# Journal Pre-proofs

#### Review Article

To compress or to breath-hold? A systematic review of the impact of motion mitigation techniques on motion, interfraction set-up errors, and intrafraction errors in patients with hepatobiliary and pancreatic malignancies

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Please cite this article as: Webster, A., Mundora, Y., Clark, C.H., Hawkins, M.A., To compress or to breath-hold? A systematic review of the impact of motion mitigation techniques on motion, interfraction set-up errors, and intrafraction errors in patients with hepatobiliary and pancreatic malignancies, *Radiotherapy and Oncology* (2024), doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.radonc.2024.110581>

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motion, interfraction set-up errors, and intrafraction errors in patients with hepatobiliary and pancreatic malignancies

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- 4. Acknowledgment of financial support, including grant numbers:

This work was supported by the Radiation Research Unit at the Cancer Research UK City of London Centre Award [C7893/A28990].

MAH is supported by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) at University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH).

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None

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#### **Highlights:**

Forty studies reported motion and on-treatment errors when using abdominal compression or breath-hold.

No studies compared abdominal compression and breath-hold.

AC may effectively diminish motion; however, its efficacy is not uniform. BH may immobilise motion; however, it can be inconsistent between fractions.

Patient experience and tolerability of motion mitigation are underreported.

#### **Keywords:**

hepatobiliary malignancies, pancreatic malignancies, systematic review, motion management, motion mitigation

#### **Structured abstract:**

Background and purpose: Reducing motion is vital in treating hepatobiliary (HPB) and pancreatic malignancies. Abdominal compression (AC) and breath-hold (BH) techniques aim to minimise respiratory motion, yet their adoption remains limited, and practices vary. This review examines the impact of AC and BH on motion, set-up errors, and patient tolerability in HPB and pancreatic patients.

Materials and methods: This systematic review, conducted using PRISMA and PICOS criteria, includes publications from January 2015 to February 2023. Eligible studies focused on AC and BH interventions in adults with HPB and pancreatic malignancies. Endpoints examined motion, set-up errors, intra-fraction errors, and patient tolerability. Due to study heterogeneity, Synthesis Without Meta-Analysis was used, and a 5mm threshold assessed the impact of motion mitigation.

Results: In forty studies, 14 explored AC and 26 BH, with 20 on HPB, 13 on pancreatic, and 7 on mixed cohorts. Six studied pre-treatment, 22 inter/intra-fraction errors, and 12 both. Six AC pre-treatment studies showed >5mm motion, and 4 BH and 2 AC studies reported >5mm inter-fraction errors. Compression studies commonly investigated the arch and belt, and DIBH was the predominant BH technique. No studies compared AC and BH. There was variation in the techniques, and several studies did not follow standardised error reporting. Patient experience and tolerability were under-reported.

Conclusion: The results indicate that AC effectively reduces motion, but its effectiveness may vary. BH can immobilise motion; however, it can be inconsistent between fractions. The review underscores the need for larger, standardised studies and emphasizes the importance of considering the patient's perspective for tailored treatments.

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Patients with abdominal malignancies, including hepatobiliary (HPB) and pancreatic malignancies, exhibit some of the lowest rates of 5-year survival compared to other tumour sites [1, 2]. Advances in radiotherapy technology permit the delivery of stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT) and proton beam radiotherapy (PBT) to HPB and pancreatic patients [3-12]. There are challenges in tumour visualisation, the proximity of the radiosensitive gastrointestinal (GI) tract and the need to deliver a high dose to cure these malignancies [8-18]. Addressing motion is key to tackling these challenges [8-12, 18-22]. Motion can include respiration, peristalsis, and gastric filling [20, 22- 28]. Respiration motion is generally the largest source of motion and may be in the order of centimetres, with the craniocaudal direction often being the most affected [21, 29-31]. Motion can be accounted for by using techniques such as gating, an internal target volume (ITV), mid-ventilation and tracking [23]. However, the challenges remain as the visualisation is often difficult due to imaging artefacts [19, 32] and margins are required for many of these approaches [23], which hinders the delivery of high doses [33, 34].

Motion can be minimised by utilising two respiratory motion mitigation approaches Abdominal Compression (AC) and Breath Hold (BH). Abdominal compression involves the application of external pressure to the abdominal region during pre-treatment and treatment sessions. This pressure aims to minimise organ motion, specifically by reducing respiratory motion [35-37]. Different devices can be utilised for AC, including arches/plates, belts/bands, corsets, shells and immobilising the patient in the prone position [38-44]. The challenge with AC is whether it can effectively minimise motion for each patient, both at pre-treatment and during treatment [37, 45, 46], and whether they can tolerate the equipment. Breath-hold requires patients to hold their breath at a specific point in the respiratory cycle. The patient can be instructed to hold their breath within a phase of inhaling or exhaling. Both approaches can be deep or extended [47]. Equipment, such as audiovisual feedback systems and external surrogates, can be employed to guide patients into a voluntary BH, thus relying on the patient achieving the BH [47]. Alternatively, patients can enter BH with the help of machine-assisted systems using spirometers [47], or less commonly, mechanical ventilation [48]. The challenge with BH lies in its ability to hold the patient at the same level of BH (phase and amplitude of the breathing cycle) on each occasion [49].

Recent surveys have highlighted that the adoption of motion mitigation approaches remains low, especially in abdominal radiotherapy [50-52]. From the patient's perspective, both approaches require them to tolerate additional equipment and procedures compared to standard radiotherapy immobilisation. BH techniques require active participation from the patient to hold their breath and maintain this, whereas the patient must tolerate the compression equipment for AC techniques.

Overall, the literature lacks systematic reviews addressing AC and BH's effectiveness on radiotherapy pre-treatment and treatment errors in patients with abdominal malignancies. The patient perspective of motion mitigation has also not been addressed. Thus, this systematic review aims to assess AC and BH techniques' impact on motion and set-up consistency in patients with HPB and pancreatic malignancies. Specifically, motion and set-up consistency errors primarily encompass motion, online inter-fraction set-up errors and intra-fraction motion [53, 54]. The secondary aim is to assess the patient experience.

#### **Materials and Methods**

#### *Overview*

This systematic review was conducted according to the preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA). The protocol was registered at https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/ (Review registry CRDXXXXXX). The review question was developed using the PICOS framework, as shown in Table 1.

#### *Literature search*

The literature search was performed using CINAHL, Embase, EMCare and MEDLINE. The search strategy for Ovid MEDLINE is included in the supplementary material. The search terms were modified as appropriate for each database. The reference lists of relevant studies were also searched. Studies published in English from January 2015 until February 2023 were included. All studies assessing motion and the associated errors during radiotherapy were eligible, regardless of study design (retrospective or prospective). Grey literature, such as unpublished studies,



### *Eligibility criteria*

The inclusion criteria were adults (over 18 years of age) with hepatobiliary and pancreatic malignancies receiving radiotherapy using a motion mitigation intervention. SBRT/SABR treatments were included. Motion mitigation was considered to require a patient to tolerate additional equipment and procedures compared to standard radiotherapy immobilisation, namely abdominal compression and breath-hold. The exclusion criteria were volunteers, simulated studies, studies when the measurements were not taken on the liver, pancreas or an appropriate surrogate, studies in the prone position and phantom studies.

#### *Defined endpoints*

The primary study endpoints encompassed motion and the consistency of an Image-Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT) match structure, which was defined as the treatment target and/or relevant surrogates (e.g., dome of the diaphragm, fiducials, or radio-opaque markers). Treatment target surrogates were accepted due to challenges visualising abdominal malignancies on X-ray imaging. This is due to tumour size, location, density, contrast, overlapping anatomy and motion artefacts [16, 17, 55]. Parameters including pre-treatment motion, online interfraction setup errors, and intra-fraction motion were evaluated to assess inconsistencies. BH can have two intrafraction motion components, including 1) Intra-BH variation within a single breath-hold and 2) BH-to-BH variation from one breath-hold to the next within one treatment fraction [47]. This systematic review does not address these components separately. According to geometric uncertainty guidance [53, 54], studies should report the mean, systematic, and random components of these errors in the anterior/posterior, left/right and superior/inferior directions. However, studies using different approaches, such as the median and range, were also included. The secondary endpoint of patient experience, comfort and tolerability of the motion mitigation equipment was also included. The information was manually extracted from the selected studies' text with no standardised measure to assess this.

#### *Screening*

The articles were screened for duplication. Two reviewers (AW and YM) performed the initial study selections. Next, the two reviewers independently examined the full text of all articles identified using the PICOS framework (Table 1). Results were then compared, and disagreements were discussed and resolved by consensus. Five studies were discussed with a third reviewer (CC) to check if they should be included in the review. A PRISMA flow chart of the study selection procedure was produced, Figure 1.

#### *Data extraction*

Two reviewers (AW and YM) independently extracted information, including surname, year, baseline characteristics, motion mitigation approach, whether breath-hold was assisted, IGRT match structure, pre-treatment or ontreatment measurement, and imaging equipment. For the primary endpoint, the motion at pre-treatment, interfraction set-up errors, and intra-fraction motion were extracted. Additionally, reports of patient experiences were extracted from the studies that met the primary endpoint. Disagreements were discussed and resolved by consensus.

#### *Quality Assessment*

Two authors (AW and YM) completed the quality assessment. The Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions and the Risk of Bias Guidance was adapted [56]. The adapted tool used six domains to rank bias as low, medium, or high risk. These domains include selection bias, performance bias, detection bias, attrition bias, reporting bias, and others.

#### *Data synthesis*

Heterogeneity in study outcomes precluded meta-analyses and statistical synthesis. Therefore, a synthesis without meta-analysis (SWiM) was utilised [57]. Textual summaries of the included studies were used to aid the synthesis

procese. The SWiM checklist can be found in the sunnlementary material. Studies reporting motion or errors exceeding 5mm for metrics such as mean (M), standard deviation (SD), mean (SD), mean (SD), measurements were me

specifically identified. 5mm was chosen as patients are considered to have very mobile tumours if motion >5mm [47] and it is a tolerance commonly utilised when assessing motion [28]. This threshold is clinically relevant but also pragmatic, considering the inherent heterogeneity in study outcomes and the elevated risk of bias in studies.

#### **Results**

Between January 2015 and February 2023, forty relevant studies were retrieved. Out of these, 14 studies explored compression techniques [38, 40, 44, 58-68] and 26 focused on breath-hold techniques [69-94] (Table 2). No studies compared compression versus breath-hold. There were 20 studies focused on HPB patients [38, 44, 59-62, 65, 68, 70, 71, 73, 77, 79-81, 83, 84, 86, 92, 93], 13 studies focused on pancreatic patients [40, 63, 64, 67, 74, 75, 78, 82, 85, 87, 89, 91, 94] and 7 studies focused on patients with abdominal malignancies (mainly HPB and pancreas patients) [58, 66, 69, 72, 76, 88, 90]. Six studies measured motion at pre-treatment [38, 40, 61, 65, 72, 80], 22 studies measured inter and/or intra-fraction errors on treatment [58, 63, 67, 69-71, 73, 75-78, 82-85, 87-91, 93, 94], and 12 studies assessed uncertainties at both pre-treatment and on-treatment [44, 59, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 74, 79, 81, 86, 92]. There was variation in the IGRT structure(s) used to assess uncertainties, and 17 studies used fiducials [44, 62, 63, 66, 68, 69, 74-78, 85-87, 89-91] and 23 studies did not [38, 58-61, 64, 65, 67, 68, 70-73, 79-84, 88, 92-94].

The studies had a high risk of bias (see supplementary material). Only 12 studies included ≥ 30 patients [38, 44, 58- 61, 70, 71, 75-77, 80].

A total of fourteen studies employed abdominal compression as a motion mitigation technique [38, 40, 44, 58-68]. Among these studies, 6 investigated the compression arch [38, 58-62], 4 the compression belt [63-66], 2 the compression corset [40, 67], and 2 the compression shell [44, 68]. Twenty-six studies focused on breath-hold techniques for motion mitigation [69-94]. Among these studies, 20 investigated DIBH [69, 71, 74-76, 78-81, 86-91, 93, 94], 4 studies used EBH [72, 73, 77, 92], 3 studies used endEBH [70, 82, 85], and 2 studies used deepEBH [83, 84]. Within the BH category, 3 studies directly compared different breath-hold techniques [70, 72, 83]. Twelve studies employed spirometers, including ABC and SDX only, assisting the patient in breath-hold control [69, 70, 72, 74-76, 78-81, 87, 88]. Fourteen studies used an voluntary BH technique [71, 73, 77, 82-86, 89-94].

Motion uncertainty, defined as an IGRT structure deviation greater than 5mm, was reported in 8/20 (40%) of HPB studies [38, 60-62, 65, 68, 92, 93], 4/13 (31%) of the pancreatic studies, and 1/7 (14%) of the abdominal studies. Tables 3-5 and the supplementary material highlight these studies.

Specifically, within the pre-treatment compression studies, there were 6 AC studies where motion was >5mm [38, 60-65, 68, 69, 92-94]. This was in 4 compression arch studies [38, 60-62], and 3 of these studies were from the same centre [38, 60, 61]. Two investigators measured using the liver contour [38, 60, 61, 65] and two using liver fiducials [62, 68]. There was one compression shell study [68] and one compression belt study [65] when the motion exceeded 5mm. One study emphasised the significance of the position of the arch in achieving effective motion mitigation [38] None of the pre-treatment evaluations of BH studies reported motion exceeding 5mm when BH was employed (Table 3 and supplementary material).

Considering on-treatment, 2 AC and 4 BH studies reported inter-fraction uncertainty exceeding 5mm [63, 64, 69, 92- 94] (Table 4 and supplementary material). The AC studies were both using the compression belt [63, 64]. Three of the 4 BH studies that had errors exceeding 5mm for inter-fraction uncertainties were in DIBH, and 1 was in EBH [69, 92-94]. Three of the studies used voluntary BH [92-94] and 1 study used assisted BH [69]. One study used fiducials and/or the liver contour to match [69], 1 matched to the liver contour [92] 1 matched to fiducials in the pancreas [63] and 3 matched to the pancreas [64, 93, 94].

Intra-fraction motion was low (<5mm) in all abdominal compression studies that reported it (Table 5 and supplementary material). There was one voluntary DIBH study that reported an intra-fraction uncertainty >5mm [89]. The match structure used in this study was fiducials in the pancreas [89].

Guidance recommends that the mean, systematic and random error should be reported as a minimum [53]. Five studies did not report the mean [44, 78, 81, 86, 88], 5 studies did not report the systematic error [63, 70, 86, 88, 89], and 35 studies did not report the random error [38, 40, 58-70, 72-78, 80, 82, 83, 85-94]. Nine studies reported the

range [63, 64, 66, 70, 77, 86, 89, 90], 2 that reported the median [64, 86], 2 that reported the maximum [59, 88] and 1 study that remove that removements (e.g., only reproofs  $\overline{a}$ ). And  $\overline{b}$ 

imaging modalities measured different values in the same plane. For example, a BH study recorded a maximum superior-to-inferior measurement of 10.39 mm with kV imaging and 8.79 mm with ultrasound imaging [88], while a 2D cine MRI showed different values compared to a 4D MRI [67]. Finally, some studies may have underestimated errors by not considering initial bony match values in their final analysis [79, 82], and some studies only analysed the final image before treatment delivery [75, 83].

Limited patient experience was reported in the studies, and given the paucity of reports on patient input, all aspects, including comfort, experience, patient information, tolerability, and training, were collated. Overall, the information and training given to patients was the most reported aspect of patient experience. Seven studies mentioned a training session [38, 77-80, 82, 86]. In one study, an information leaflet was given to patients [82]. In AC studies, one investigation emphasized the individual determination of belt pressure settings for each patient. The settings were established before the patient experienced pain or discomfort and, as a result, were guided by the patient's subjective assessment rather than the physiological impact on the patient [63]. One AC belt study highlighted that several patients reported discomfort [65]. One AC belt study evaluated factors such as gender, age, body mass index (BMI), history of transarterial chemoembolization, history of liver resection, tumour area, number of tumours, and tumour size (diameter). The univariate analysis highlighted the significant impacts of gender and BMI on abdominal compression effectiveness [61]. In one study, a patient questionnaire found the compression corset to be welltolerated, with no reported complaints or pain on average [40]. In BH, one assisted ABC study mentioned a personalised screening approach when deciding which type of BH to proceed with, e.g., EBH, DIBH, and IBH [72]. Without personalised screening, EBH was the optimal technique, with superior reproducibility and stability compared with DIBH and IBH. However, implementing preplanning screening demonstrated in 56% of participants, DIBH or IBH demonstrated superior reproducibility and BH time compared with EBH [72]. Patient factors were also considered, and one assisted BH study found under rigorous breath-hold respiratory control, DIBH correlated with body weight and height [76]. The breath-hold durations required in all BH studies varied from 15 to 30 seconds, depending on the specific study requirements and techniques employed.

#### **Discussion**

Between January 2015 and February 2023, 40 studies assessed the effects of AC and BH in mitigating respiratory motion for patients with HPB and/or pancreatic malignancies. Without motion mitigation, it has been shown that respiratory motion can be in the order of centimetres [21, 29, 31]. The approaches varied widely, and no metaanalysis was performed due to study heterogeneity. Consequently, the results are presented narratively. No studies compared AC and BH. Six pre-treatment studies had motion greater than 5mm in at least one plane, including three AC arch studies from the same centre [38, 60, 61], one AC shell study [68], one AC arch with shell study [68], and one AC belt study [65] (Table 3). In 3 of these 6 studies, the average motion only exceeded 5mm by less than 0.3mm. Considering the inter-fraction set-up uncertainties, those that reported a systematic error greater than 5mm included 1 assisted DIBH study [69], 2 voluntary DIBH studies [93, 94], 1 voluntary EBH study [92] and 2 AC belt studies [63, 64] (Table 4). Inter-fraction set-up errors remain relevant when using motion mitigation approaches because couch shifts cannot always correct for variations in the breath-hold level or deformation caused by inconsistent compression. These findings highlight that AC can reduce motion but does not consistently do so for each patient, as seen in the pre-treatment session. BH can hold the patient in a phase of the breathing cycle; however, it is important to consider the inconsistency in inter-fraction errors, as shown in Tables 3 and 4.

There was variability in the IGRT structure selected to estimate uncertainties. In the 12 studies exhibiting motion, 3 matched fiducials [62, 63, 68] 8 matched the tumour/organ [38, 60, 61, 64, 65, 92-94] and 1 matched to both [69]. The suitability of using match structures is a major clinical challenge when treating patients with HPB and pancreatic malignancies. These tumours are often not visible on X-ray imaging, necessitating a surrogate, such as the diaphragm. However, the distance between the tumour and the surrogate and the relative motion should be considered. Alternatively, fiducials may be used; however, they may migrate over time and require an interventional procedure. Centres may have MRI imaging for treating these patients, and four studies met the inclusion criteria for this review [40, 64, 67, 94]. Although not captured in this review's endpoints, these studies offer valuable insights into treatment target movement, volume changes, and adaptive radiotherapy needs. However, small sample sizes and limited imaging techniques like cine imaging highlight the need for larger, more comprehensive studies. Centres should consider equipment availability and potential limitations when introducing or using motion management.

Efforts should prioritize identifying and addressing the most significant sources of uncertainty first with a minimum<br>of 2 of 3<sub>- p</sub>-component approach. For the approach.

The most reported motion mitigation technique was DIBH (n=20). Initially developed for breast cancer patients [50], DIBH remains most commonly used to reduce heart dose in left-sided cases, moving the treatment target away from critical structures [95]. In abdominal SBRT, BH aims to reduce respiratory-related tumour motion. Clinically, adapting DIBH for non-superficial lesions requires careful consideration, as this review and recent research on lung and lymphoma patients [49] underscore the importance of evaluating consistency from pre-treatment to treatment. With EBH, the patient is not forced out of their normal breathing pattern [47] and the consistency may be better, as, at rest, humans spend more of the breathing cycle in exhale [96, 97]. EBH may also be used in conjunction with abdominal compression. In this review, 9 studies reported EBH, and the results look promising as only 1/9 studies reported uncertainties greater than 5mm. However, the differentiation between deep inspiration/expiration and inspiration/expiration has not been explored enough. Caution should be taken, and a systematic review from 2021 categorizes these two techniques together [98], when in fact, the aim of both techniques is different. In a deep BH, the patient is being instructed out of their normal breathing cycle, whereas with EBH or IBH, the patient remains within their normal breathing cycle [47]. Moving forward, the term breath-hold should not be used interchangeably, and further research should investigate the nuances in the different approaches.

The duration of a BH is important, with variations spanning 15 to 30 seconds. One study shed light on the consistency of the BH over time when comparing different BH techniques [72]. It found that EBH was the optimal technique for a cohort of patients without personalised screening when assessing the tumour position and stability over time. However, upon introducing personalised screening, DIBH or IBH demonstrated superior reproducibility and BH durations [72]. Three of the 4 BH studies reporting inter-fraction uncertainties >5mm used a voluntary technique. Assessing whether using a machine to assist the patient into a BH improves reliability is an important future consideration in abdominal radiotherapy. Additionally, poor implementation of the technique may introduce bias in the results [47]. Only two studies used SGRT in BH [90, 93], and the correlation between external and internal surfaces is still to be determined. It has not been explored when using AC. Intra-fraction motion can be dichotomised into two main components for BH: BH-to-BH variation and intra-BH variation [47]. However, the ESTRO-ACROP guideline was unavailable during the review's conceptualization, so many included BH studies did not use this particular terminology, complicating interpretation. It appeared that 6 studies measured motion during a single and/or multiple BHs [69, 70, 88-91], 5 studies assessed motion between BHs [73, 75, 83, 84, 86], and 3 assessed both [77, 78, 85]. From this review, regardless of the component of intra-fraction BH motion assessed, only one study noted a motion of 6 mm, indicating low intra-fraction BH motion. Future studies should reference the recent guideline [47] to better facilitate comparisons.

Specifically reviewing the AC data, the type of equipment used appeared to yield slightly different results. Three arch studies, 1 shell study, 1 arch with shell study and 1 belt study illustrated motion > 5mm at pre-treatment. The data suggested that the arch/shell technique may not minimise the motion as much as the AC belt. The 3 arch studies reporting motion > 5mm were from the same centre, which may bias the findings. Nonetheless, this centre was able to give information on the impact of the position of the arch in reducing errors, and if positioned correctly, the arch can reduce motion to less than 6mm in all planes [38]. The inferior arch position was identified as the least effective in mitigating motion. However, centres must exercise caution when positioning the AC equipment too superiorly, as this may potentially interfere with the patient's ribs. Only one study addressed the level of compression applied [63]. There is no consensus on whether the maximum pressure tolerable for the patient should be used or if the compression should be adjusted for patient comfort. On-treatment only AC belt studies reported inter-fraction uncertainties greater than 5mm [63, 64]. Centres must plan consistent belt positioning for each fraction and adjust it if the patient's anatomy changes, such as weight loss or gain.

Tumour location is important, and the prevalence of errors in HPB patients is higher than in pancreatic patients (40% versus 31%). Specifically, within studies assessing pre-treatment motion, all 6 studies reporting motion greater than 5mm were in HPB patients. [38, 60-62, 65, 68]. Within the HPB patients, no studies assessed if the specific location of the HPB tumour impacted motion. This warrants further investigation as malignancies closer to the diaphragm dome may exhibit larger motion. Compared to HPB malignancies, pancreatic malignancies are further away from the dome of the diaphragm and may not be as impacted by respiratory motion. Alternatively, in the case of compression, motion may be mitigated in pancreatic patients due to the closer location of the device. AC equipment must be



Many authors emphasize that motion mitigation should be tailored to the patient, but current research does not yet determine the best approach. The patient perspective is currently underemphasized when determining the optimal approach. In contrast, studies on breast cancer patients delve into various aspects such as thoracic and abdominal breathing techniques, home-based preparation for deep inspiration breath-hold (DIBH), and patient experiences [99]. For patients with abdominal malignancies undergoing motion mitigation, such explorations in comfort, experience, patient information, tolerability, and training remain lacking. The patient impact of undergoing an interventional procedure when using fiducials has not been explored. In AC, the discomfort was highlighted in two studies [63, 65], and one study highlighted that gender and BMI affected the effectiveness of AC [61]; however, this finding is contradicted in a recent study, which showed that abdominal fat and BMI did not impact compression effectiveness [100]. In BH, personalised screening appeared to improve reproducibility [72], and one study highlighted that body weight and height impacted BH [76]. It has not been explored whether the patient is more comfortable taking a deep inspiration BH instead of holding their breath at exhale. Overall, AC and BH appear to be tolerated; however, further investigations, including a thorough exploration of the patient's perspective, are needed.

The systematic review did not include patient experience in its search terms, limiting information on these secondary endpoints to studies meeting the primary criteria. Therefore, it may not capture all available data on patient experiences with motion mitigation. While this systematic review has covered geometric uncertainties, notably motion and inter-fraction errors, it has not addressed all sources of geometric errors, e.g., delineation, interobserver matching error, etc. Additionally, the review focused only on translational errors. The findings are limited by the variability in the approaches taken and the small patient cohorts, which impacts the generalizability of the results and precludes meta-analysis. To assess geometric uncertainties, it is recommended that more than 30 patients be analysed for meaningful statistical results [53]. The results underscored a notable variability in the calculating and reporting uncertainties, with a particularly significant underreporting of random errors. Given that random errors in SBRT treatments often manifest behaviour similar to systematic errors [53], and with the increasing utilisation of SBRT, it is imperative to address these errors in future analyses. The findings also suggested that discrepancies in error measurements arise when employing different imaging modalities or when estimating errors in distinct imaging planes on identical images.

#### **Conclusion**

This systematic review of 40 studies from January 2015 to February 2023 assessed AC and BH effectiveness in mitigating respiratory motion and errors in HPB and/or pancreatic radiotherapy patients. Among the 40 studies, there was significant heterogeneity and generally poor quality. The results indicate AC's motion-reducing capabilities and BH's ability to hold the patient in a phase of the breathing cycle. The aim of each technique slightly differs, as do the issues that arise when utilising them. AC appears inconsistent between patients and BH varies from pretreatment and between fractions. No comparison has been made between the two techniques. The importance of patient perspectives has been understated, and there is a noticeable gap in understanding which motion mitigation technique suits individual patients best. This review serves as a starting point for future research considerations, with studies needing to include more than 30 patients, adhere to standard reporting guidance, and incorporate the patient perspective.. Future efforts should focus on personalizing motion management to deliver precise treatment and tailoring approaches to both technical requirements and patient-specific needs.

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Journal Pre-proofs

**1. Searches in OVID:**

**\*\*\***

Database: Ovid MEDLINE(R) ALL <1946 to February 13, 2023>

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Search Strategy:

1 ((abdominal or compression\*) adj3 (corset\* or belt\* or arch\* or plate\*)).mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (3347)

2 abdominal compression\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (693)

3 (breath\* adj2 (control or coordinat\* or monitor\* or management or hold\*)).mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating subheading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (11976)

4 respiratory motion\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (3103)

5 motion mitigation.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (120)

6 motion management.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (636)

7 position management.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (161)

8 SDV mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject

heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (161)

9 spirom\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary

concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (38241)

10 Breath Holding/ (1426)

11 spirometry/ or bronchospirometry/ (23366)

12 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 10 (19271)

13 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 (57855)

14 radiotherap\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (369593)

15 proton beam therap\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (1537)

16 proton therap\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (6798)

17 magnetic resonance.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (854852)

18 intensity modulated radiation therapy.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (6388)

19 stereotactic body radiation therapy.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (3787)

20 volumetric modulated are therapy mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (3008)

21 Stereotactic body radiation therapy.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word,

organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (3787)

22 Volumetric modulated arc therapy.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (3008)

23 Rapid Arc.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (52)

24 radiotherapy/ or exp chemoradiotherapy/ or exp heavy ion radiotherapy/ or radiosurgery/ or radiotherapy setup errors/ or radiotherapy, adjuvant/ or exp radiotherapy, high-energy/ or radiotherapy, image-guided/ or re-irradiation/ or x-ray therapy/ (130182)

25 Magnetic Resonance Imaging/ (466688)

26 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 (1223494)

27 12 and 26 (7013)

28 Abdom\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (465293)

29 ?esophag\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (210396)

30 stomach.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (261744)

31 liver.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary

concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease unique identifier, synonyms $(1227414)$ 

32 pancrea\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (373082)

33 adrenal gland\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (82318)

34 kidney\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (957377)

35 abdominal node\*.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (145)

36 hepatobiliary.mp. [mp=title, book title, abstract, original title, name of substance word, subject heading word, floating sub-heading word, keyword heading word, organism supplementary concept word, protocol supplementary concept word, rare disease supplementary concept word, unique identifier, synonyms] (15562)

37 28 or 29 or 30 or 31 or 32 or 33 or 34 or 35 or 36 (3161499)

38 27 and 37 (2544)

39 14 or 15 or 16 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 (392009)

40 12 and 37 and 39 (871)

41 limit 40 to english language (849)

\*

## **3. Risk of bias quality assessment**





















*AC=Abdominal compression,*

*BH=Breath-hold*

*M= Mean* 

*MM=Motion mitigation*

*n=Number of patients*

*SD = standard deviation*

*\*Compression 1=Positioned on the cephalic area between the subxiphoid and umbilicus*

*Compression 2=Positioned on the caudal area between the subxiphoid and the umbilicus*

*Compression 3=Positioned on the caudal umbilicus*

*Measurements in bold and underlined are where motion > 5mm when motion mitigation applied*





*Measurements in bold and underlined are where motion > 5mm when motion mitigation applied*





*Measurements in bold and underlined are where motion > 5mm when motion mitigation applied*

























**\****AC=Abdominal compression, BH=Breath-hold, MM=Motion mitigation*





**\****AC=Abdominal compression, BH=Breath-hold, MM=Motion mitigation*

