airflow Visualization – Laser Imaging System

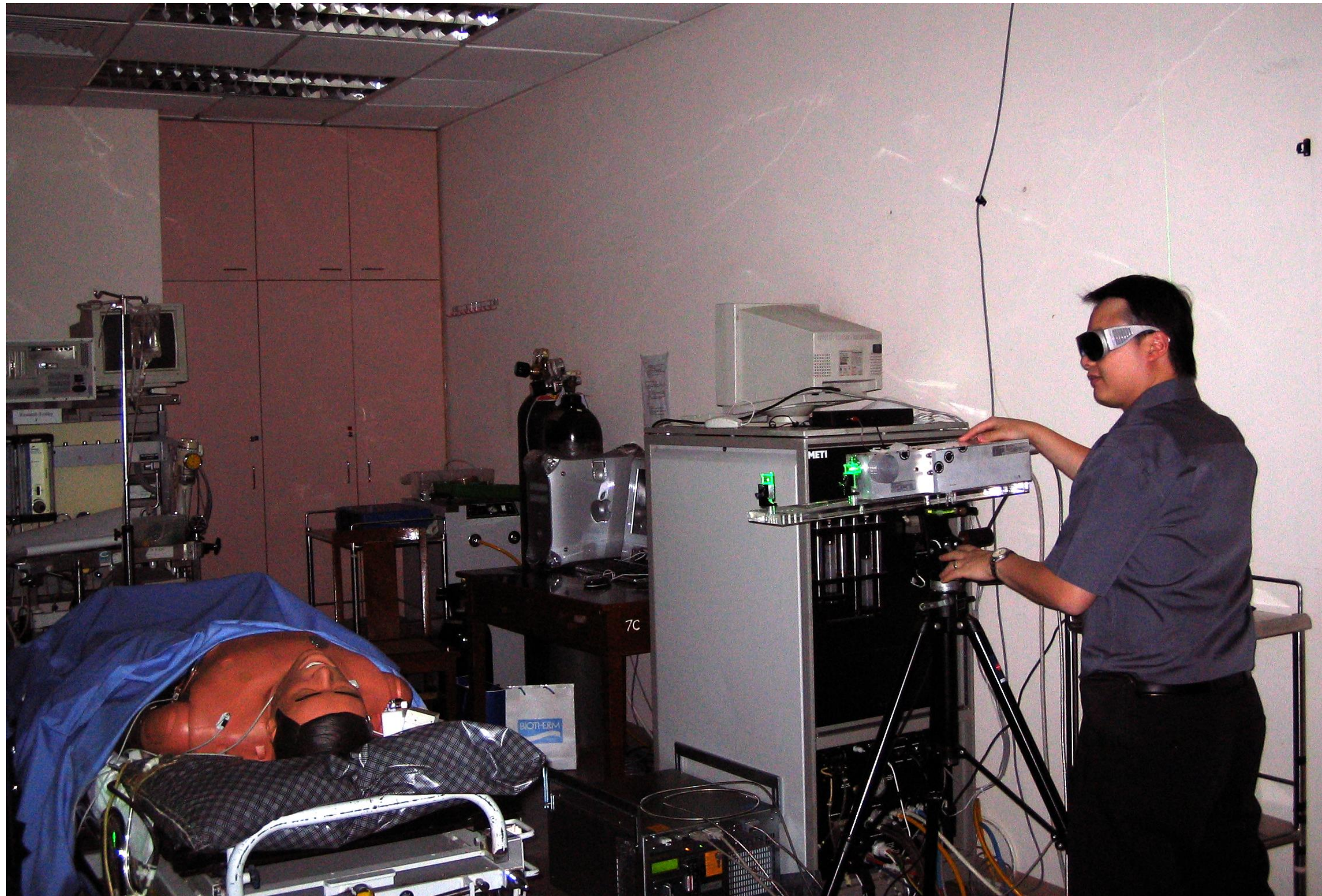


Figure: Set-up of Spectra Physic OEM 532nm DPSS of the Laser Imaging System (LIS).

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Airflow Visualization – Laser Imaging System

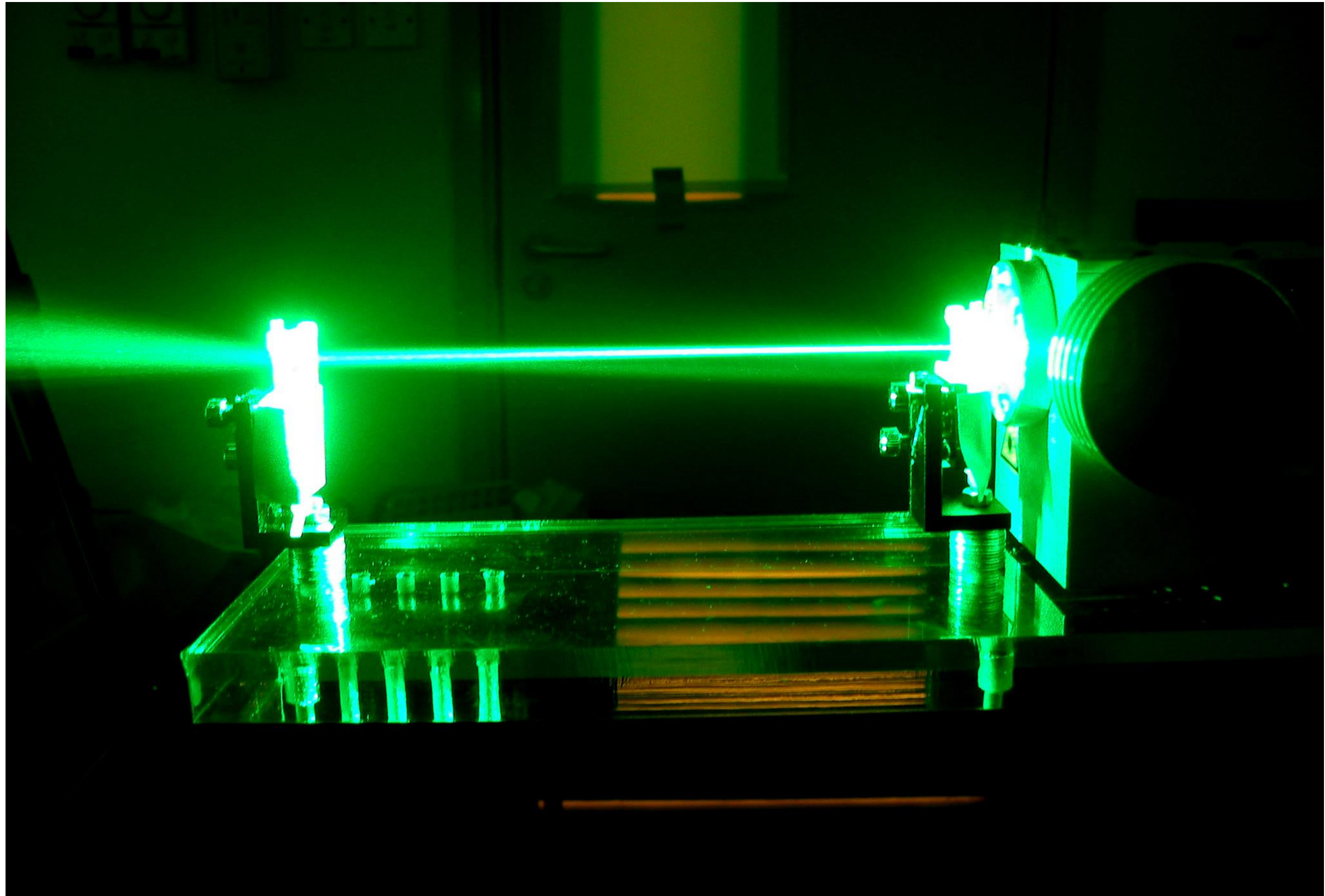


Figure: Powerful laser beam and light sheet was generated from Nd:YAG DPSS laser system passing through an optical system developed for this study.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Image Capture and Frame Extraction



Figure: Calibrating the low-powered LIS with the dimension grid mounted on the median sagittal plane of the mannequin.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Experiments on Jet Nebulizer



Figure: A jet nebulizer was attached to a HPS with a LST laser light sheet in the transverse plane.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Experiments on Jet Nebulizer



Figure: Photograph showing aerosol dispersion and patient exhaled air plume of jet nebulizer. **Dr. Benny CHOW**
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Image Capture and Frame Extraction

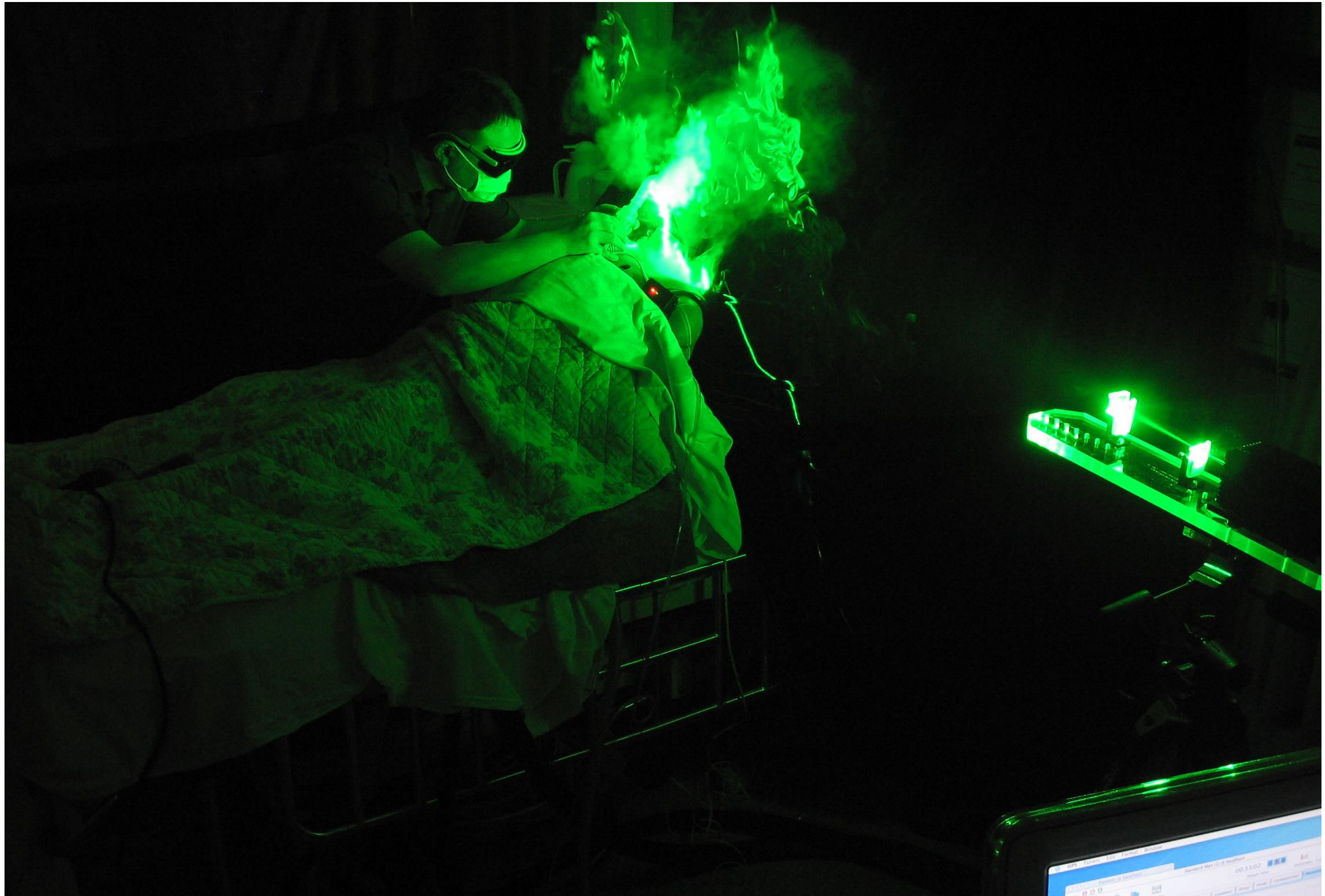


Figure: Mask fitting to seal the air leakage and aligning the laser light sheet to the centerline of the mask side vents.

Dr. Benny CHOW

(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Deliberated Air Leakage of ResMed Ultra Mirage Full Face Mask



Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Human Patient Simulator – Support Physiological Functions



HPS Mannequin



HPS Console



HPS Lab Rack

Figure: HPS system includes a mannequin, a control console and a lab rack (METI 2009).

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Human Patient Simulator – Support Physiological Functions

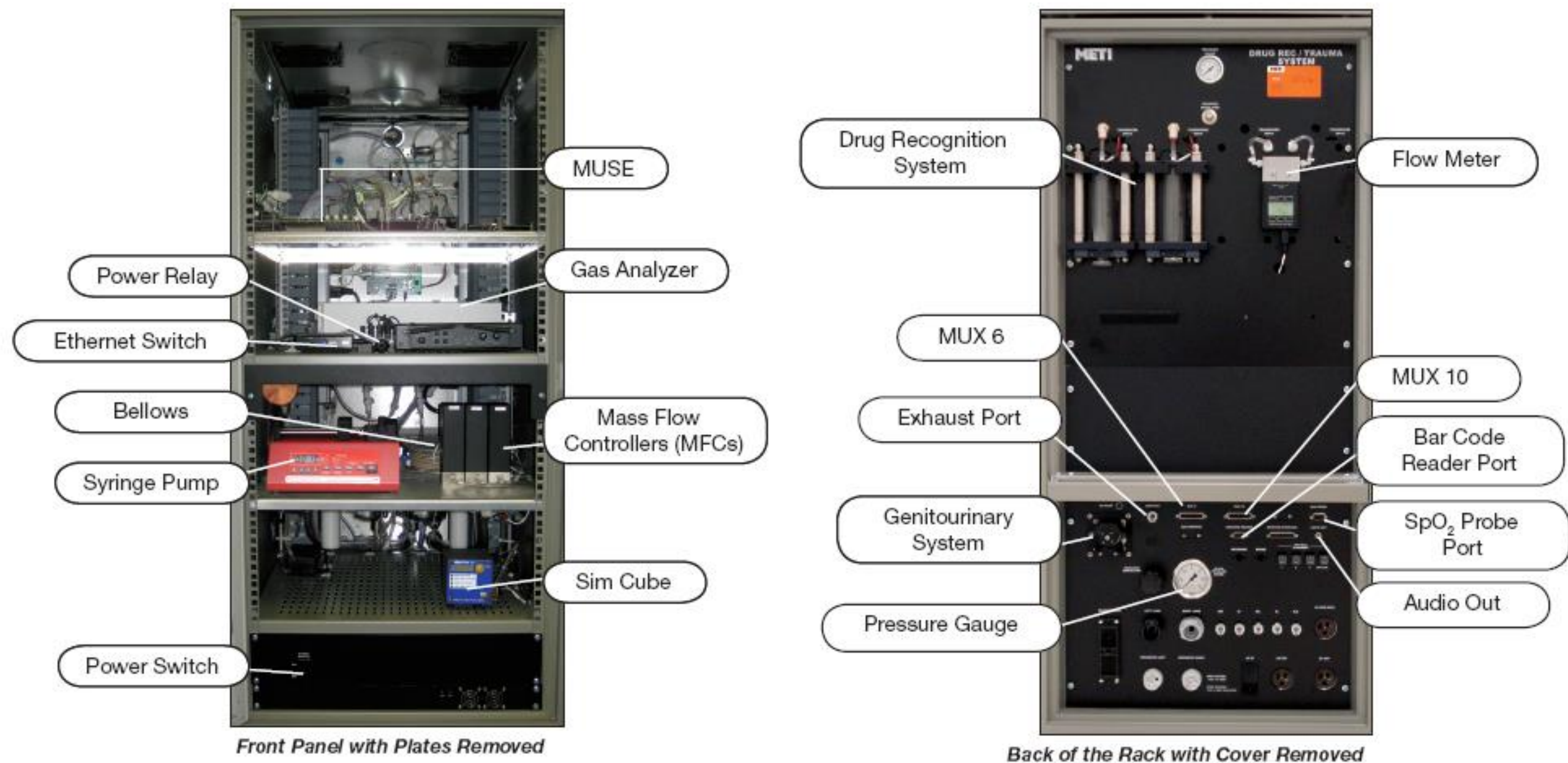


Figure: The HPS lab rack is equipped with sophisticated mechanical lung bellows and precise mass flow controllers to simulate the human airway and oxygen compliance physiology (METI 2009).

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Human Patient Simulator – Support Physiological Functions



Figure: HPS mannequin with realistic airway including oropharynx, nasopharynx and larynx for **Dr. Benny CHOW** simulating human respiratory physiology. (ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Human Patient Simulator – Support Physiological Functions

HR	MAP	C.O.
72	81	5.9
SpO2	Hct	Isch. Idx.
98	42.30	1.78
ABP	PAP	CVP
117/52	26/11	10
Left Vol.	Right Vol.	Spont.VT
1321	1352	646
PACO2	PAO2	Spont.RR
41.0	112.5	11
Alv. N2O	Alv. Iso.	Alv. Sevo.
0.0	0.0	0.0
Alv. Halo.		Alv. Enf.
0.0		0.0
PaCO2	pH	PaO2
39.7	7.44	108.6
PvCO2		PvO2
44.9		42.0
TBody	Weight	TBlood
36.5	70.0	37.0

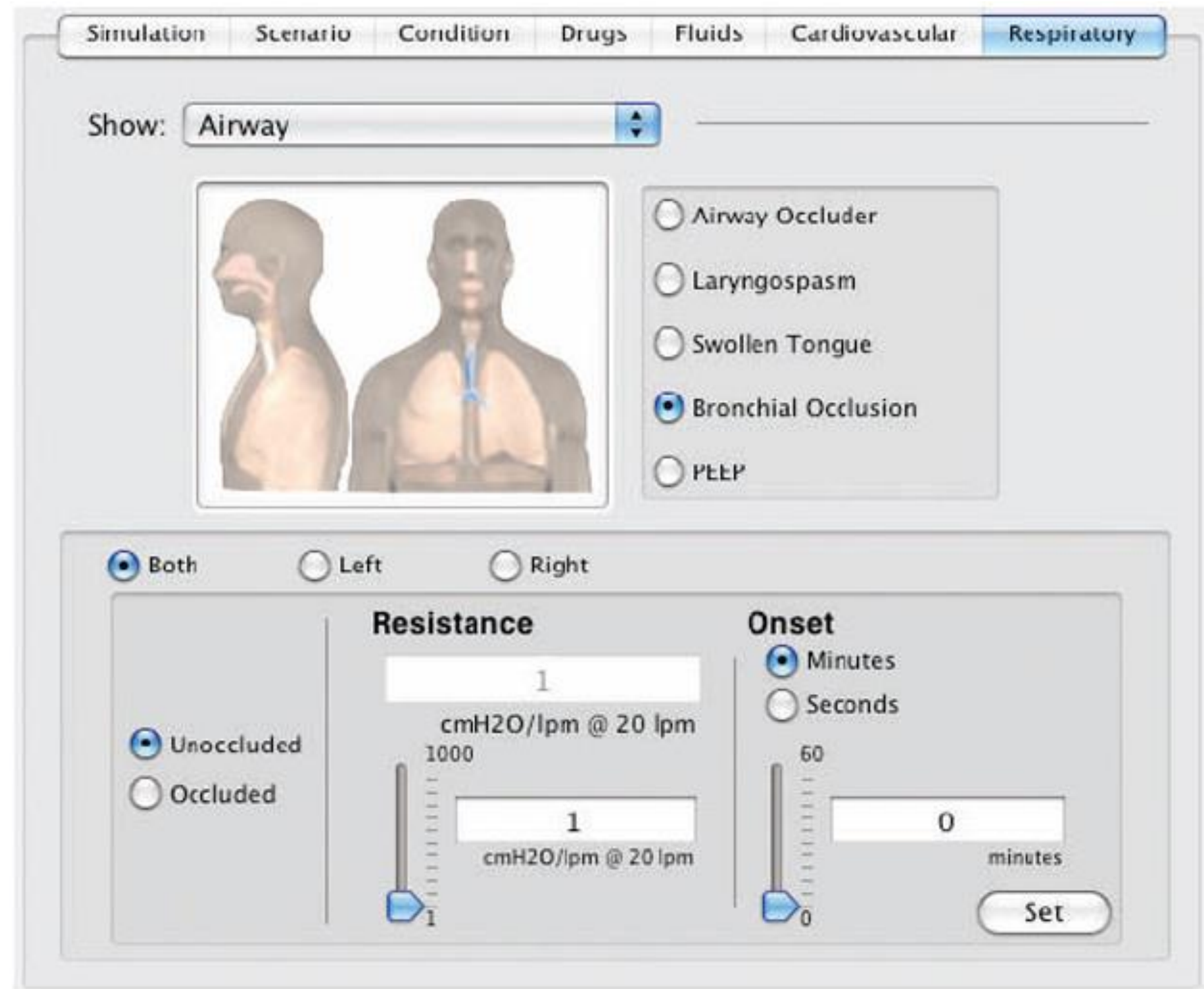


Figure: HPS system console can dynamically control the airway parameters, including variation of tidal volume, respiratory rate and oxygen consumption (METI 2009).

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(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Human Patient Simulator – Support Physiological Functions

Control Parameters	Normal Lung Condition	Mild Lung Injury	Severe Lung Injury
Oxygen consumption (ml/min)	200	300	500
Lung compliance (ml/cmH ₂ O)	70	35	10
Respiratory rate (breaths/min)*	12	25	40
Tidal volume (ml)*	700	300	150

* The respiratory rate and tidal volume were adjusted by the HPS program to achieve the target oxygen consumption and lung compliance.

Figure: Three different lung settings of the HPS applied in this study.

Human Patient Simulator – Support Physiological Functions



Figure: On-site equipment setup of the HPS, including HPS lab rack and HPS control console with supporting accessories.

Dr. Benny CHOW

(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Human Patient Simulator – Support Physiological Functions



Figure: A mini device developed for the study to synchronize the mechanical movement of the HPS bellows with the laser imaging system (LIS).

Dr. Benny CHOW

(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Quantitative Flow Visualization Analysis



Figure: Background intensity image with ambient lighting switched off for stray background light subtraction.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Quantitative Flow Visualization Analysis



Figure: Grey scale camera frames captured for light intensity analysis routine to generate normalized particle concentration contours.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Quantitative Flow Visualization Analysis

Mean of intensity $c := 1.3$ background reducer $\min(AG) = 7$ $\max(AG) = 255$

$$AM_{i,j} := \frac{A_{i,j}}{N} - \frac{AG_{i,j}}{c} \quad \text{subtract background later}$$

$\min(AM) = -56.185$ $\max(AM) = 205.058$

Checkmean concentration contours

$P := 2$ squarepixel summing region $\text{rows}(AM) = 720$
 $\text{cols}(AM) = 1280$

Counters

$I_{\max} := \text{rows}(AM)$
 $J_{\max} := \text{cols}(AM)$

$$\frac{I_{\max}}{P} = 360 \quad \text{floor}\left(\frac{I_{\max}}{P}\right) = 360 \quad \text{rows}(AM) - \text{floor}\left(\frac{I_{\max}}{P}\right) \cdot P = 0 \quad \text{pixels at bottom edge ignored}$$

$$\frac{J_{\max}}{P} = 640 \quad \text{floor}\left(\frac{J_{\max}}{P}\right) = 640 \quad \text{cols}(AM) - \text{floor}\left(\frac{J_{\max}}{P}\right) \cdot P = 0 \quad \text{pixels at right edge ignored}$$

$$i := 1.. \text{floor}\left(\frac{I_{\max}}{P}\right) \quad j := 1.. \text{floor}\left(\frac{J_{\max}}{P}\right)$$

Meancalculation

$$BX_j := \frac{P}{2} + (j-1) \cdot P + 0.5 \quad \text{x y pixel values at center of square region}$$

$$BY_i := \frac{P}{2} + (i-1) \cdot P + 0.5$$

$$IM_{i,j} := \frac{\sum_{b=1}^P \sum_{a=1}^P AM_{a+(i-1) \cdot P, b+(j-1) \cdot P}}{P \cdot P}$$

$\min(IM) = -19.832$ $\max(IM) = 197.068$

Proportionalise $IM_{ave} := 130$

$$IM_{i,j} := \frac{IM_{i,j}}{IM_{ave}}$$

x y scaling correction

Centre point in pixels $Cx := 990$ $Cy := 506$

Magnification factor - pixels over 200 mm length on grid

Horizontal $PH_{left} := 282$ $PH_{right} := 932$

$$MH := \frac{800}{PH_{right} - PH_{left}} \quad MH = 1.23076923$$

Vertical $PV_{bott} := 465$ $PV_{top} := 144$

$$MV := \frac{400}{PV_{bott} - PV_{top}} \quad MV = 1.24610592$$

Magnification Factor

$$MF := \frac{MH + MV}{2} \quad MF = 1.23843757$$

Scaling

$\min(BX) = 1.5$ $\max(BX) = 1279.5$ $\min(BY) = 1.5$ $\max(BY) = 719.5$
 $\text{rows}(BX) = 640$ $\text{cols}(BX) = 1$ $\text{rows}(BY) = 360$ $\text{cols}(BY) = 1$

$$BX_j := (BX_j - Cx) \cdot MF$$

$$BY_i := (BY_i - Cy) \cdot MF$$

$Z := 0$ Z plane

Convert to columns

$$DX_{i,j} := BX_j$$

$$DY_{i,j} := BY_i$$

$$DZ_{i,j} := Z$$

$$DM_{i,j} := IM_{i,j}$$

Combine mean in matrix C

$D := \text{stack}(DX, DY, DZ, DM)$

$\text{WRITEPRN}("cmean.prm") := D$ Nolines in C $\text{rows}(BY) \cdot \text{rows}(BX) = 230400$

$\text{VARIABLES} = "X""Y""Z""Cmean"$
 $\text{ZONE T} = "01" \text{ I} = \text{no.lines} \text{ F} = \text{BLOCK}$

Figure: MathCAD routines developed for the calculation of ensemble-averaged intensity and normalized particle concentration contours.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Quantitative Flow Visualization Analysis

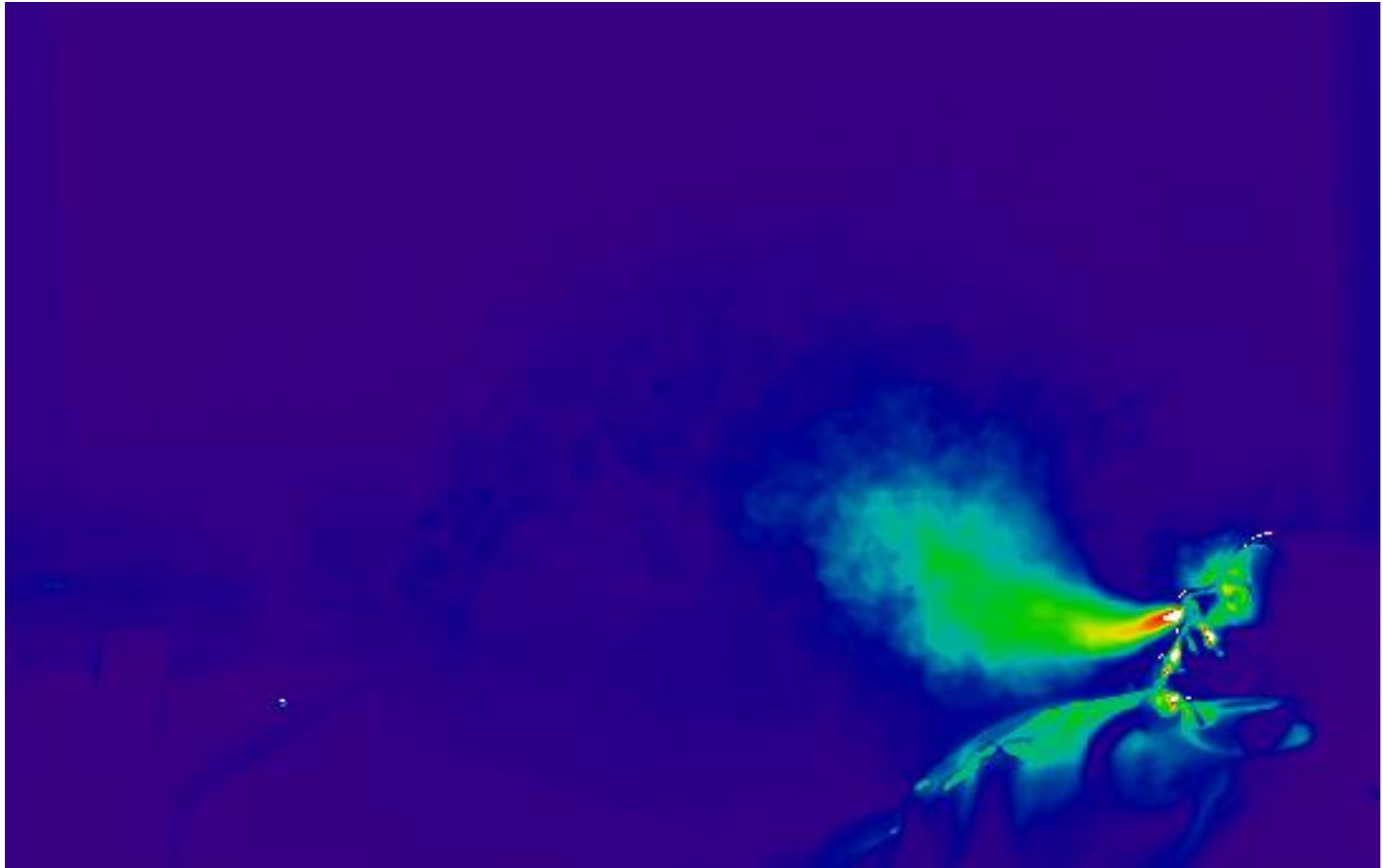
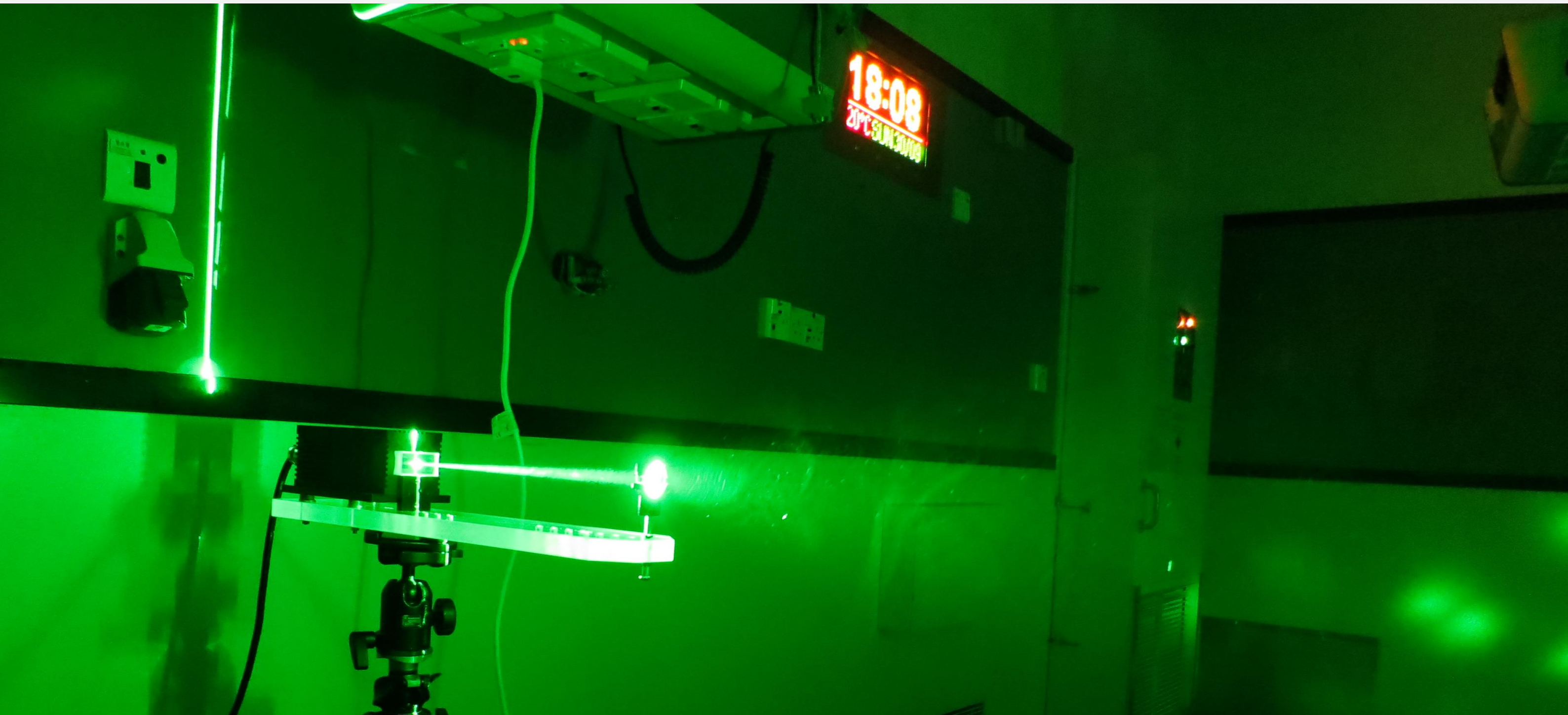


Figure: Normalized concentration contour after the background light subtraction and intensity averaging routine.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

EXPERIMENTS ON DIFFERENT ISOLATION WARD DESIGNS



Negative Pressure Isolation Ward

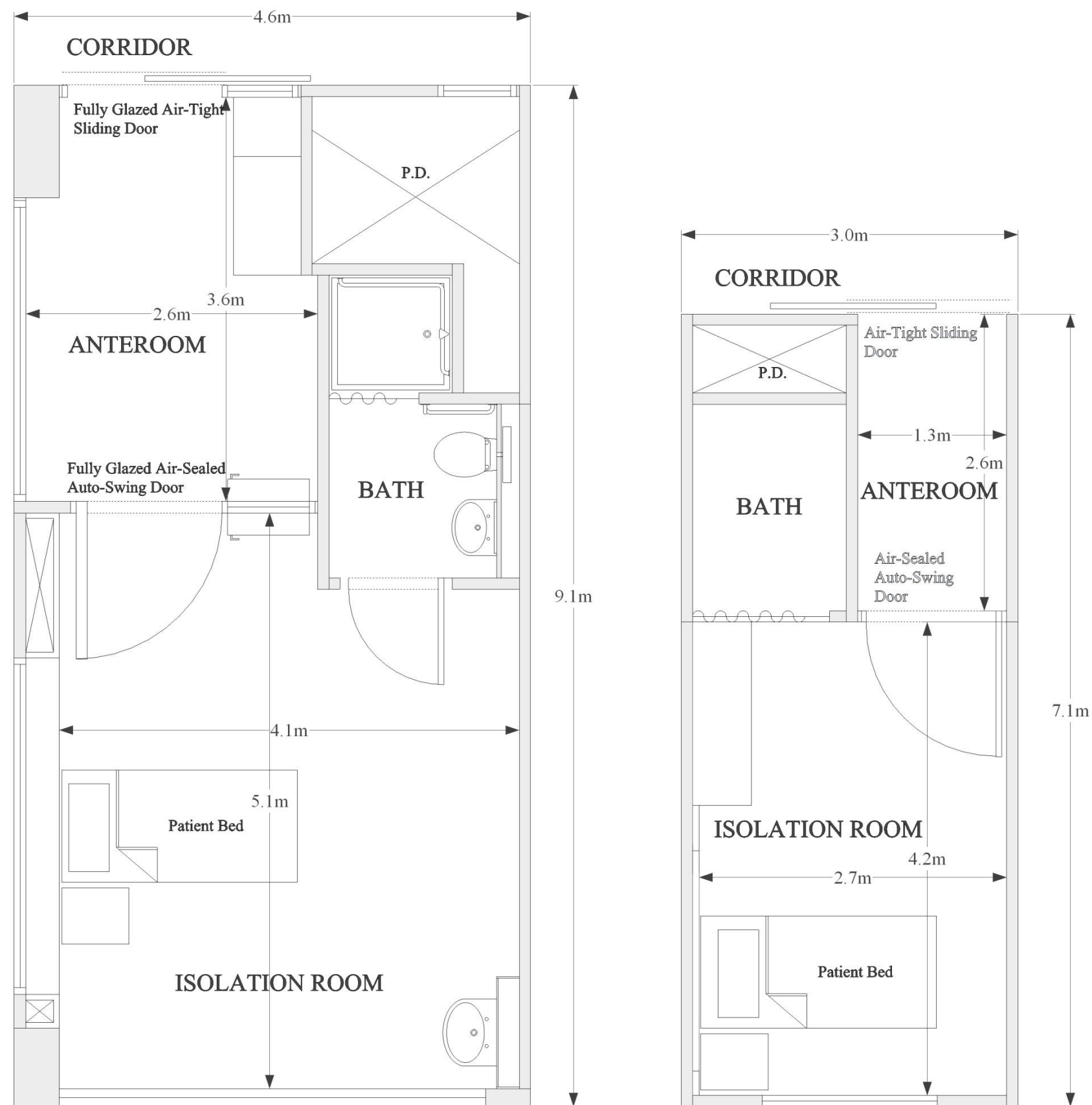


Figure: Isolation room A at PMH (left) and isolation room B of PWH (right) used in experiments. **Dr. Benny CHOW**
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Summary of the Configurations of the Isolation Rooms

Settings	Room A	Room B
Dimension (W x L x H)	4.1 x 5.1 x 2.6m	2.7 x 4.2 x 2.4 m
Pressure	-7 Pa	-5 Pa
Air changes per hour	16	12
Number of beds	1	1
Ambient temperature (C)	21.4 degree	23.4 degree
Relative humidity	62%	65%
Double exhaust fans	No	No

Figure: Summary of the patient ward configurations, geometries and physical settings for the experiments.

Ventilation Performance of Isolation Room A



Figure: Room interior of the single patient bed isolation room for on-site measurement.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Ventilation Performance of Isolation Room A



Figure: Unoccupied isolation floor at PMH for the smoke particle experiment.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Ventilation Performance – Air Changes per Hour



Figure: The whole 7th floor of Infectious Disease Center at PMH holds large scale mechanical **Dr. Benny CHOW** plants for supporting the air change and negative pressure requirements of All rooms. (ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Ventilation Performance – Air Changes per Hour

Ventilation Performance (ACH) of Room No. 12 on
the 15 Floor of Infectious Disease Center at PMH

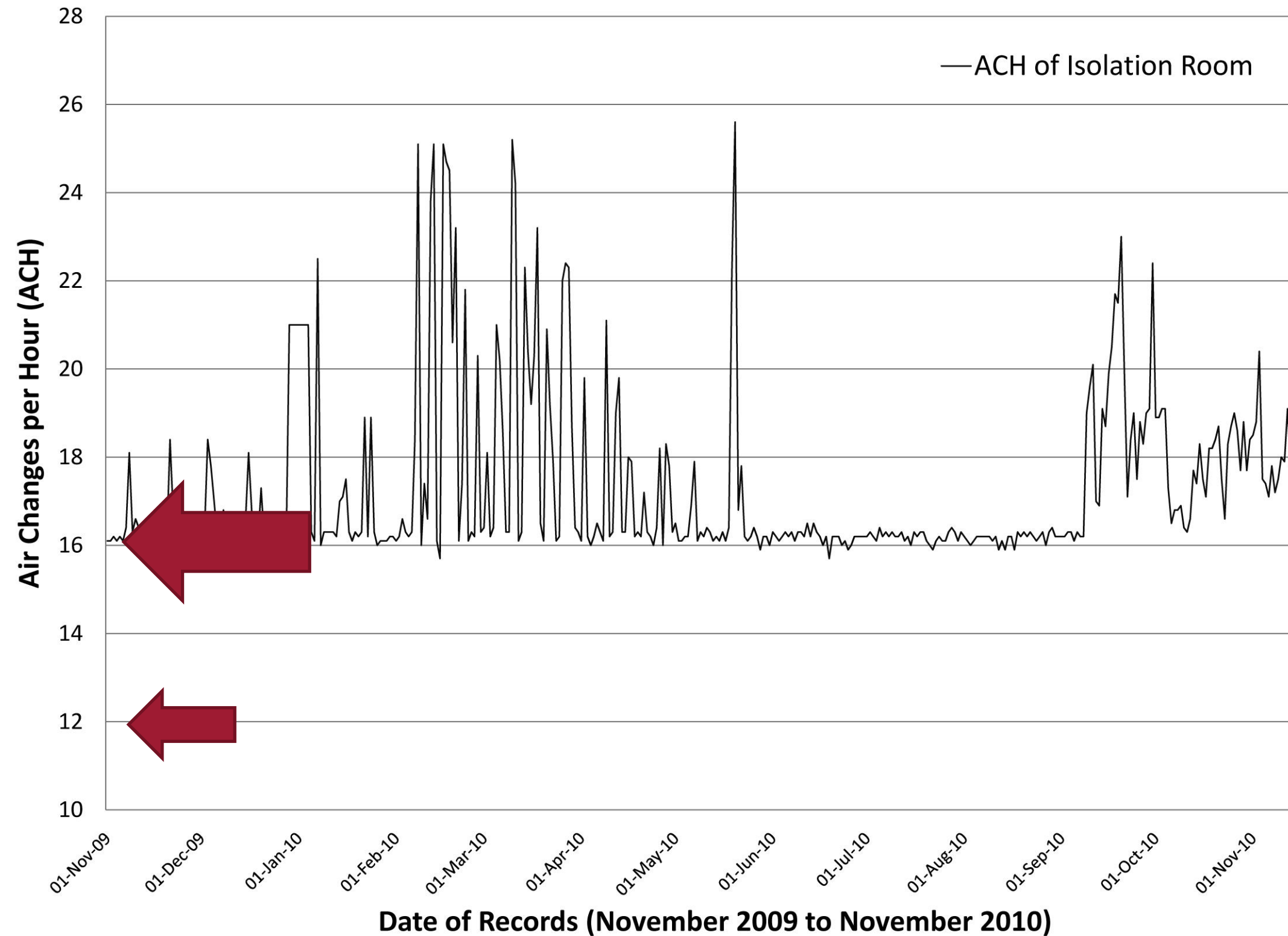


Figure: Ventilation performance of the isolation room A at PMH in daily averaged ACH.

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(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Ventilation Performance – Negative Pressure Control

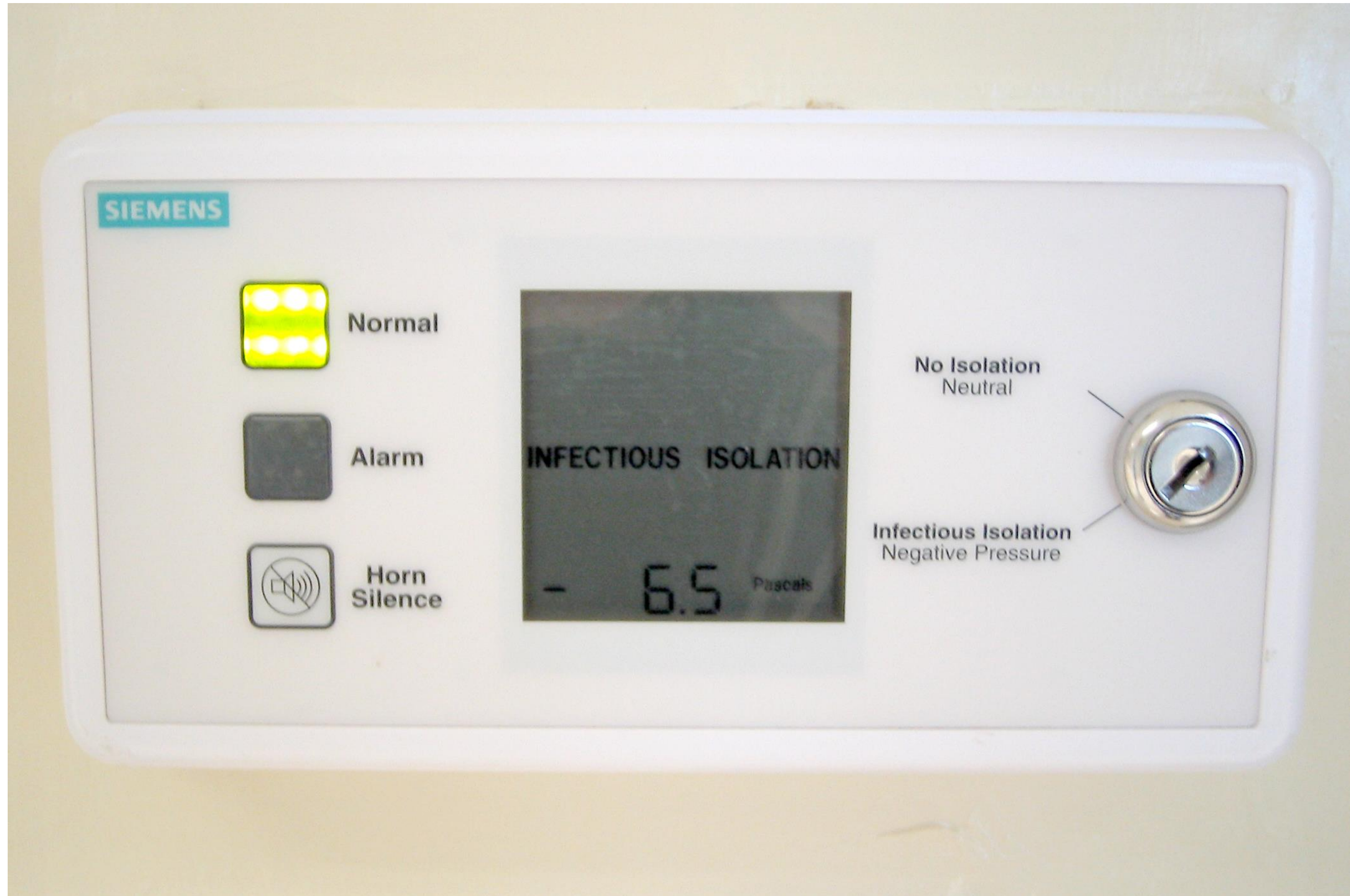


Figure: Front door panel for monitoring the negative pressure in the room.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Ventilation Performance – Auto-Swing Door Closed

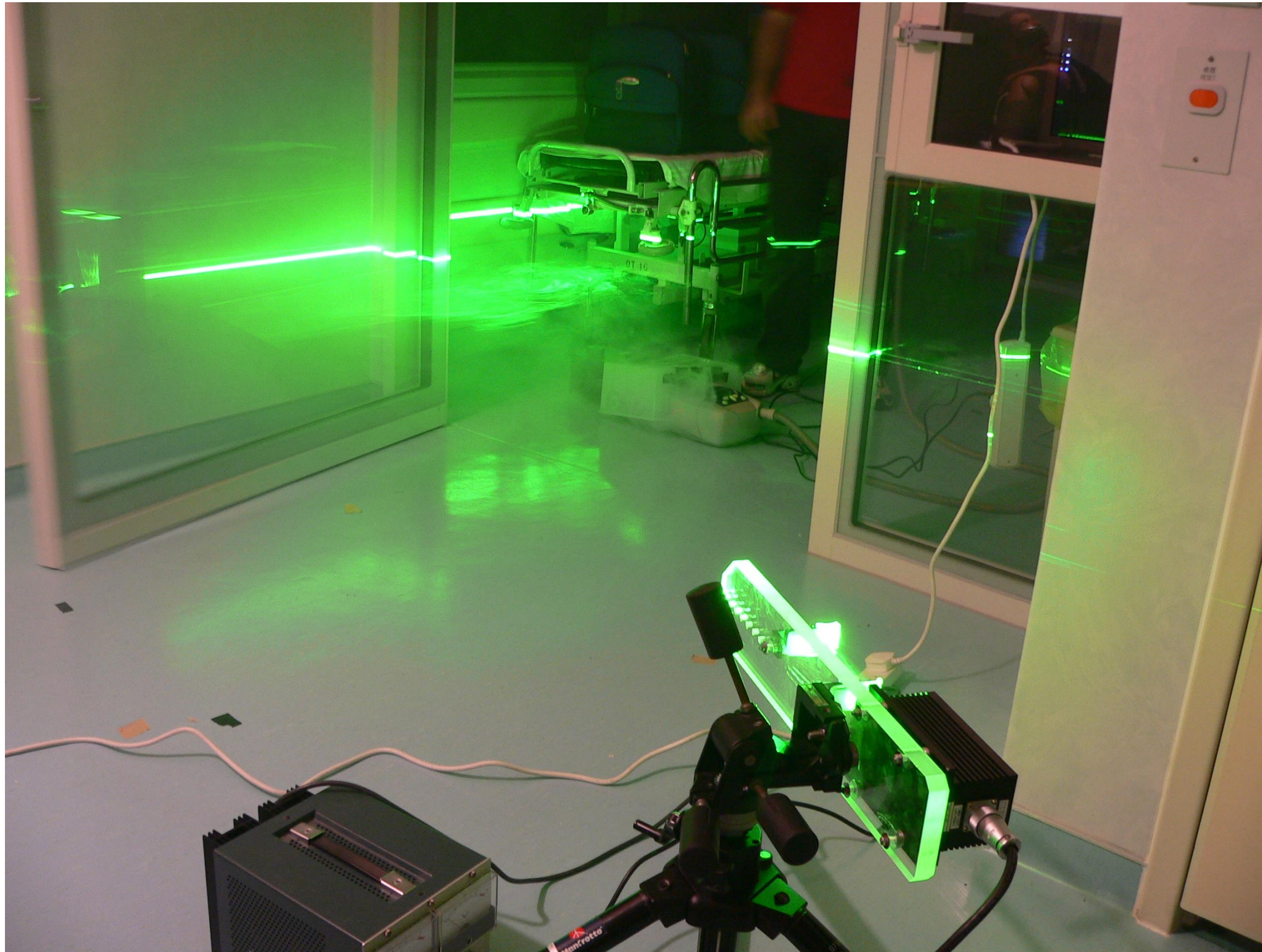


Figure: Laser light sheet parallel to the floor revealed the smoke particle movement between the anteroom and the patient room (viewing from patient room towards anteroom).

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(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Ventilation Performance – Auto-Swing Door Closed

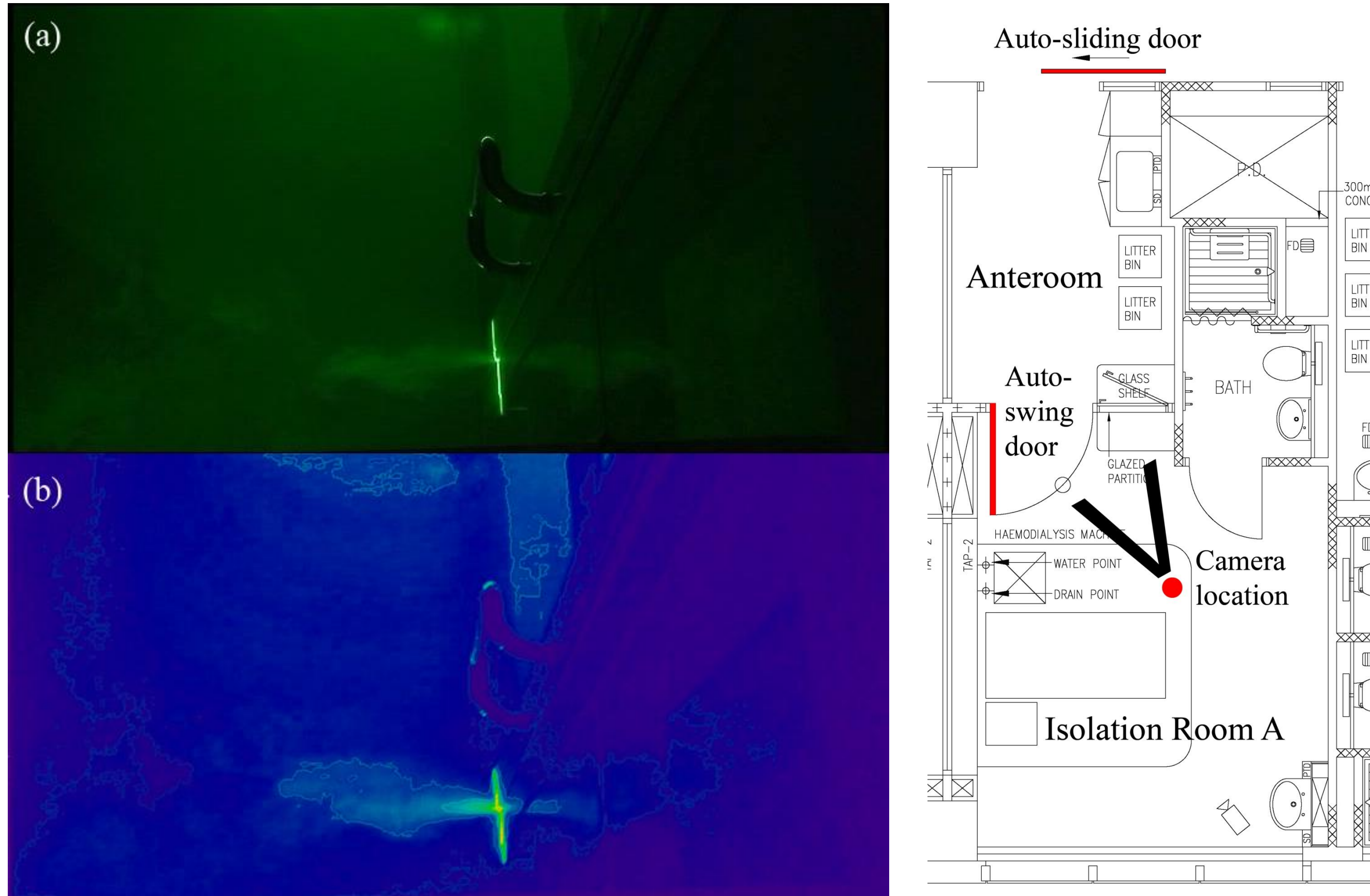


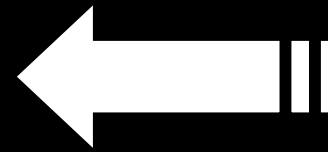
Figure: Laser flow visualization showing air enters in from the anteroom (right) to the patient room (left) from the door gap at the auto-swing door, (above) visual image (below) false color map of normalized smoke particle concentration.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Airflow Direction Control (view from patient ward to anteroom)

(Isolation Ward)

(-ve Pressure)



(Anteroom)

(designated airflow direction)



Ventilation Performance – Auto-Swing Door is being Opened

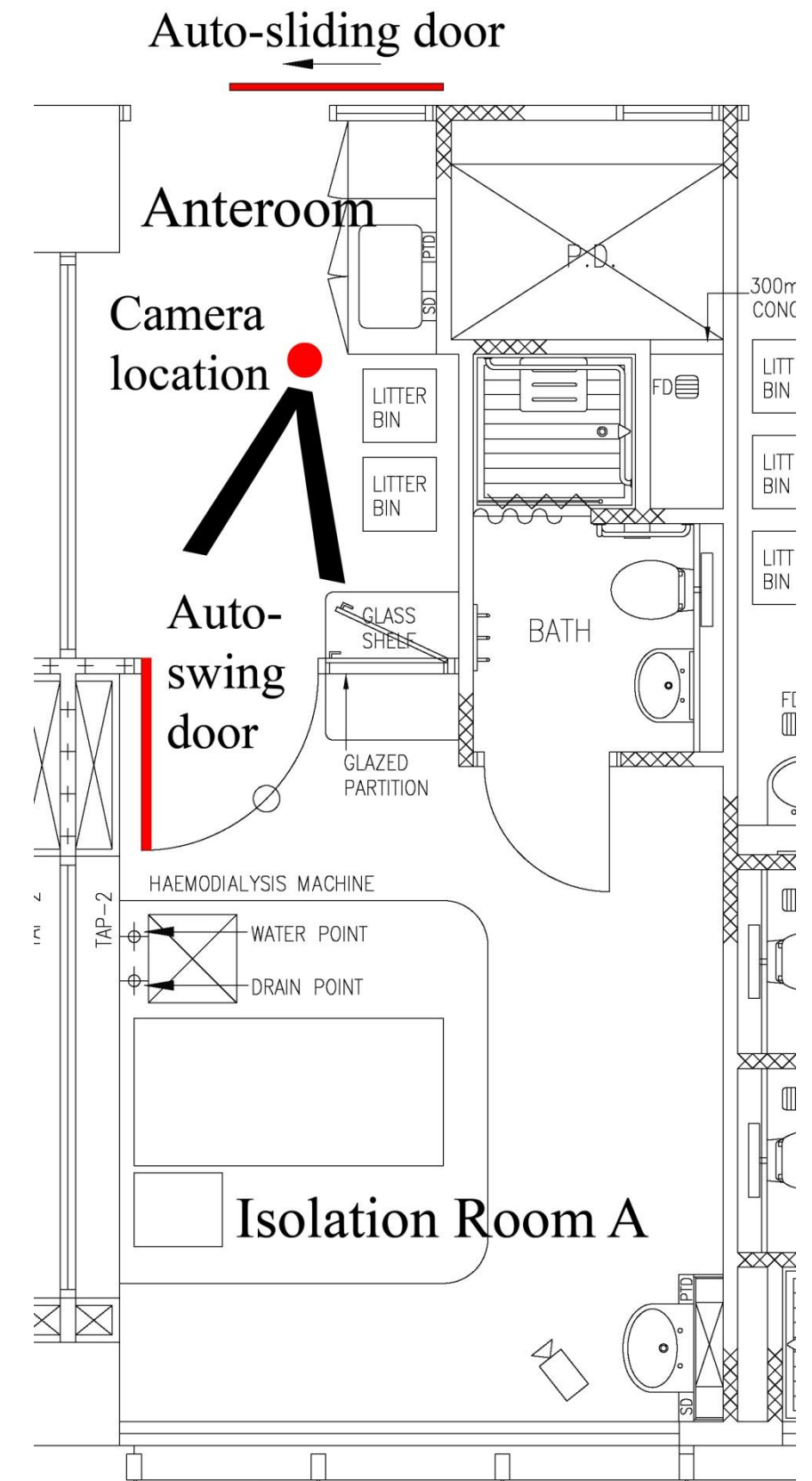


Figure: Laser flow visualization showing air enters in from the anteroom (right) to the patient room (left) from the door gap at the auto-swing door, (above) visual image (below) false color map of normalized smoke particle concentration.

Dr. Benny CHOW
(ASHRAE-HKC/Med.CUHK)

Airflow Direction Control (view from anteroom to patient ward)



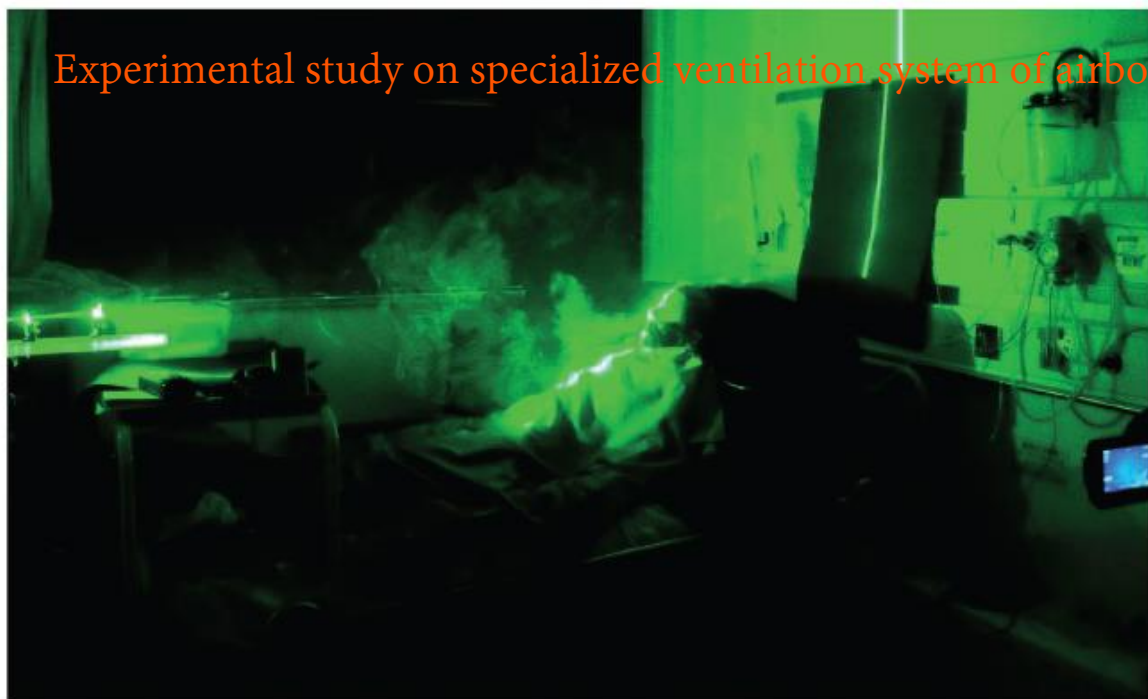


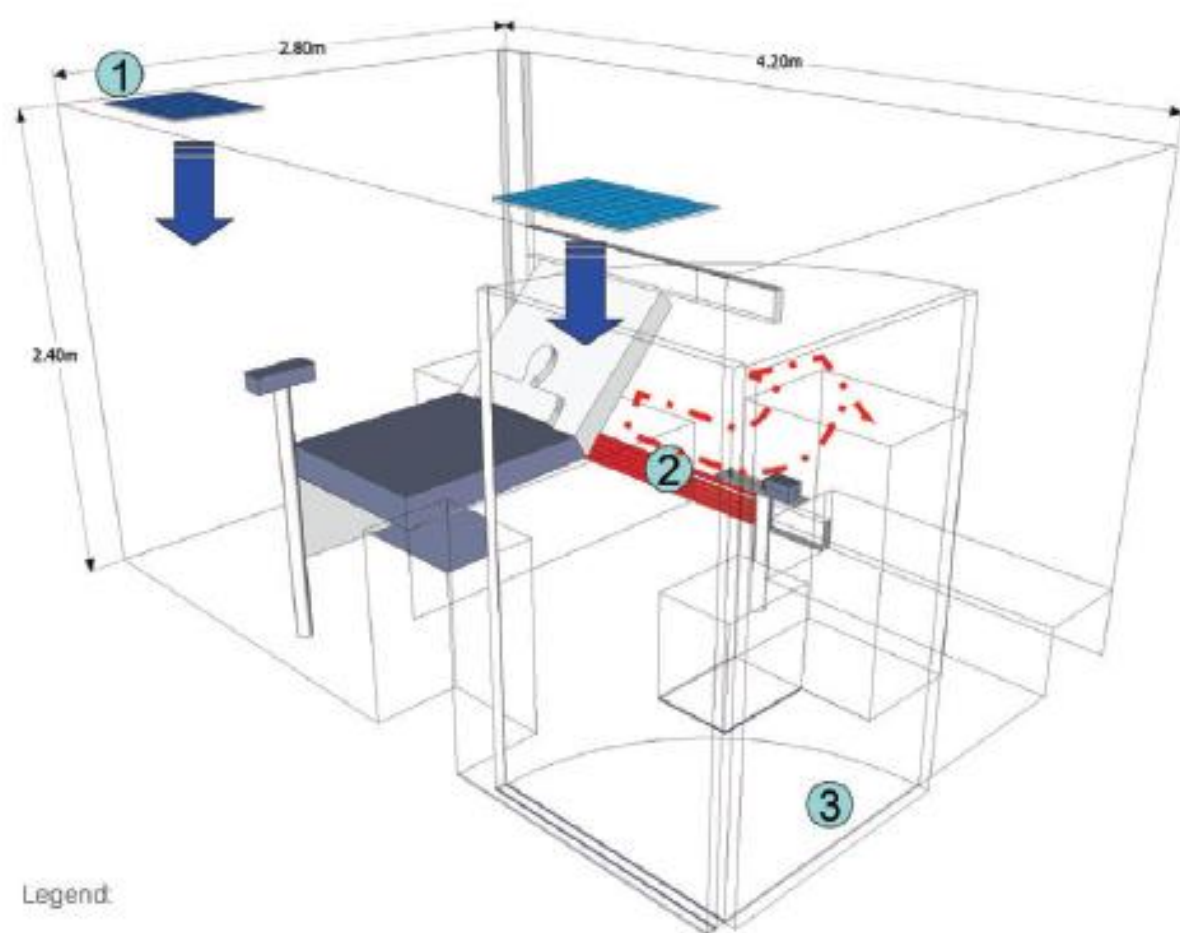
Figure 2 Room ventilation design and experimental set-up. The room (only room B is shown) is fitted with the downward ventilation systems. The design is to supply conditioned and clean air from the ceiling diffuser to sweep away contaminants, which would then be removed via the outlets at the floor level. Nasal cannulae were fitted to the human-patient simulator. The exhaled air plume was marked with intrapulmonary smoke, and was revealed by the laser light-sheet. The images were captured by a high-definition camera positioned to the left side of the simulator. Smoke concentration in the plume was estimated from the light scattered by smoke particles.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Exhaled air dispersion and removal is influenced by isolation room size and ventilation settings during oxygen delivery via nasal cannula

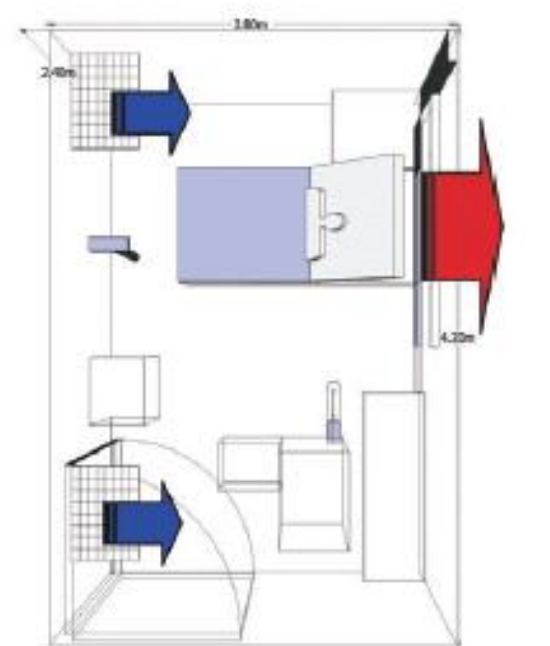
DAVID S. HUI,^{1,2} BENNY K. CHOW,³ LEO CHU,⁴ SUSANNA S. NG,² SIK-TO LAI,⁵ TONY GIN⁴ AND MATTHEW T.V. CHAN⁴

¹Stanley Ho Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases, Departments of ²Medicine and Therapeutics, ³Architecture and ⁴Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and ⁵Department of Medicine and Geriatrics, Princess Margaret Hospital, Hong Kong, China

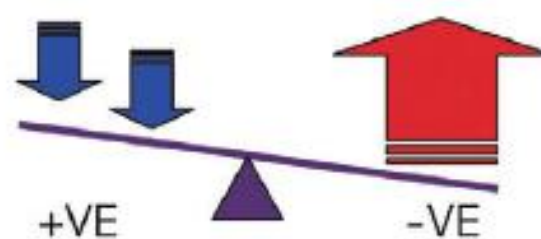


Legend:

- 1 Air Inlet (100% fresh air)
- 2 Air Outlet (HEPA filtration)
- 3 Mechanical Swing-in Door (IR control)



Air Intake < Air Exhaust



Negative Pressure Isolation Room

As oxygen flow was increased gradually

and the exhaled delivery via ator (HPS) in

rapulmonary as gradually sitting at 45°. er light-sheet video. Smoke ted from the experiments tive pressure x 5.1 x 2.6 m, ges/h (ACH) experiments a dimension and 12 ACH

spread almost of the HPS to when oxygen respectively. he downward d air from the oke towards

SUMMARY AT A GLANCE

This study demonstrates that larger isolation rooms with 16 air exchanges/h (ACH) are relatively better than the smaller isolation room with 12 ACH in air mixing and dilution ventilation for removing exhaled air from the patient and preventing room contamination during administration of oxygen therapy.

Key words: exhaled air dispersion, infection control, influenza, nasal cannula, severe acute respiratory syndrome.

INTRODUCTION

Respiratory failure is a major complication of emerging respiratory infections such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS),^{1,2} avian influenza H5N1³ and pandemic influenza (H1N1) 2009 infection.⁴ Rapid and effective oxygen delivery is an essential component in the clinical management of critically ill patients with respiratory failure. While mechanical ventilation via non-invasive positive pressure ventilation is required in the as. oxygen delivery via nasal cannula

Experimental Setup – Effects of Different Room Settings



Figure: HPS sitting on a 45 degree inclined hospital bed with nasal cannula.

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Experimental Setup – Effects of Different Room Settings



Figure: Experimental set-up, light sheet in sagittal plane at room B.

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Nasal Cannula (experiment location: PWH 11/F Isolation Ward)

- O₂ flow rate: 5L/min | Mild lung injury (TV 300mL / RR 25 breaths/min)

Room A:

- Smaller room
- 12 ACH
- Turbulent flow ventilation system



Room B

- Larger room
- 16 ACH
- Downward laminar flow ventilation

Nasal Cannula (experiment location: PMH 12/F Isolation Ward)

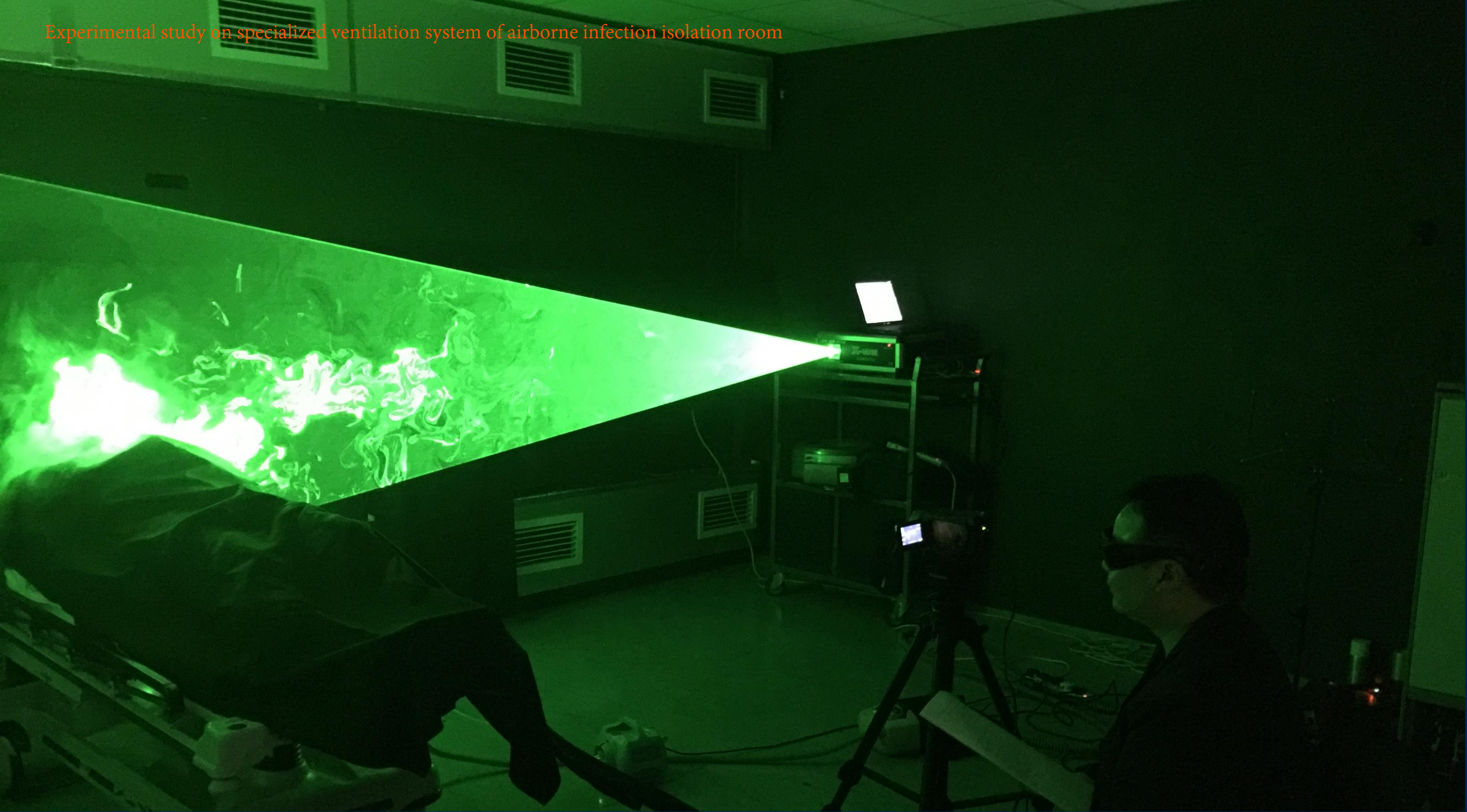
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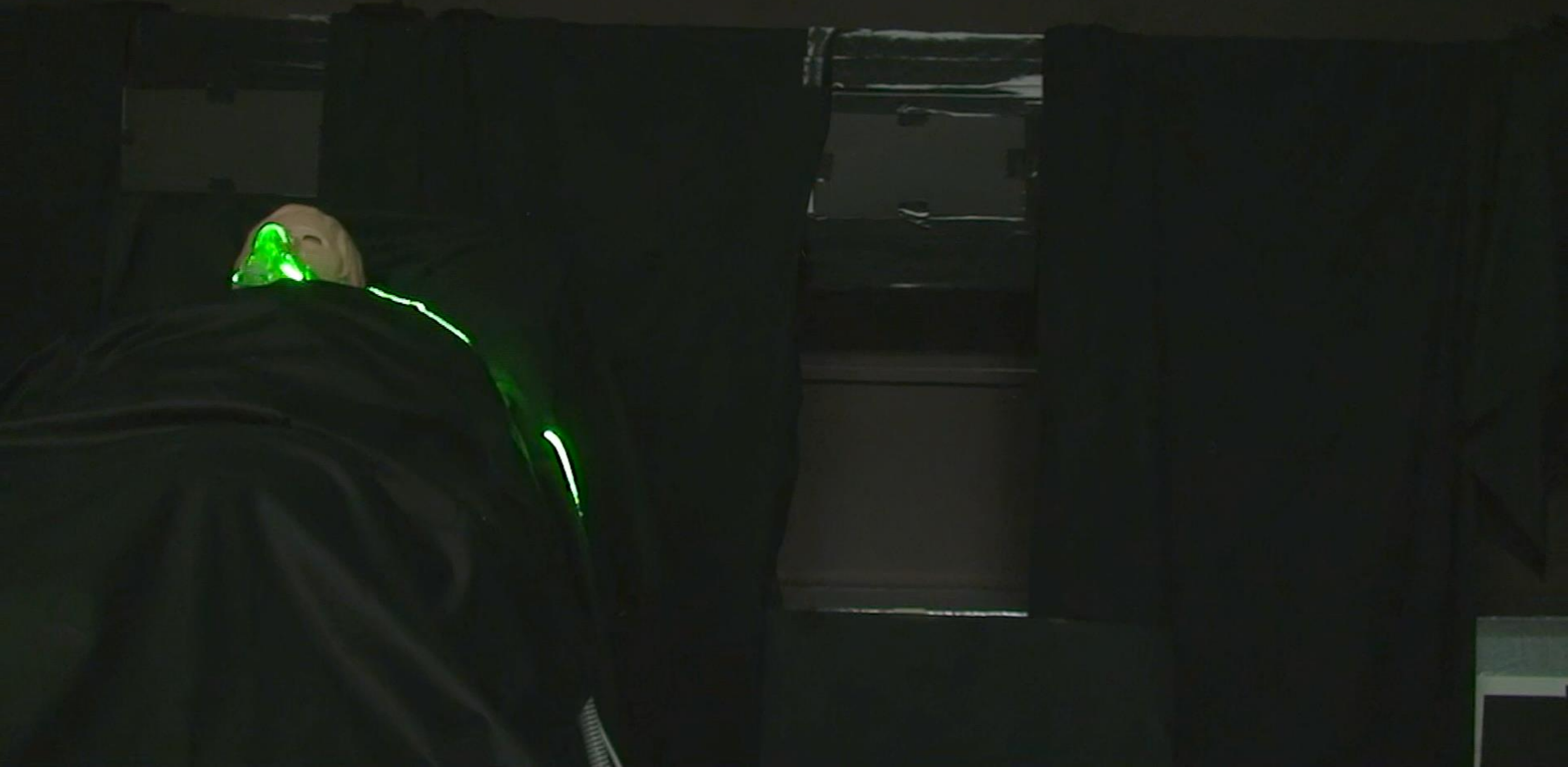
Comparisons of floor vs ceiling vs mixed floor/ceiling level exhaust in a simulated isolation room in removal of exhaled air during aerosol-generating procedures



Rationale: Air exhaust is installed at the floor level in conventional negative pressure isolation rooms on the assumption that this would remove respiratory droplets effectively but the idea has not been proven objectively. We compared the exhaled air dispersion distances and directions during application of a jet nebulizer filled with water and driven by 6L/min of air on a high fidelity human patient simulator (HPS) in a simulated isolation room (6.0 x 6.7 x 2.6m (LWH)) with 12 ACH and the air exhaust located at a) ceiling level, b) floor level and c) both ceiling & floor levels.



Methods: The HPS was positioned at 45° and programmed to mimic different severity of lung injury. Airflow was marked with intrapulmonary smoke for visualization. A leakage jet plume was revealed by a laser light-sheet and images captured by high definition video. Normalized exhaled air concentration in the plume was estimated from the light scattered by the smoke particles. Significant exposure was arbitrarily defined as where there was $\geq 20\%$ of normalized smoke concentration.

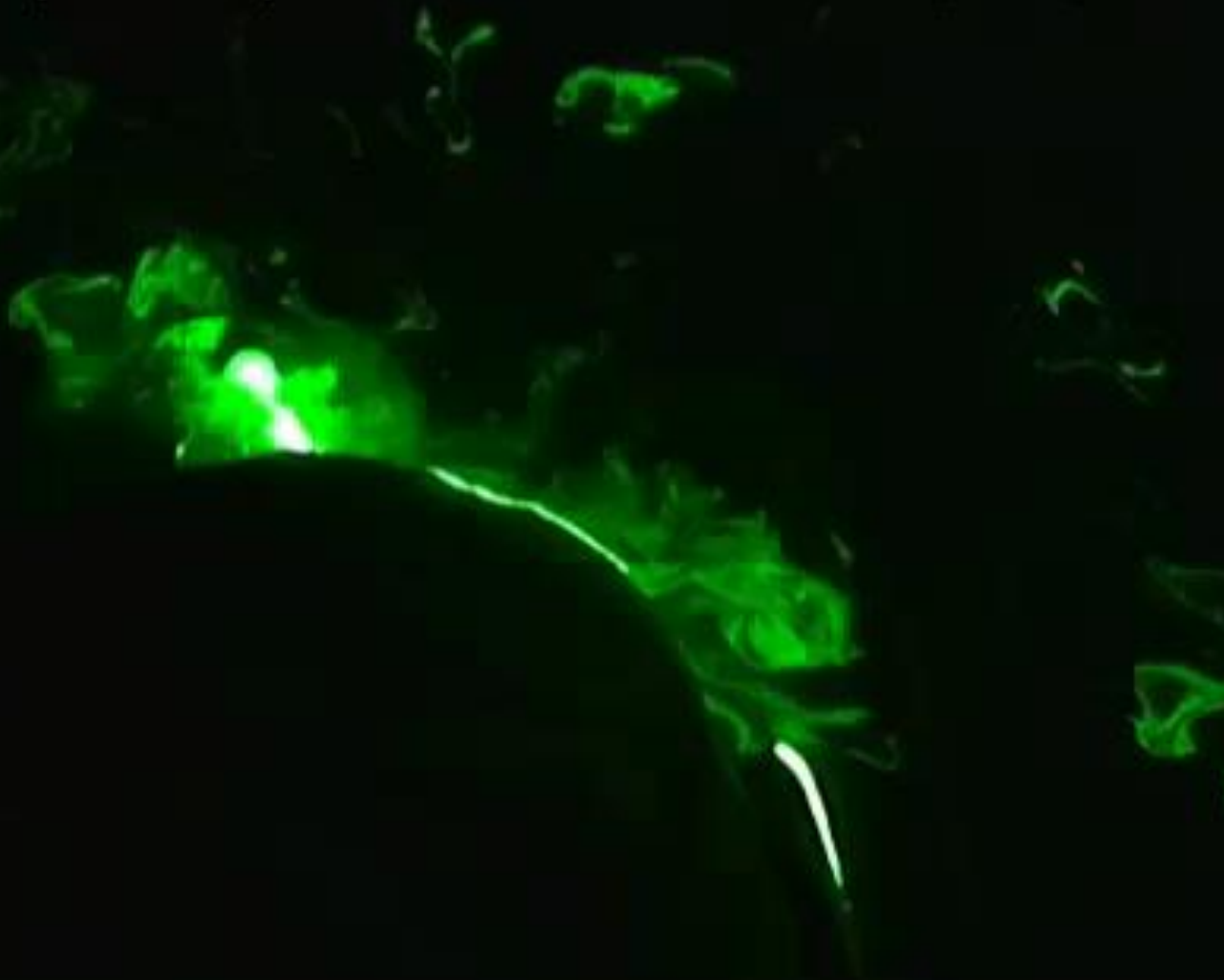


Application of a jet nebulizer to the HPS - Air exhaust located and operated at floor level led to longer exhaled air distance towards the floor but less spatial contamination at the breathing zone than ceiling level exhaust or a combination of ceiling and floor exhausts.
(David Hui et al)



Jet Nebulizer

(12 ACH, tidal volume 700ml/min; 12 breaths per min)



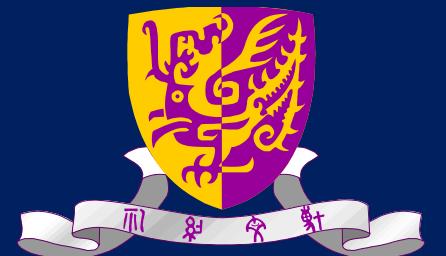
Ceiling & Floor Exhausts
(50%:50%)

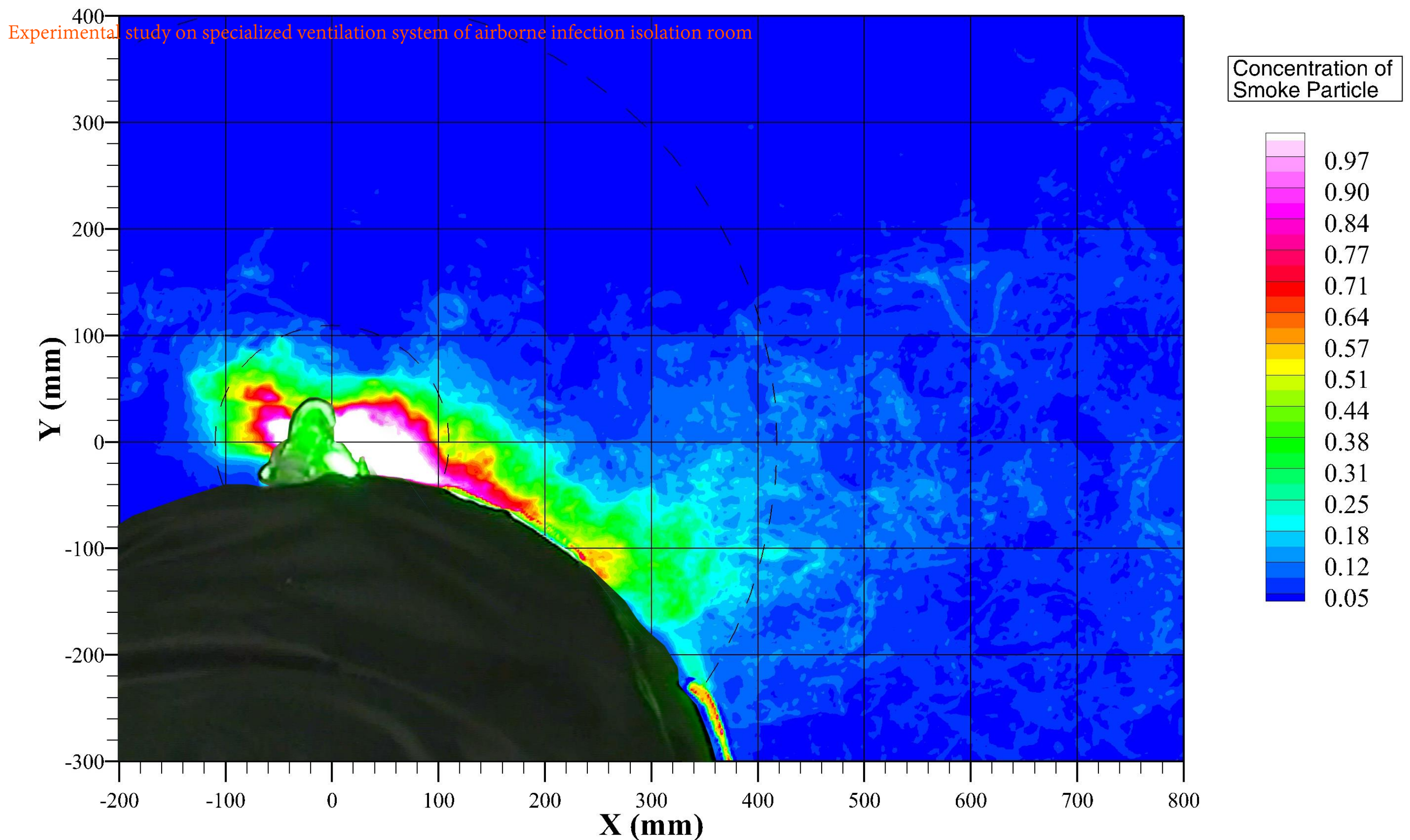
vs



Floor Exhaust
(100%)

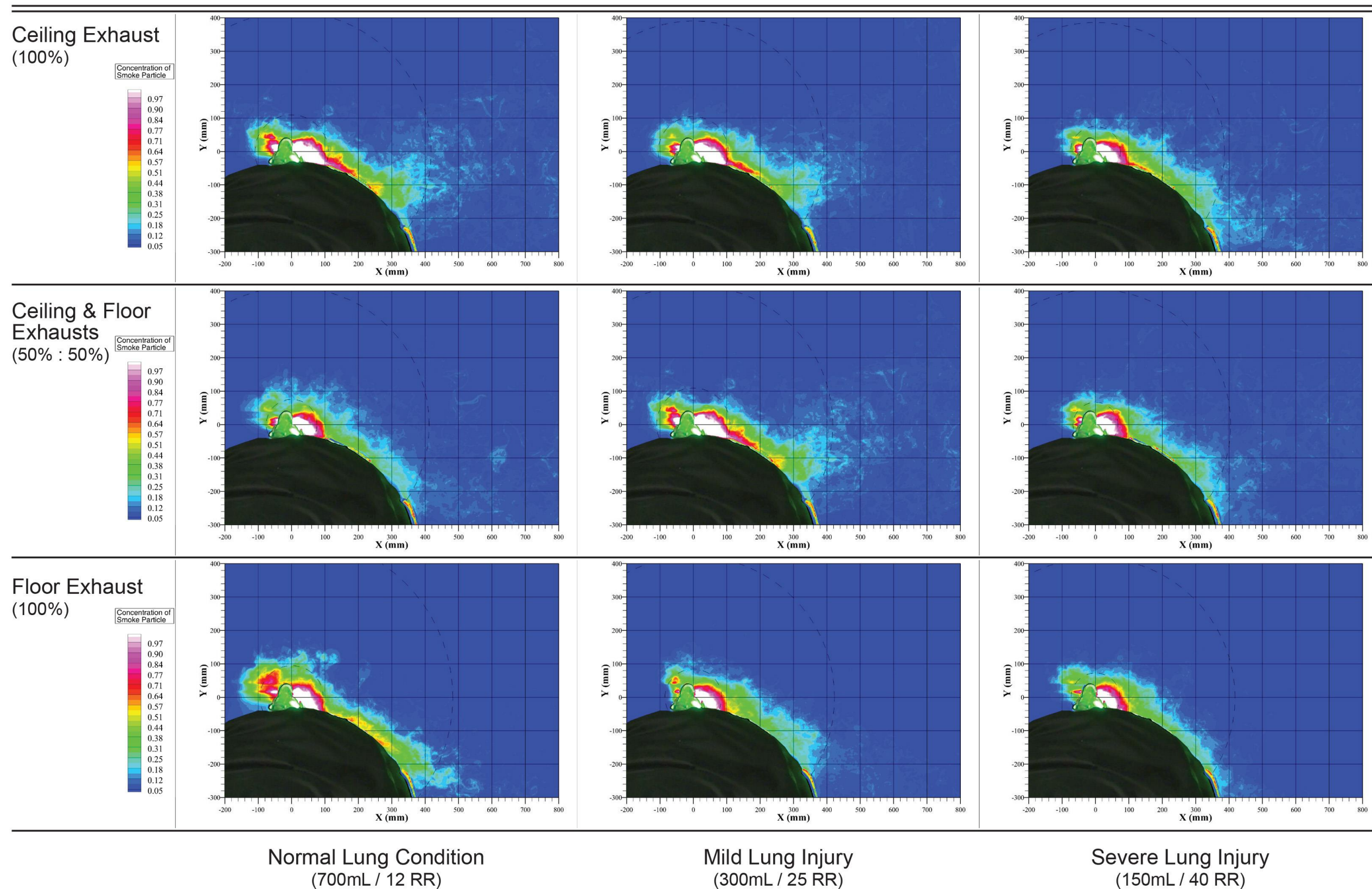
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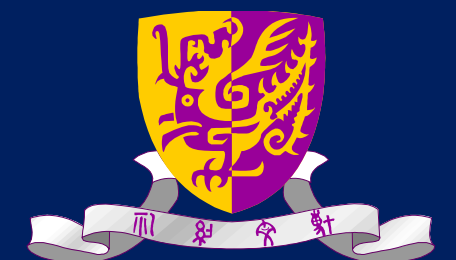


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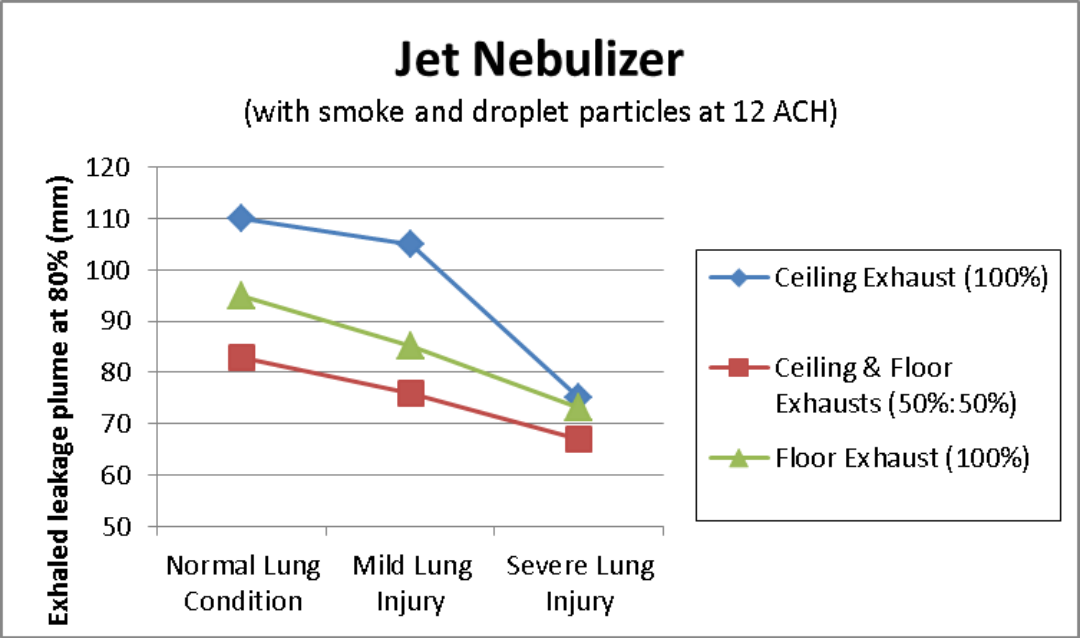
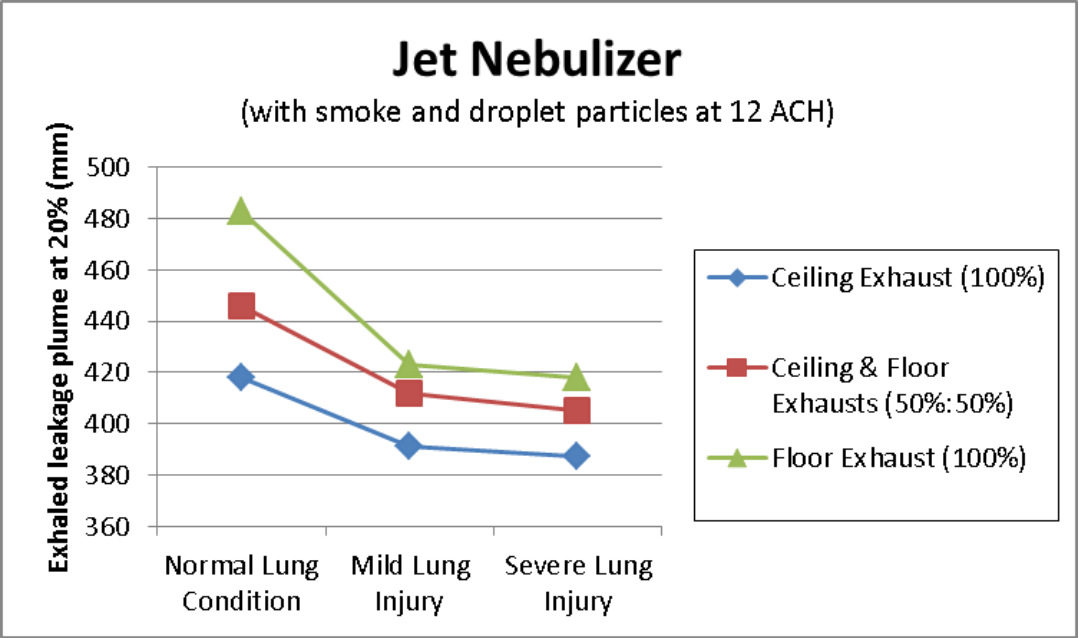
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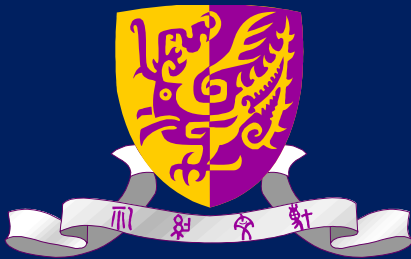
Experimental study on specialized ventilation system of airborne infection isolation room

Jet Nebulizer (with smoke and droplet particles)

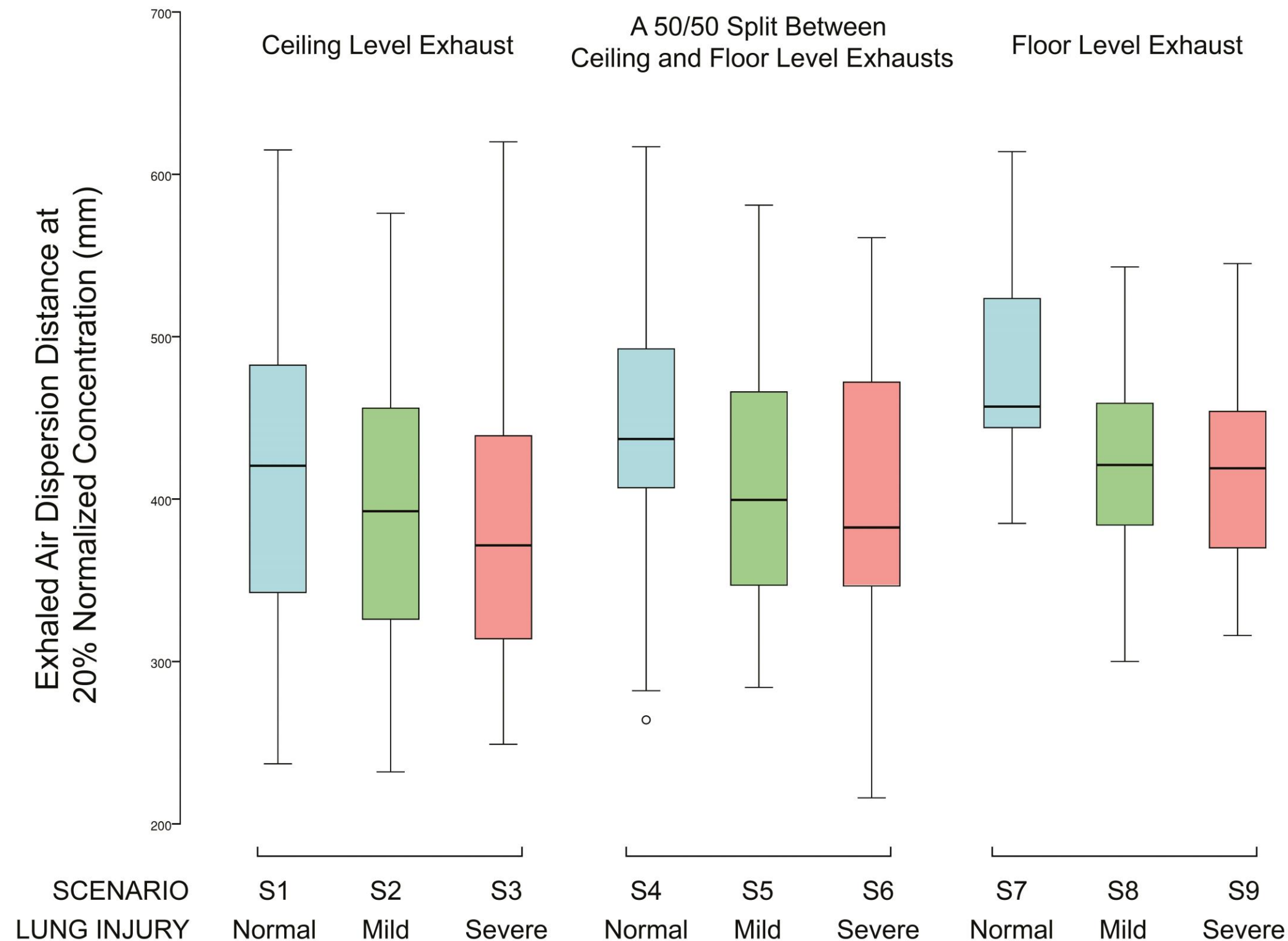
Jet Nebulizer (12 ACH)									
Distance at 20% (mm)	Ceiling Exhaust			A 50/50 Split Between Ceiling and Floor Exhausts			Floor Exhaust		
	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	S9
	Normal	Mild	Severe	Normal	Mild	Severe	Normal	Mild	Severe
Mean Average Distance (mm)	418	391	387	446	412	405	483	423	418
SD	98	85	102	96	81	84	65	60	61



Application of a jet nebulizer to the HPS - Air exhaust located and operated at floor level led to longer exhaled air distance towards the floor but less spatial contamination at the breathing zone than ceiling level exhaust or a combination of ceiling and floor exhausts. (David Hui et al. Unpublished data)



Jet Nebulizer (with smoke and droplet particles)



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Self-portrait taken in PWH SARS Ward in 2003
Courtesy: Dr. Benny Chow

*Wishing YOU Good
Health and Happiness!*



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