



# The Impact Of Backpacks On The Cardiovascular System

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What did we find?

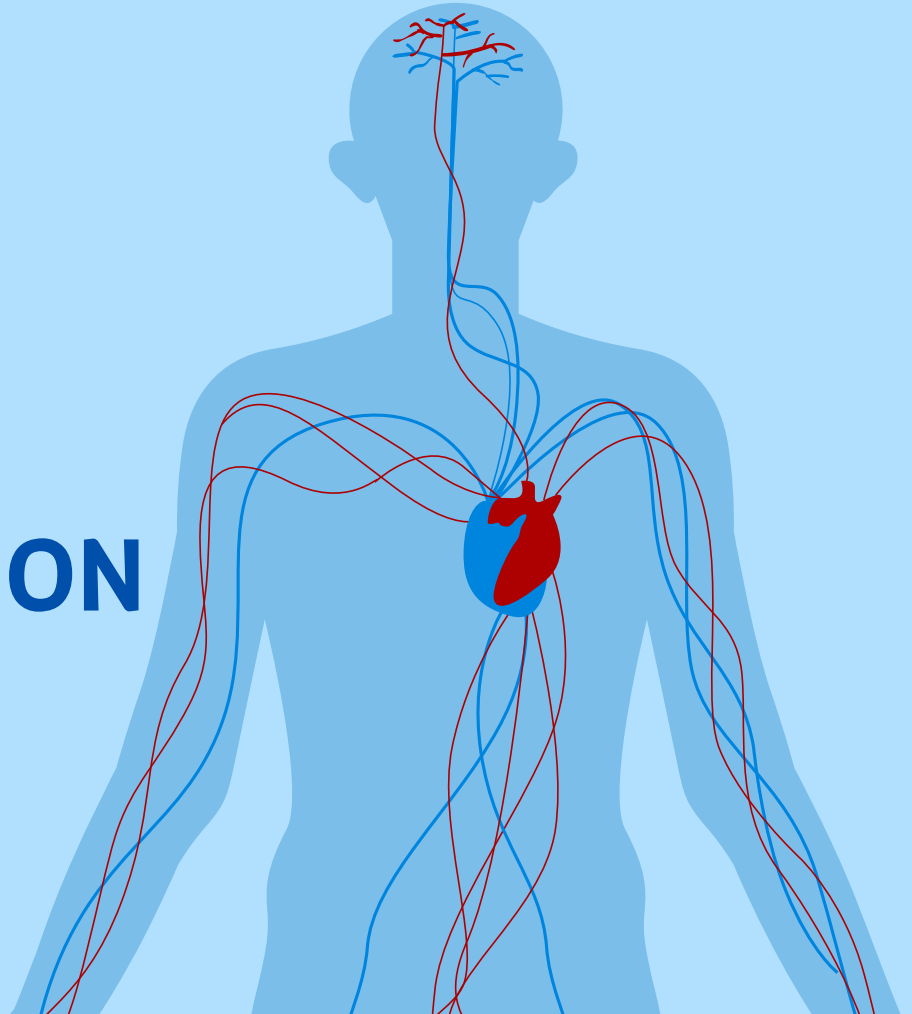
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## CONCLUSIONS

How can we improve our research?

01

# INTRODUCTION



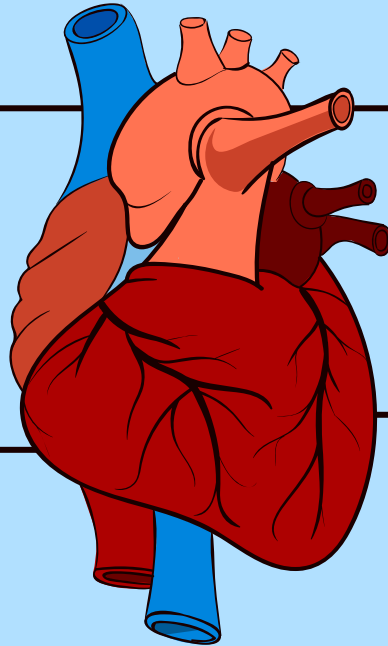
# CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

**Delivers oxygen  
to all parts of  
the body**

**Controls blood  
pressure**

**Controls rhythm  
and speed of  
heart rate**

**Contractions are  
controlled by  
electrical signals**



# The Backpack

- Children in America wear an average of 12-20lbs in their backpack
  - We can say this stems from middle to high school

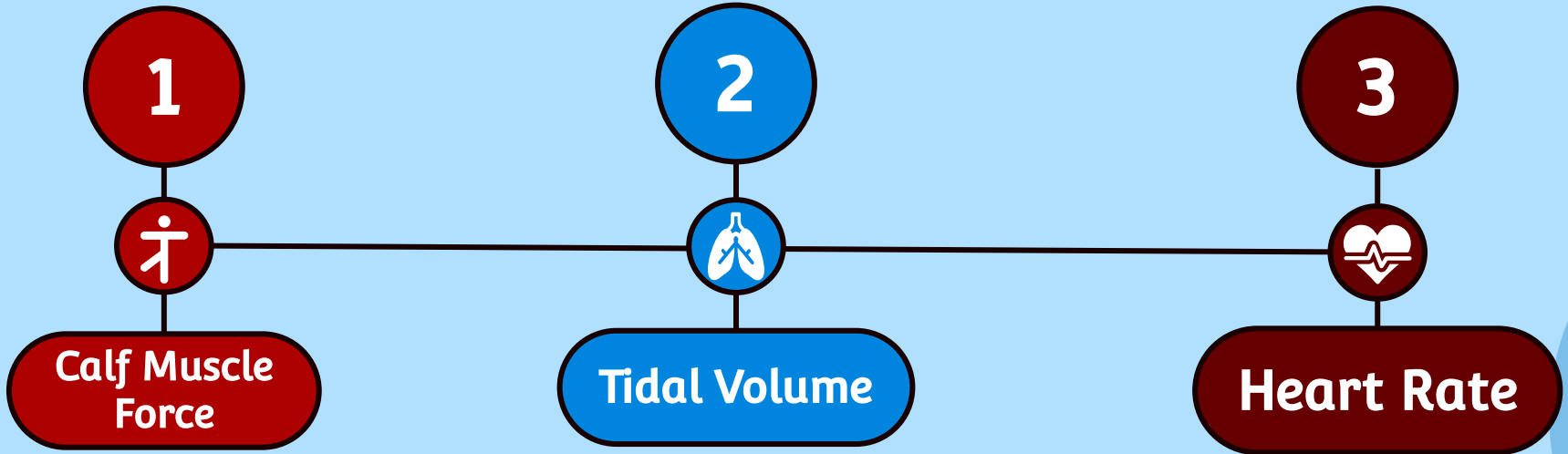


# BIOPAC

- Device that records heart signals, brain waves, muscle activity, eye movement, and more
- We used it for all 3 measurements relevant to our study



# Three Measurements



**Calf Muscle Force**

**Tidal Volume**

**Heart Rate**

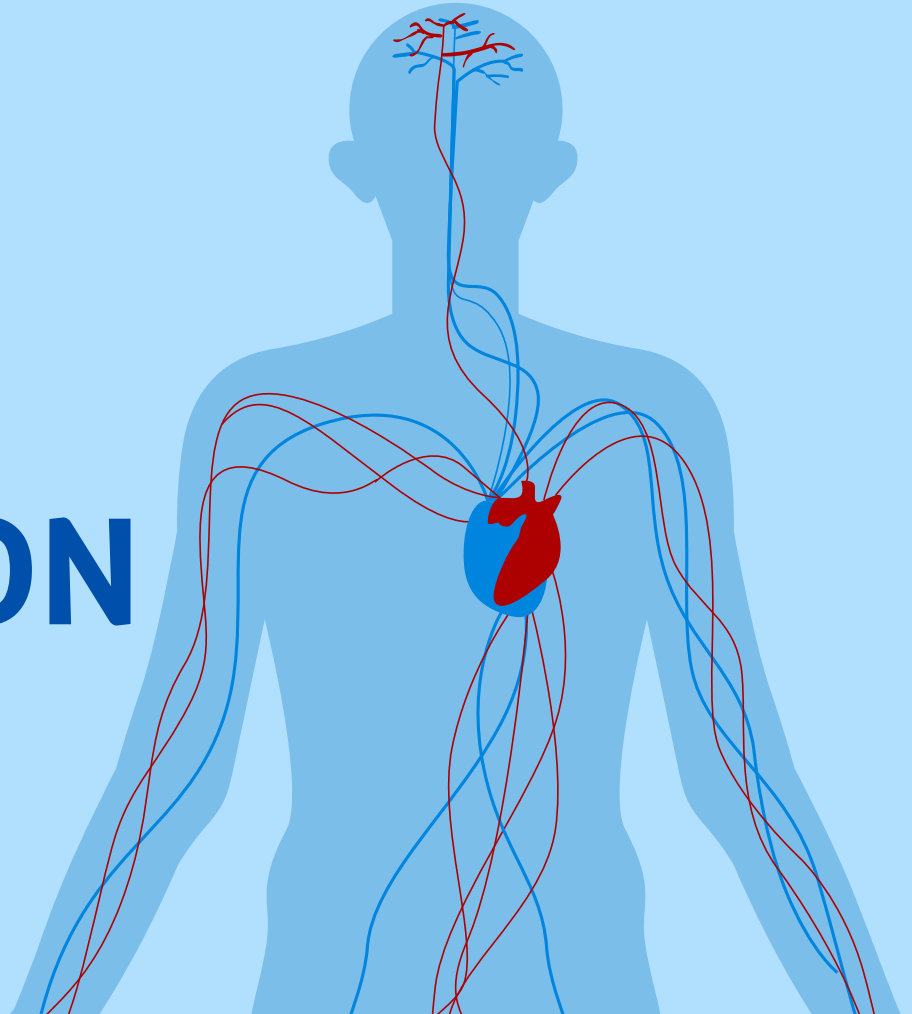
The amount of force the calf muscle exert from the body

The amount of air inhaled and exhaled during one respiratory cycle

The increase or decrease of your heart beat per minute.

02

QUESTION



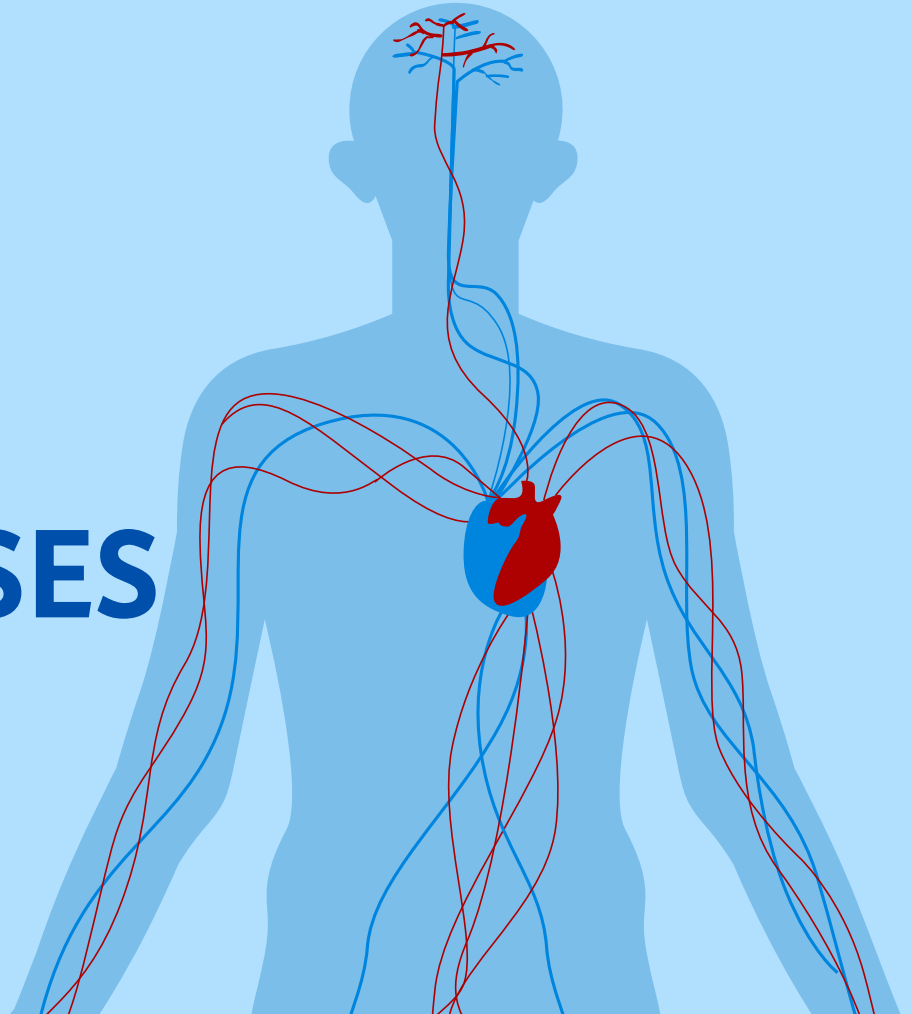


# QUESTION

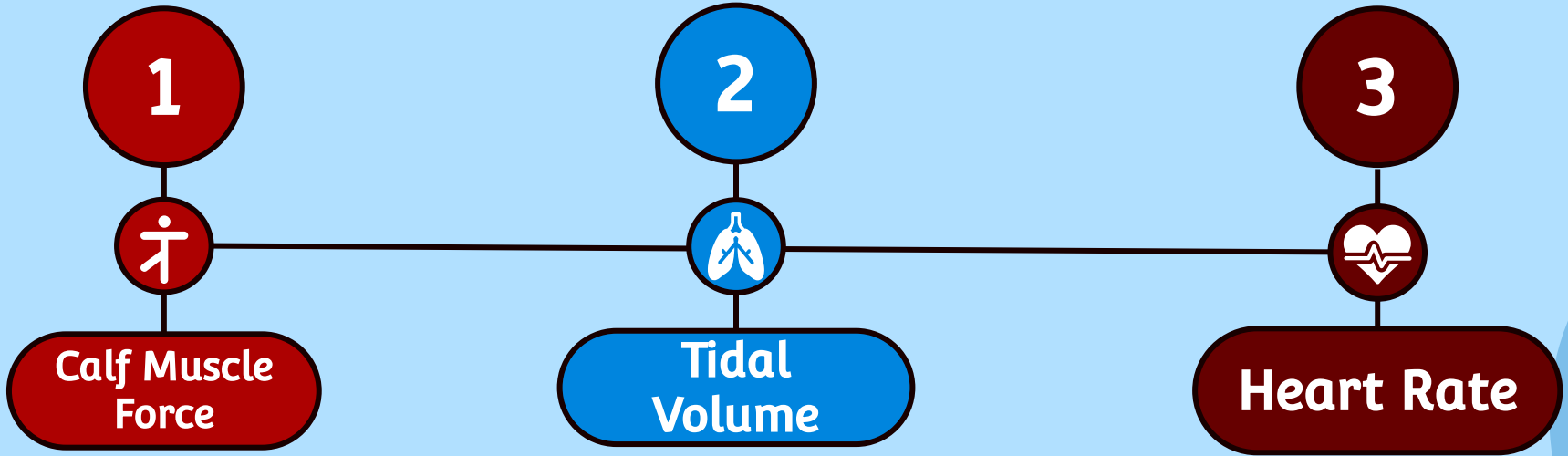
*DOES WEARING A BACKPACK UP STAIRS INCREASE CALF MUSCLE FORCE, TIDAL VOLUME, AND/OR HEART RATE?*

03

# HYPOTHESES



# Hypotheses



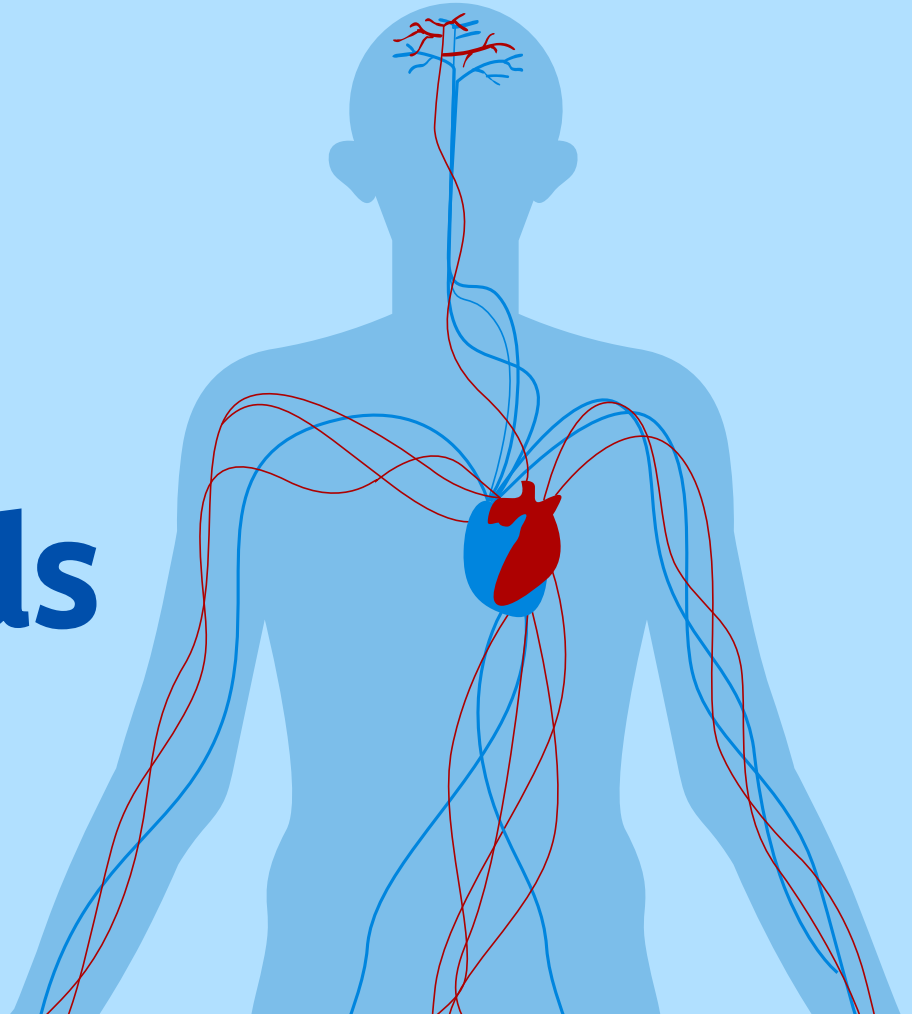
If a weighted vest is added while doing calf raises, then the muscle force will increase.

If a weighted vest is added while going up the stairs, then tidal volume will increase.

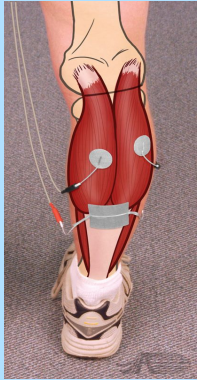
If a weighted vest is added while going up the stairs, then heart rate will increase.

04

# Methods

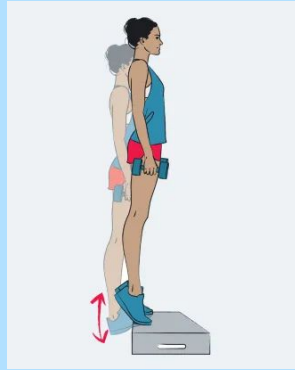


# Muscle Force



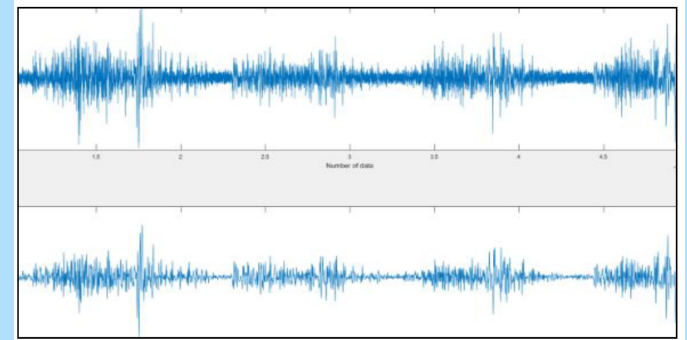
## Step 1

Connect the Electrodes to 3 spots on the calf and connect it to a BIOPAC.



## Step 2

Instruct the subject to stand on the cinder block and make the subject do 5 calf raises with and without the vest.



## Step 3

Use the recorded EMG (electromyography) to find each subject's maximum muscle force.



# Tidal Volume

## STAGE 1



Put together respirometer and breathe naturally



## STAGE 3

Subject walks up and down the stairs for 1 minute with no weight  
Subject breathes through apparatus for 2 minutes



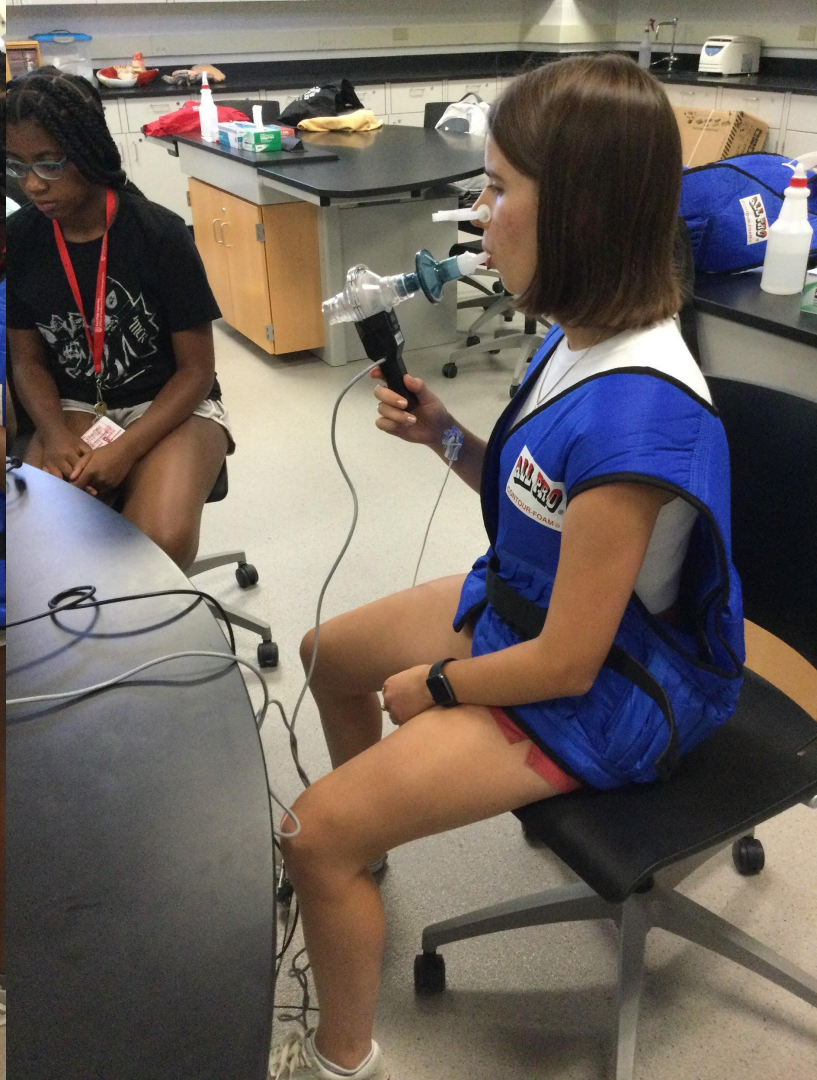
## STAGE 2

Calibrate the Biopac while wearing unweighted vest



## STAGE 4

Subject walks up and down the stairs for 1 minute with weight  
Subject breathes through apparatus for 2 minutes







# Heart Rate

## STAGE 1

Connect the electrodes to the right wrist, and inner ankles.



## STAGE 2

Once electrodes are connected, places the unweighted vest on and walk up and down the stairs for one minute.



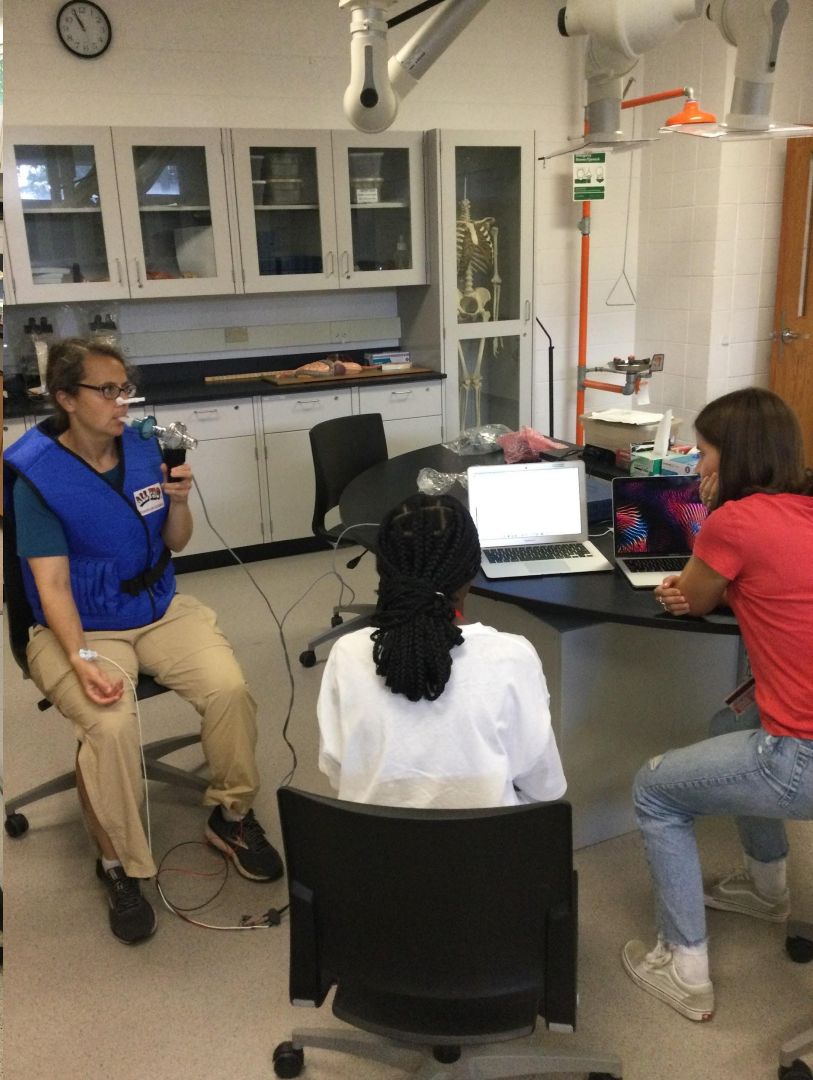
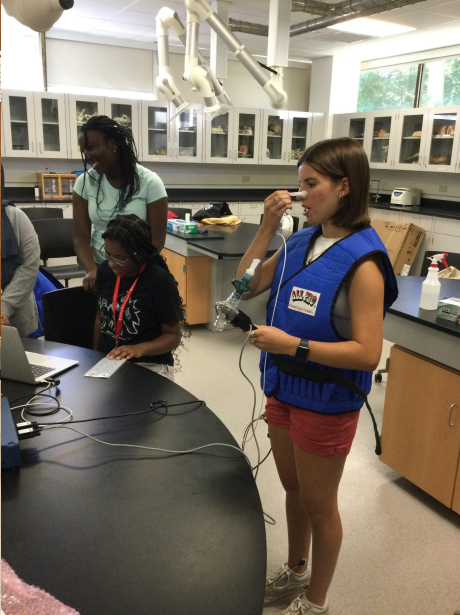
## STAGE 3

After going up the stairs, sit and rest for two minutes. After resting, put 20 pound weighted vest on.



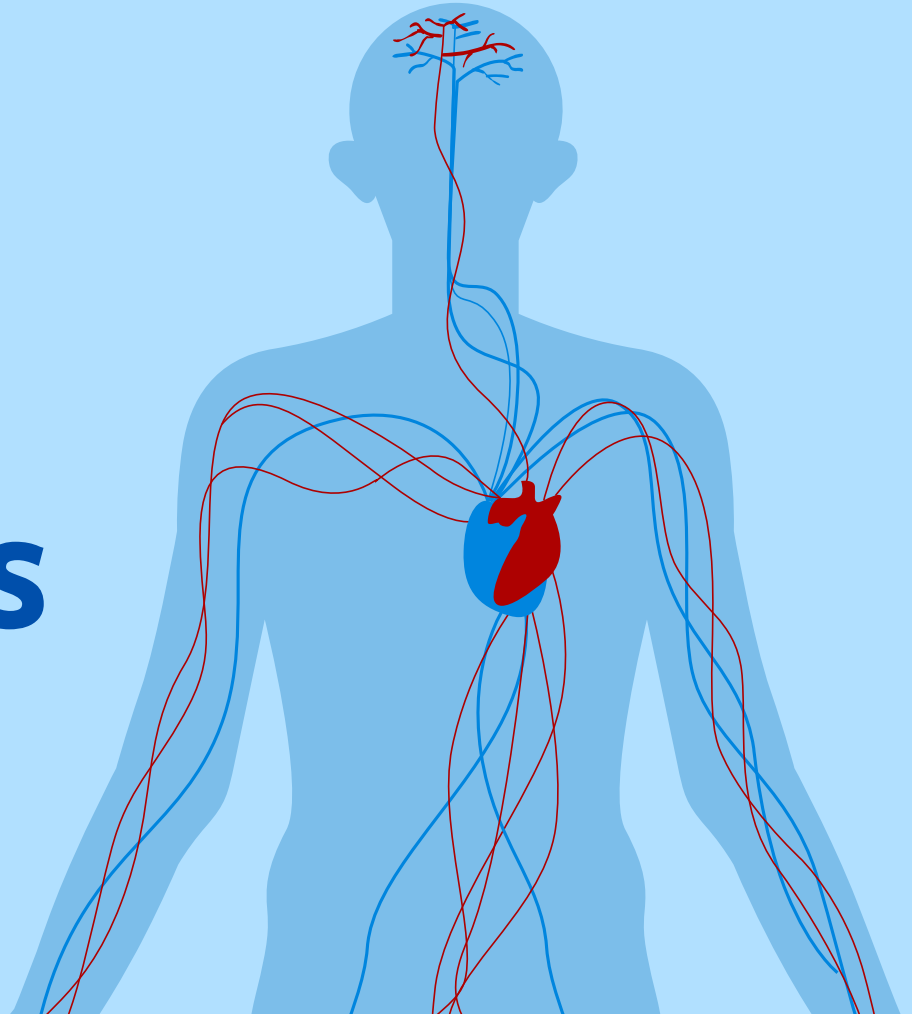
## STAGE 4

Once again, walk up and down the stairs this time with the weighted vest on. After walking, rest again for two minutes.



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Results



# Muscle Force

## Mean

Without Weight

**0.813 mV**

With weight

**0.869 mV**

## Standard Deviation

Without Weight

**0.351**

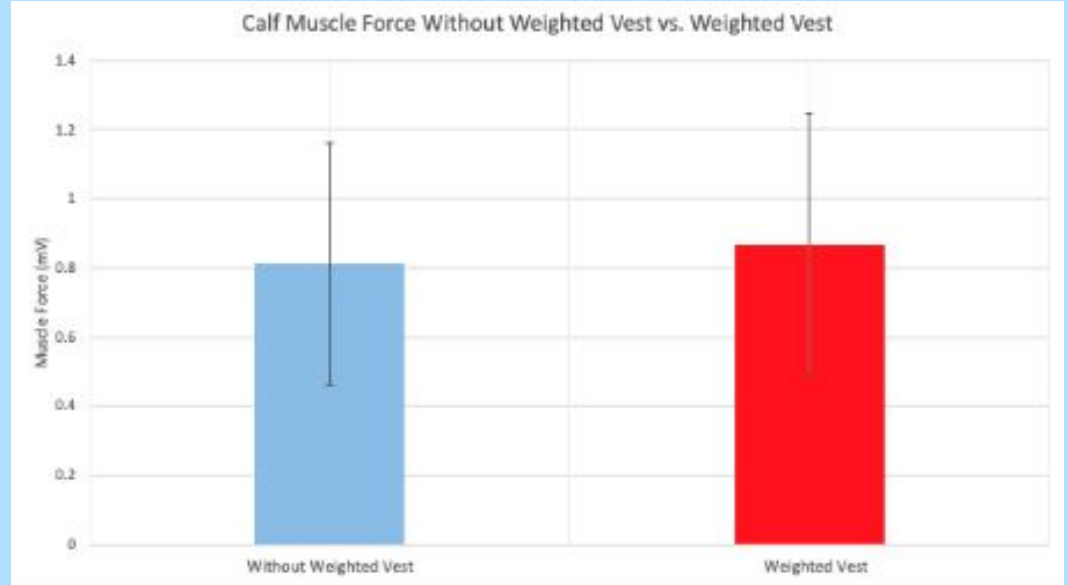
With weight

**0.376**

## P-Value

$P < .05$  (not chance)  $P > .05$  (chance)

**0.04839**



# Tidal Volume

## Mean

Without Weight

**1.900 L/sec**

With weight

**2.245 L/sec**

## Standard Deviation

Without Weight

**0.860**

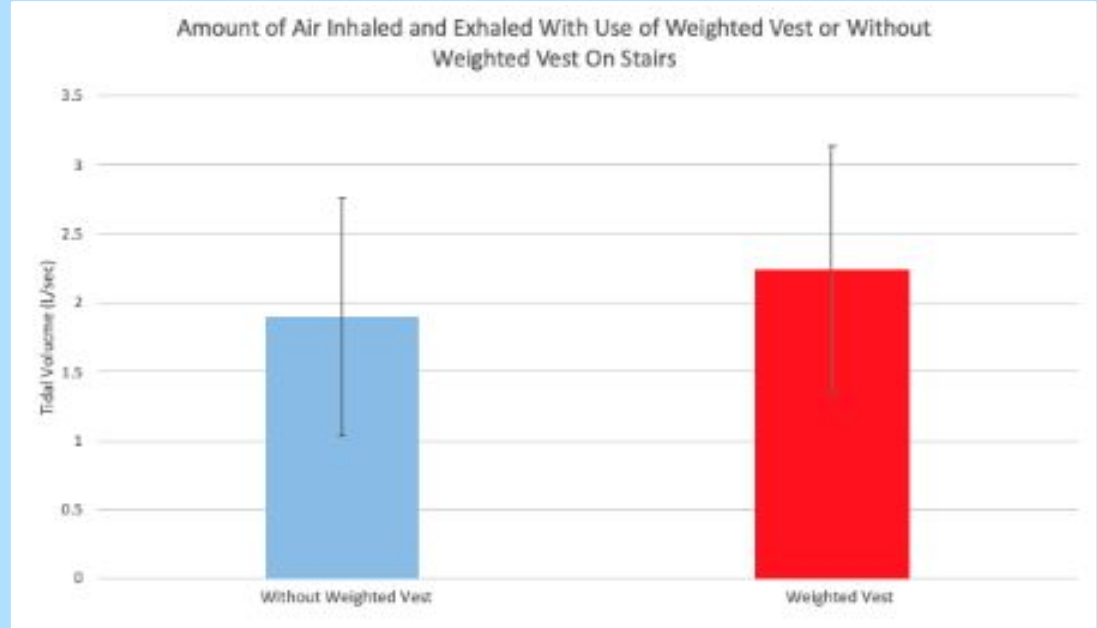
With weight

**0.895**

## P-Value

P<.05 (not chance) P>.05 (chance)

**0.0003**



# Heart Rate

## Mean

Without Weight

**99.266 BPM**

With weight

**117.567 BPM**

## Standard Deviation

Without Weight

**22.651**

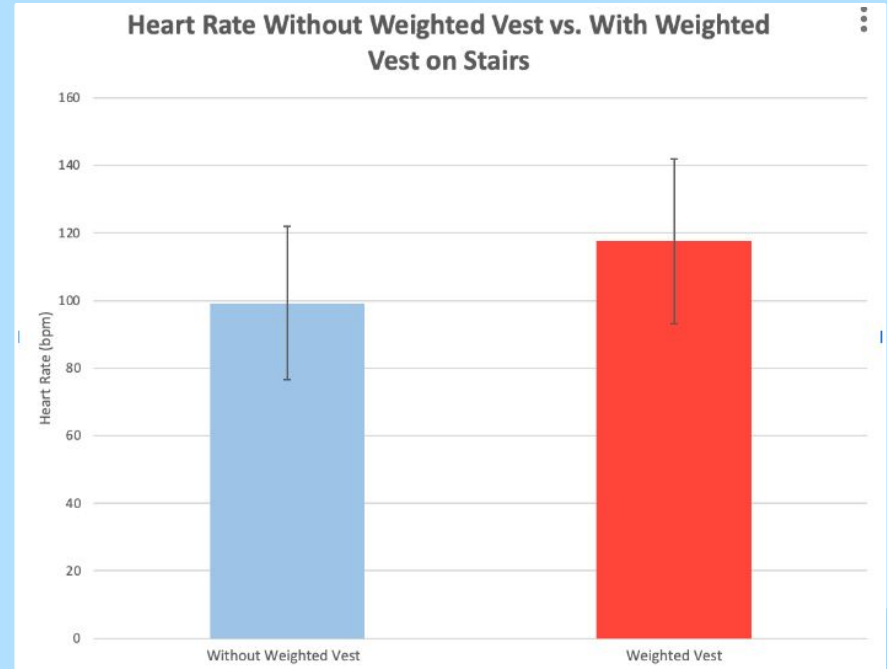
With weight

**24.415**

## P-Value

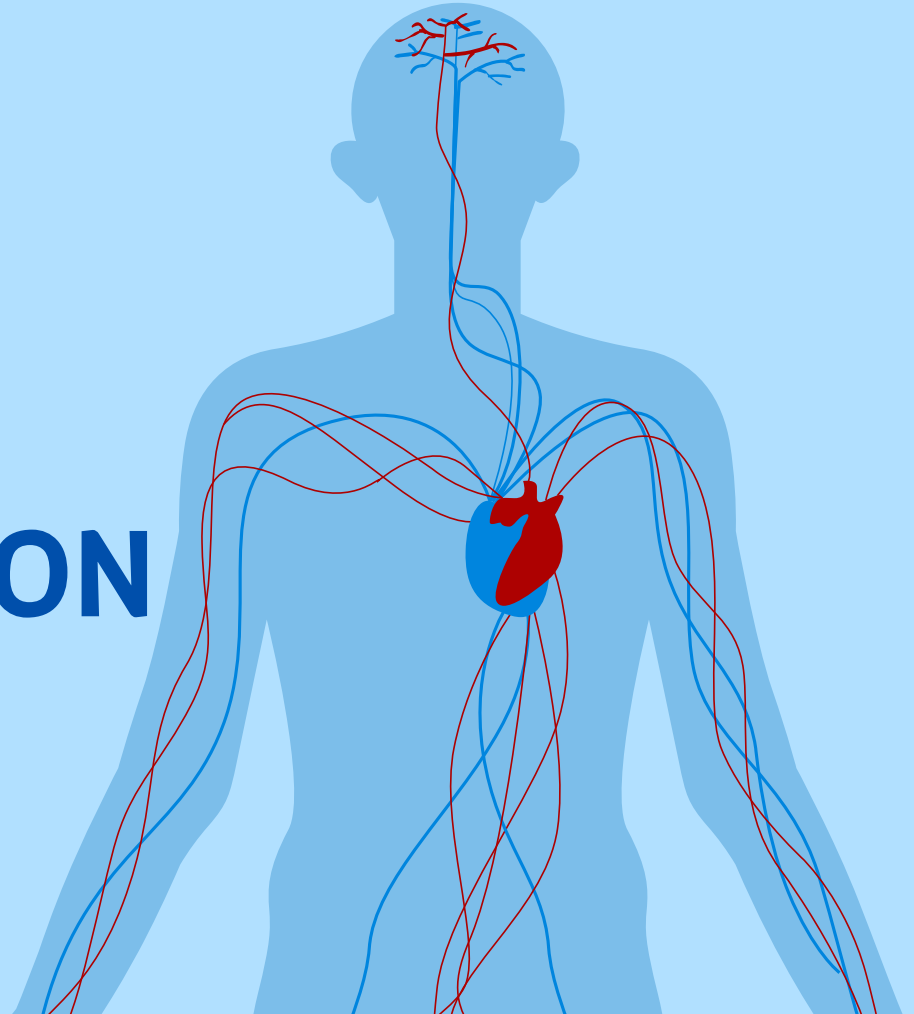
$P < .05$  (not chance)  $P > .05$  (chance)

**0.00004**



06

**CONCLUSION**



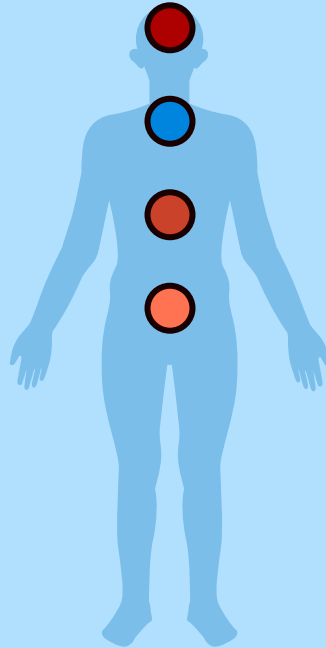
# Conclusion

## Question

Does wearing a backpack up stairs increase calf muscle force, tidal volume, and/or heart rate?

## Error

- Socks
- Shoes
- Body hair
- Summer v. winter
- Too focused on breathing



## How to fix error

- Standardized people's shoes
- Disposable socks
- Test during school year

## Future experiments

- Different muscles to test
- Implications in schools



# LITERATURE CITED

[https://www.medicinenet.com/what are the four main functions of the heart/article.htm](https://www.medicinenet.com/what_are_the_four_main_functions_of_the_heart/article.htm)

<https://www.hopkinsallchildrens.org/Patients-Families/Health-Library/HealthDocNew/Backpack-Safety#:~:text=They%20might%20develop%20lower%20and,proportion%20to%20their%20body%20weight>



# THANKS!

Thank you to all of the campers for participating, to our TA's, and to our professor.

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**Do you have any questions?**