

**7<sup>th</sup>**

International Congress

**MOUNTAIN, SPORT & HEALTH**

updating study and research from laboratory to field

**9-10 November 2017 Rovereto (TN) Italy**

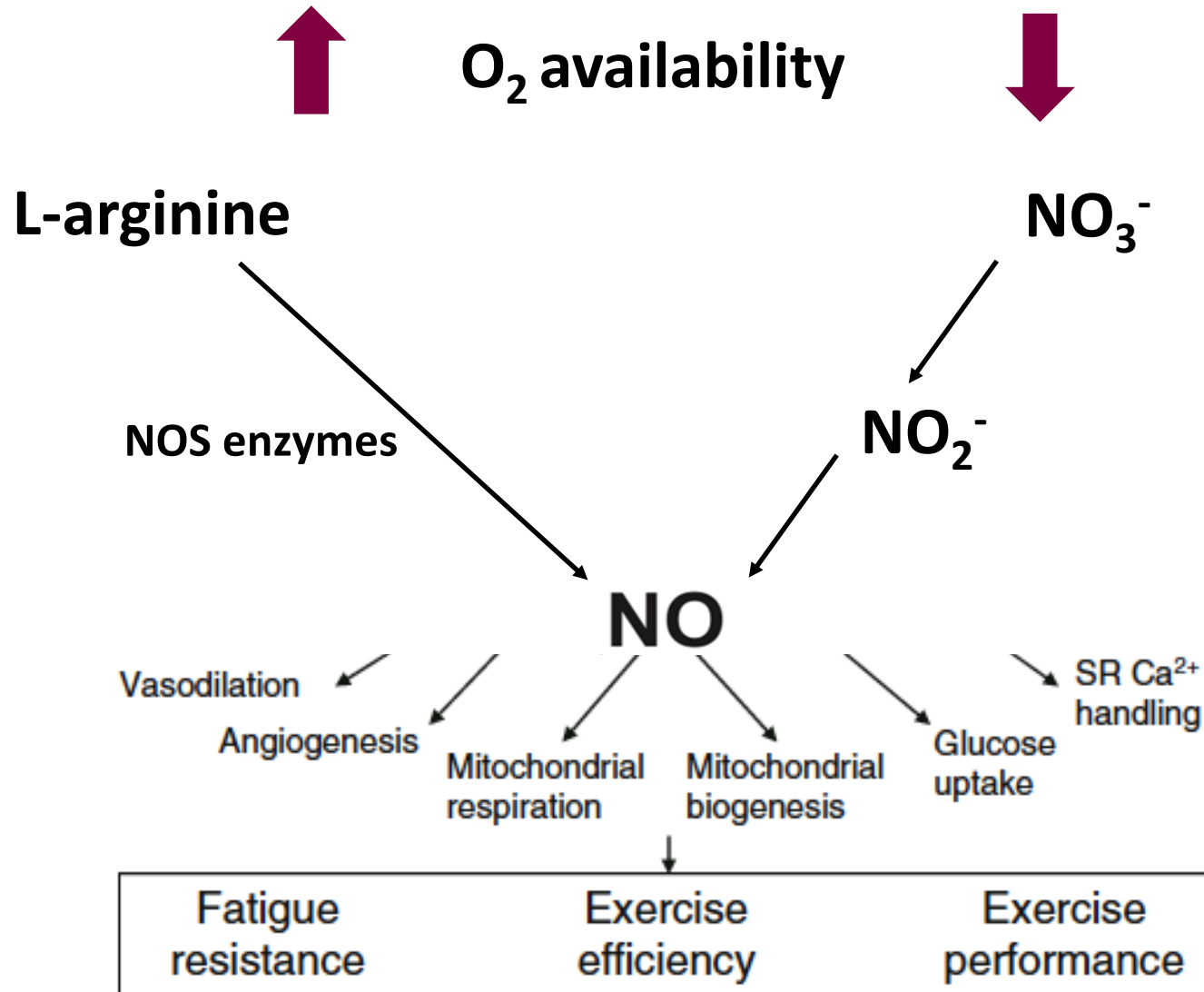
**“BEet On Alps”  
ergogenic effects of dietary nitrate supplementation  
at high altitude**



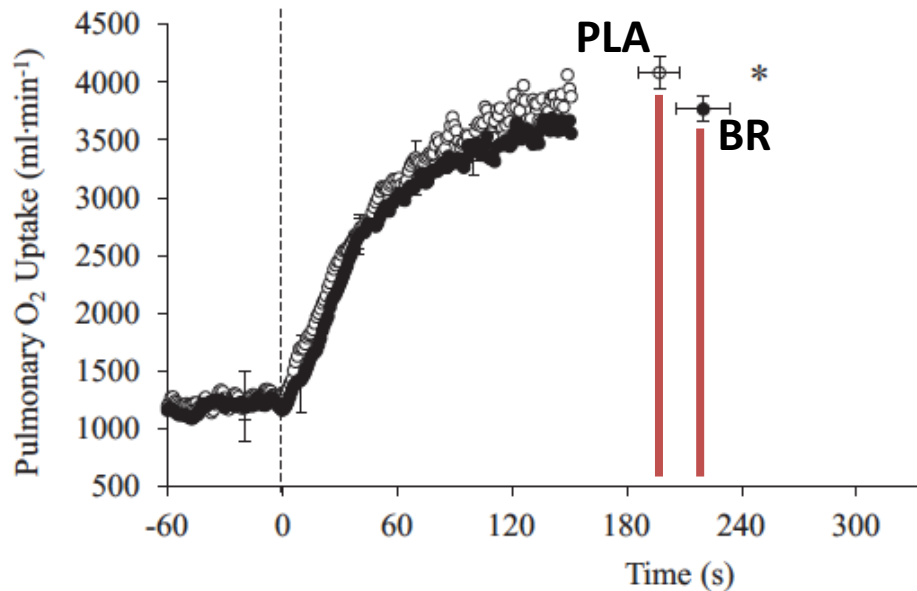
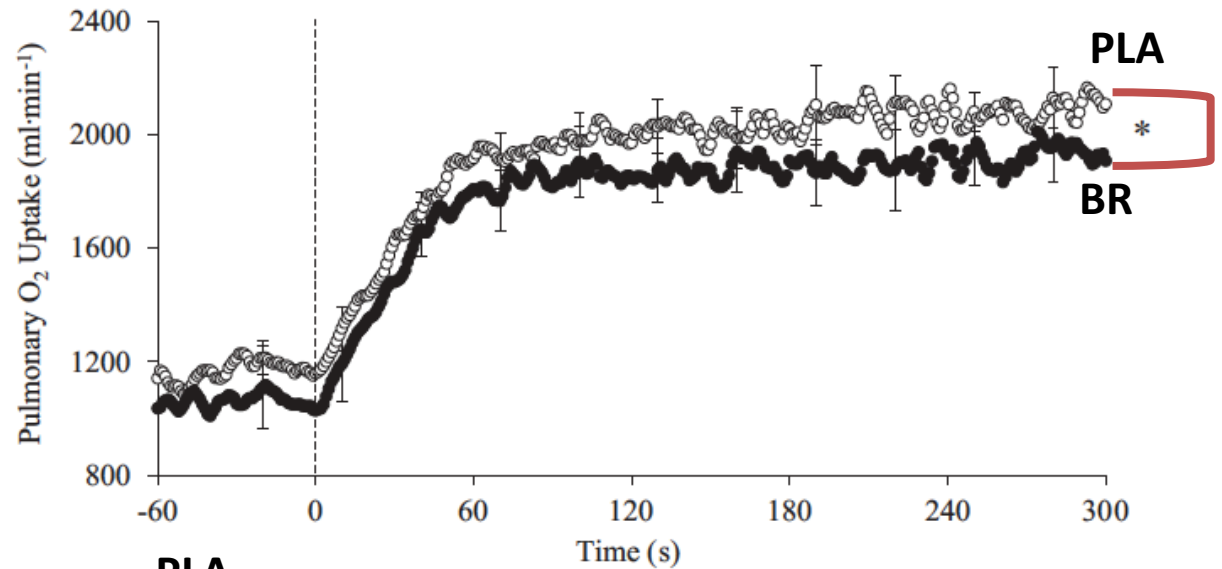
**Letizia Rasica**



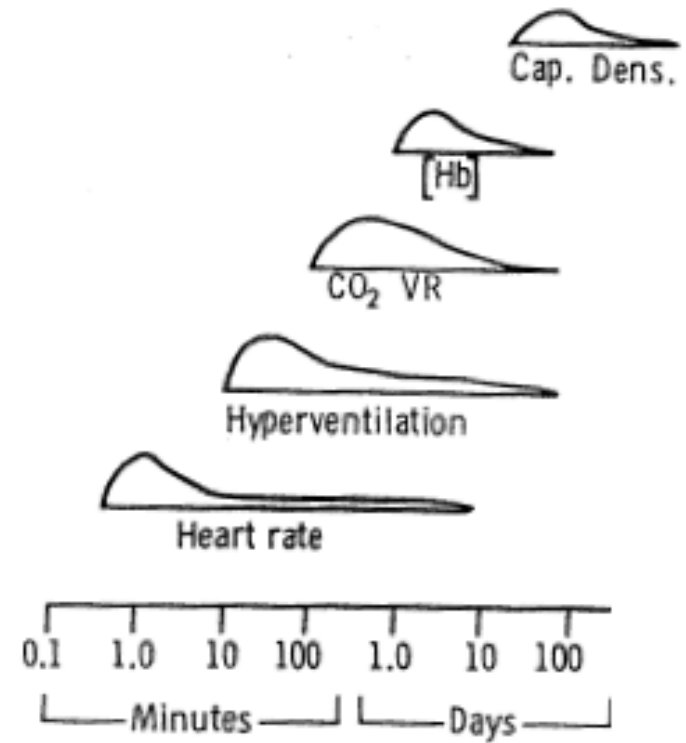
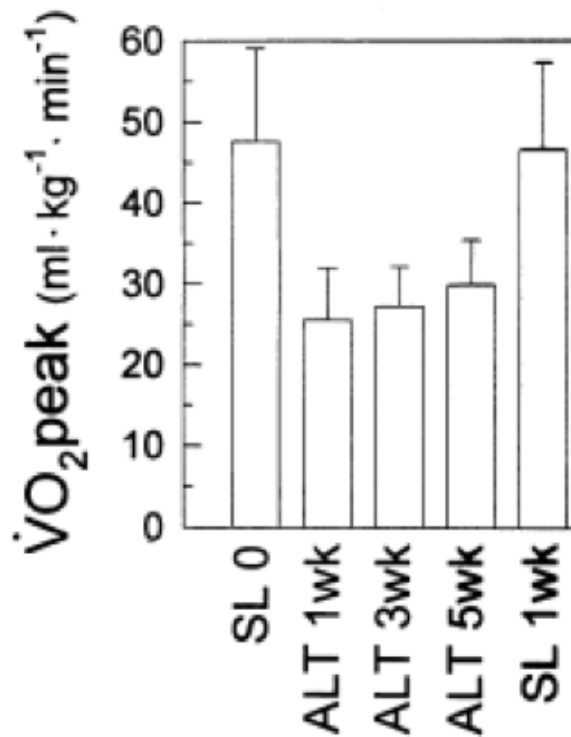
*Department of Biomedical Sciences for Health, University of Milan  
Institute of Molecular Bioimaging and Physiology, National Research Council*



# NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> SUPPLEMENTATION IN NORMOBARIC HYPOXIA

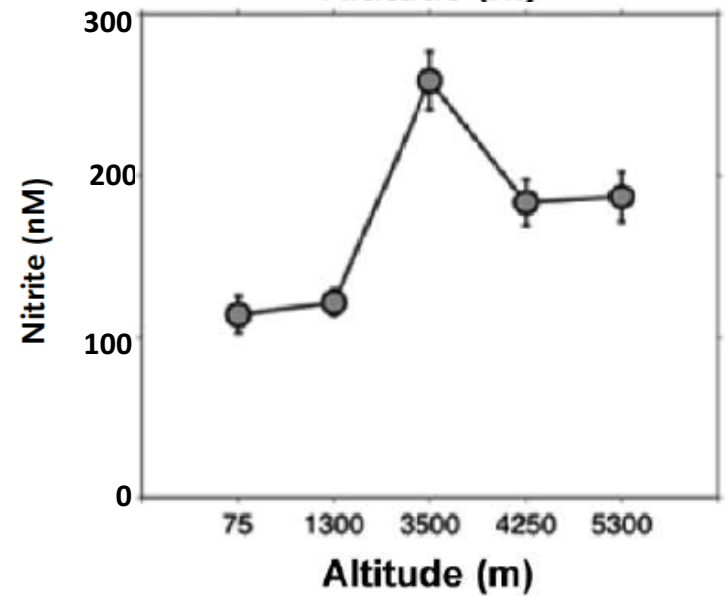
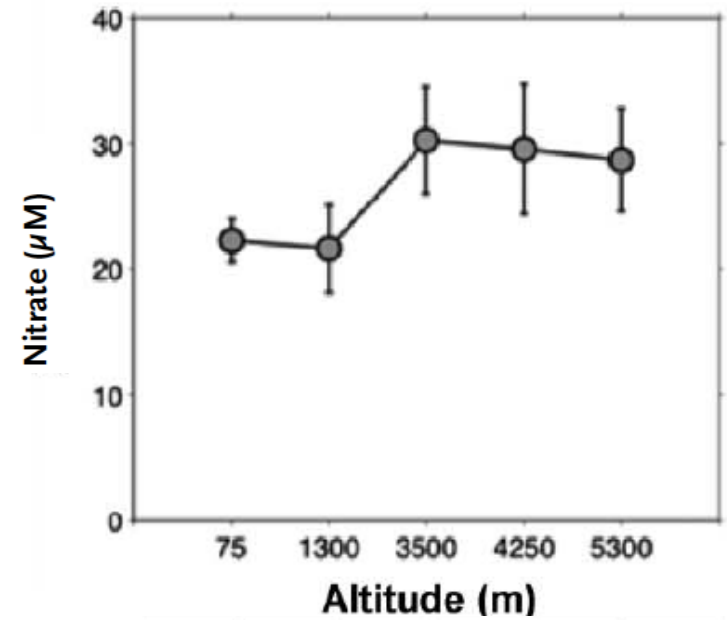


# PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES TO CHRONIC HYPOXIA





# $\text{NO}_3^-$ & $\text{NO}_2^-$ IN ALTITUDE



# AIM

Investigate the effects of  
dietary nitrate supplementation  
on physiological responses to exercise  
during a prolonged sojourn at altitude



# METHODS

Age (Years)	Mass (Kg)	Height (m)	BMI (Kg*m <sup>-2</sup> )	$\dot{V}O_2peak$ (mL* kg <sup>-1</sup> *min <sup>-1</sup> )	HRpeak (b*min <sup>-1</sup> )
28 ±6	70.8 ±11.8	1.76 ±0.09	22.7 ±2.4	45.5 ± 9.0	187 ±12





# METHODS

ACCLIMATIZATION

NITRATE/PLACEBO  
8.4 mmol

NITRATE/PLACEBO  
8.4 mmol

WASH-OUT

POST ACC

T1

T2



CLE<GET

CLE>GET

15'

8'

80% GET

10 min

50%  $\Delta_{\text{peak-GET}}$



8'

80% GET

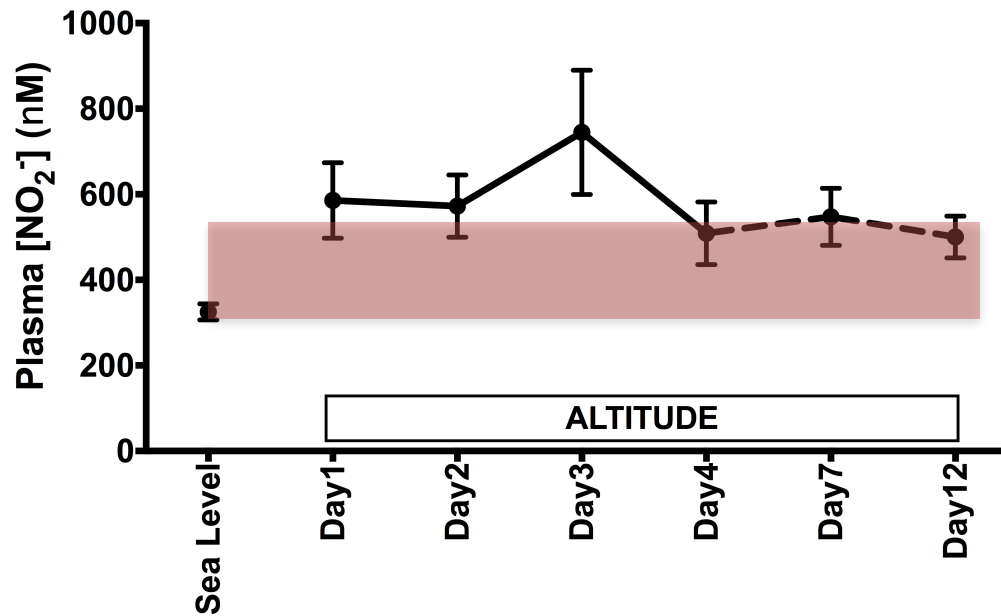
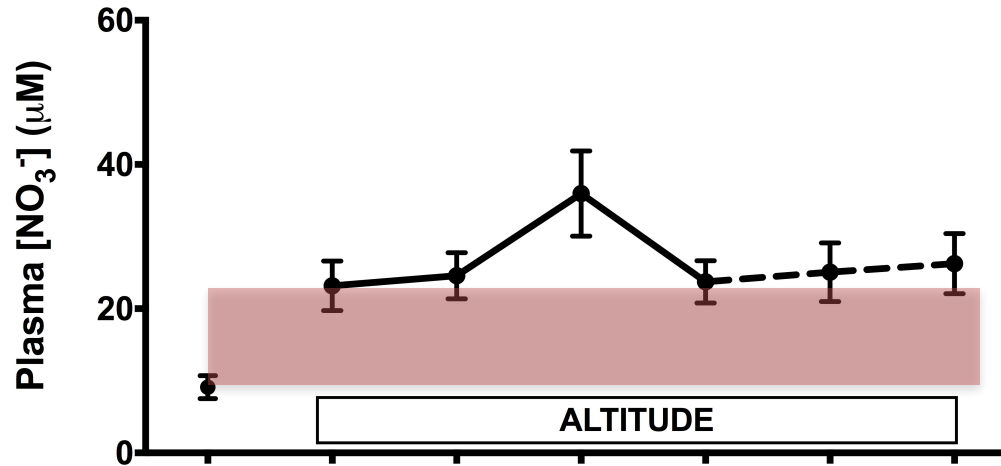
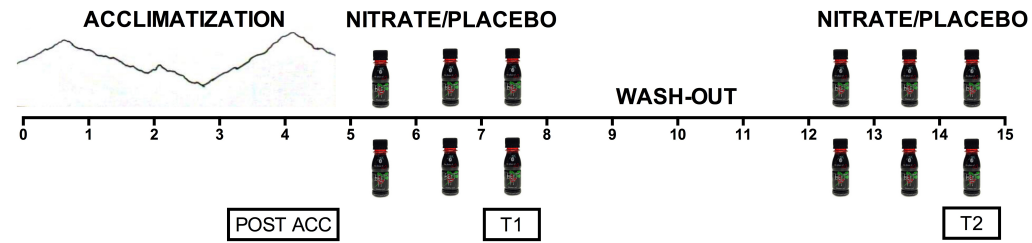
10 min

50%  $\Delta_{\text{peak-GET}}$

15'

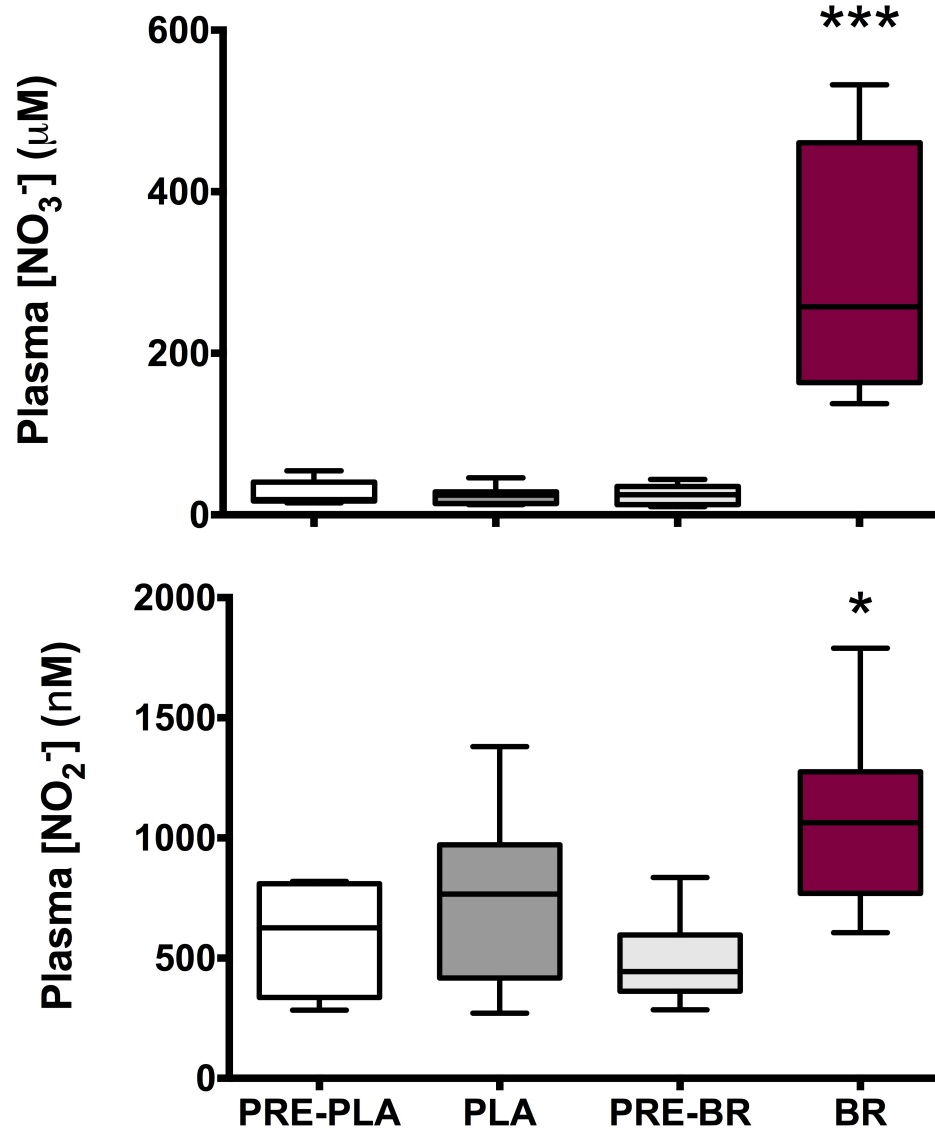
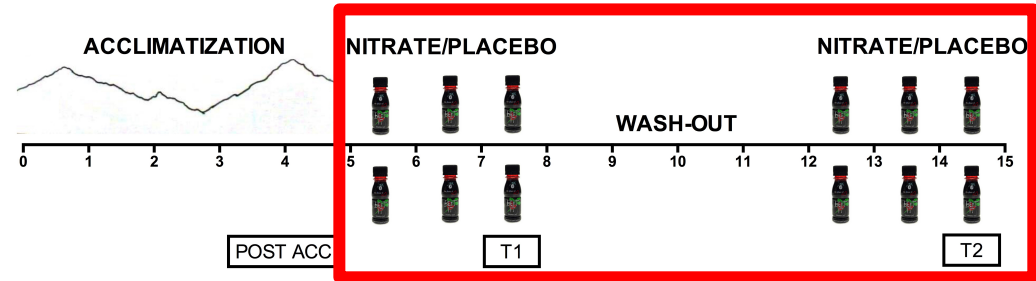
# RESULTS

## PLASMA $[\text{NO}_3^-]$ & $[\text{NO}_2^-]$



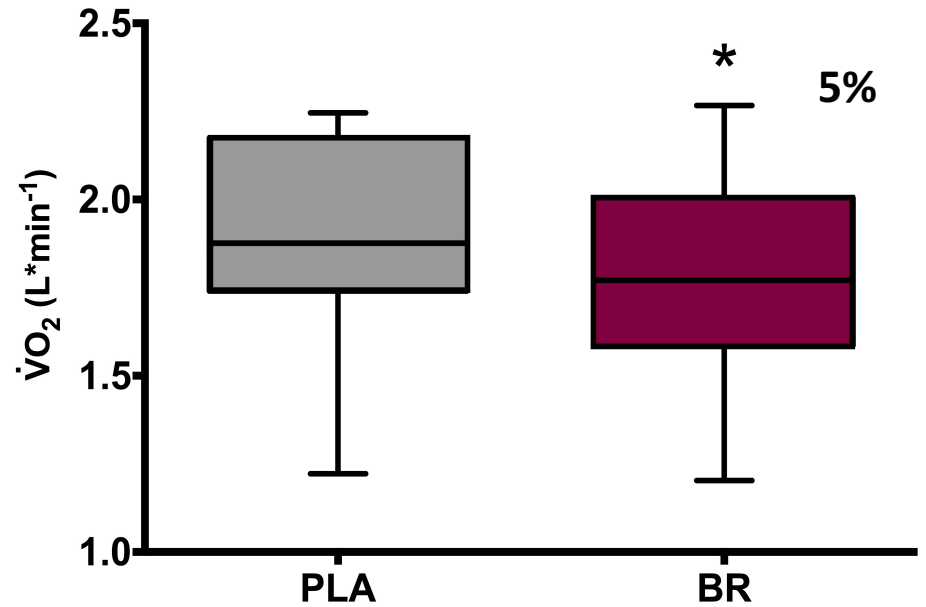
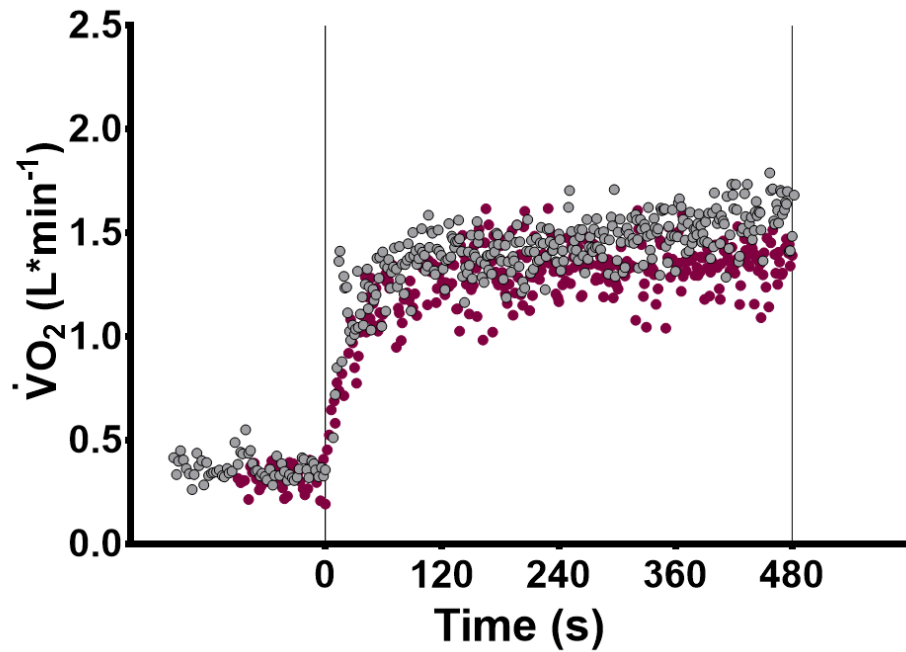
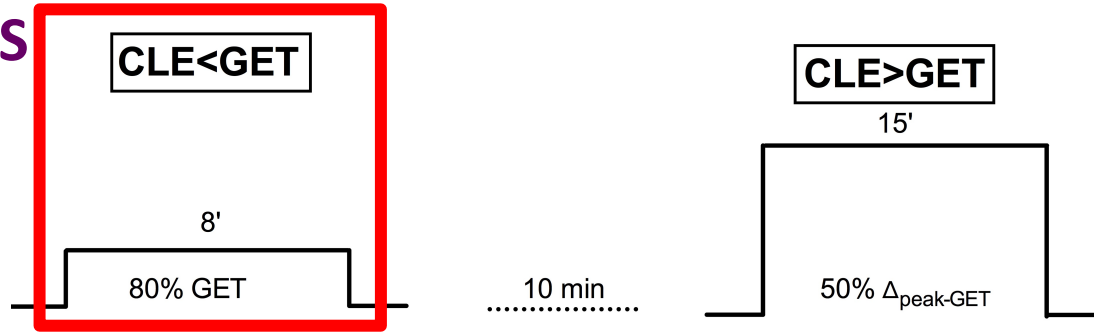
# RESULTS

## PLASMA $[\text{NO}_3^-]$ & $[\text{NO}_2^-]$

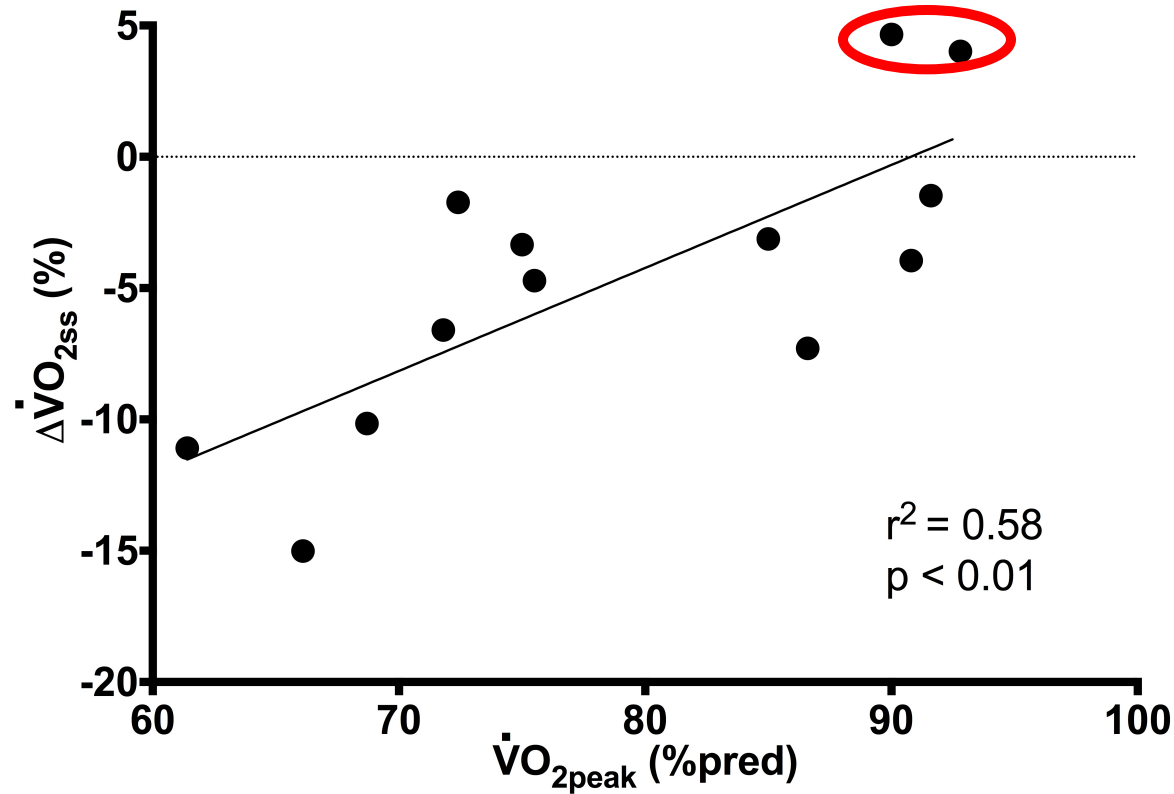
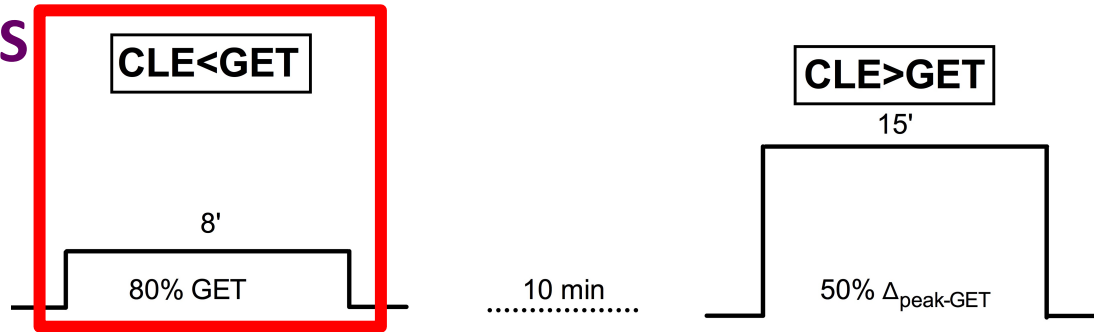




# CYCLE-ERGOMETER EXERCISES

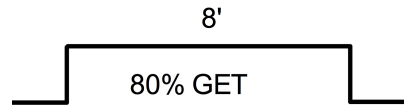


# CYCLE-ERGOMETER EXERCISES



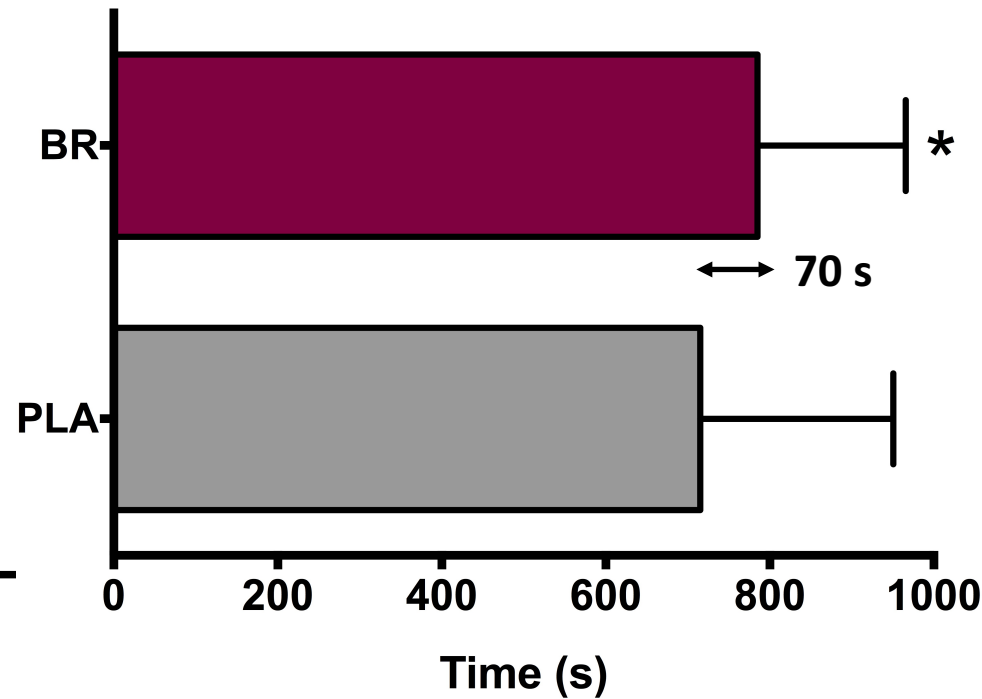
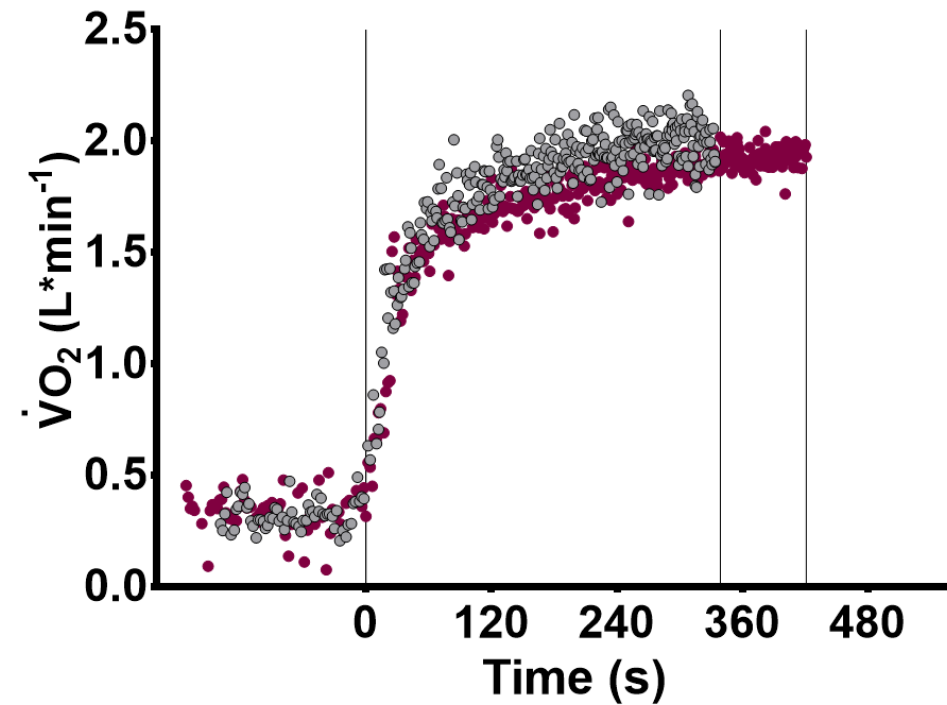
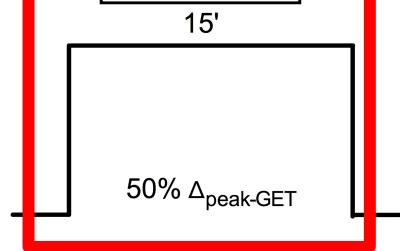
# CYCLE-ERGOMETER EXERCISES

CLE<GET

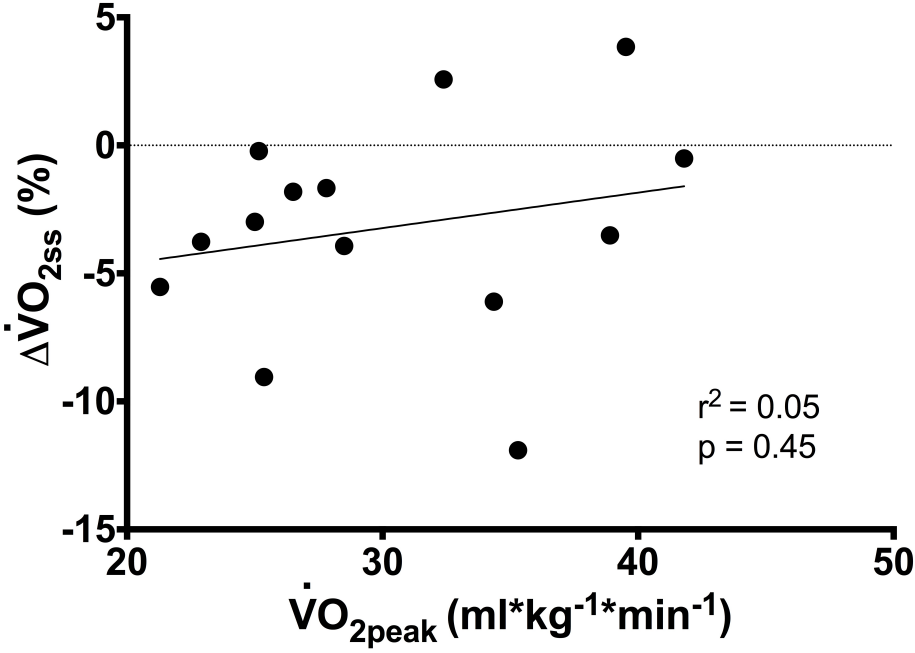
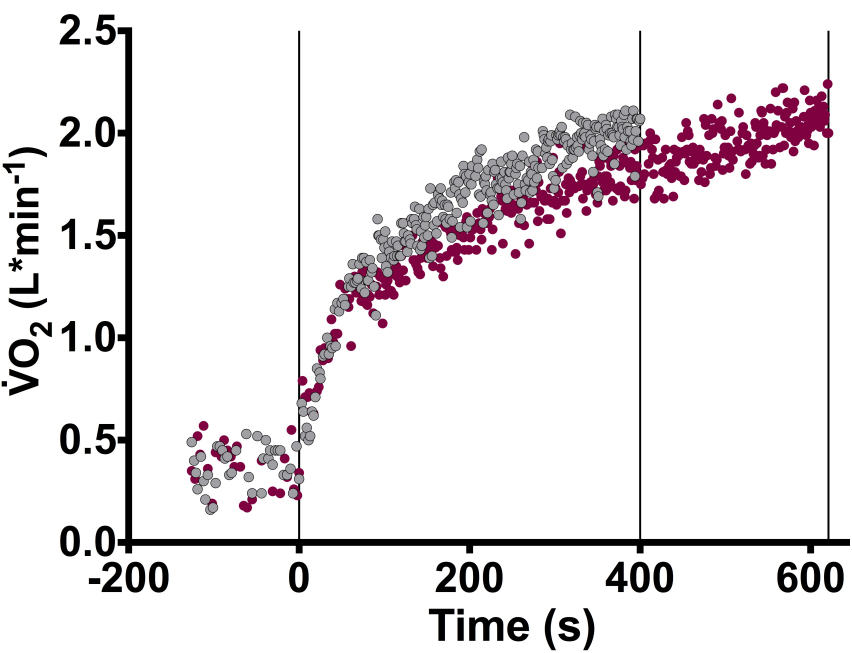
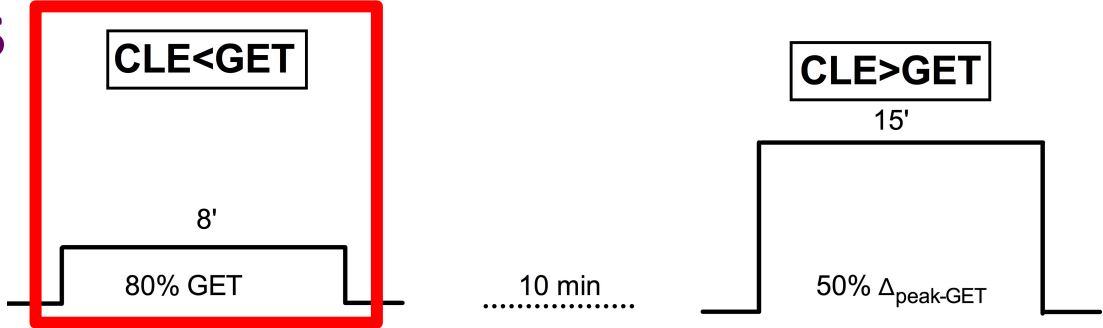


..... 10 min .....

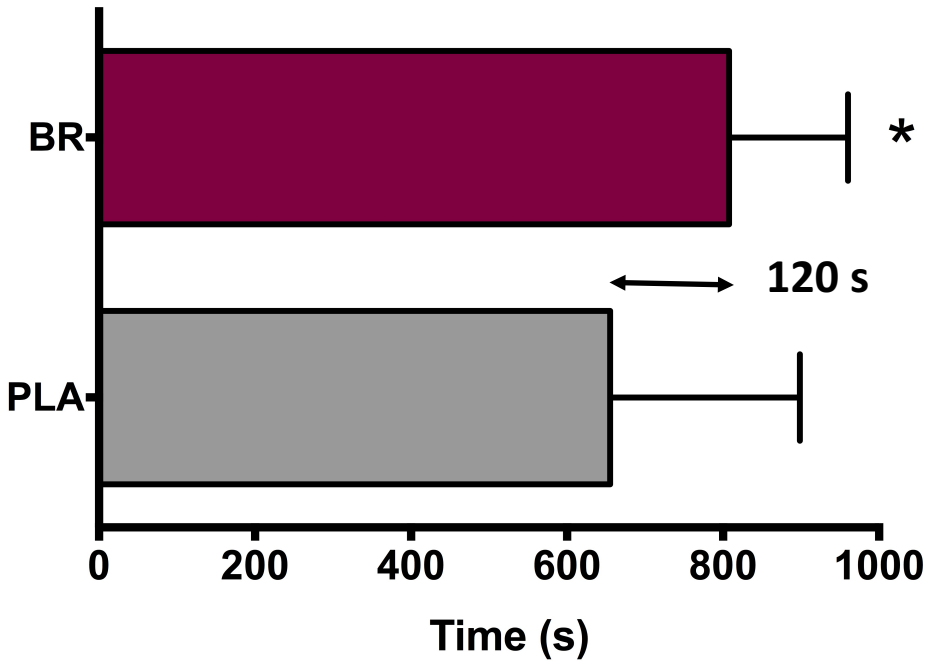
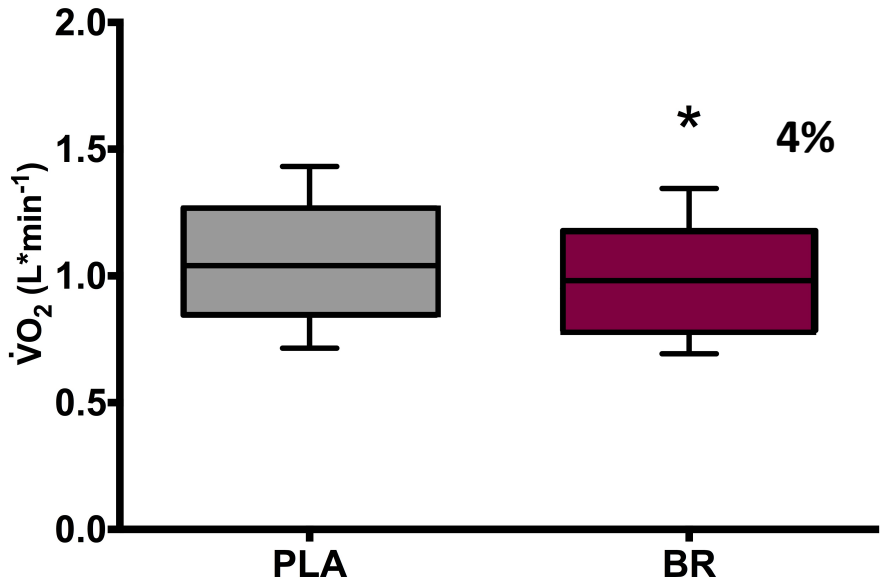
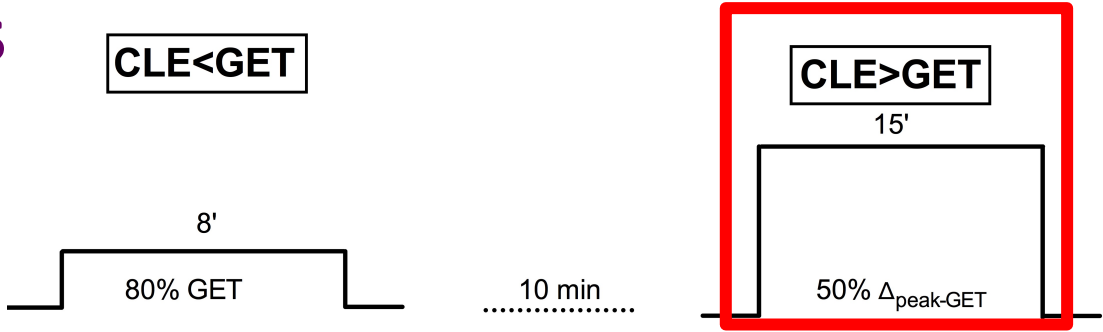
CLE>GET



# ARM-ERGOMETER EXERCISES



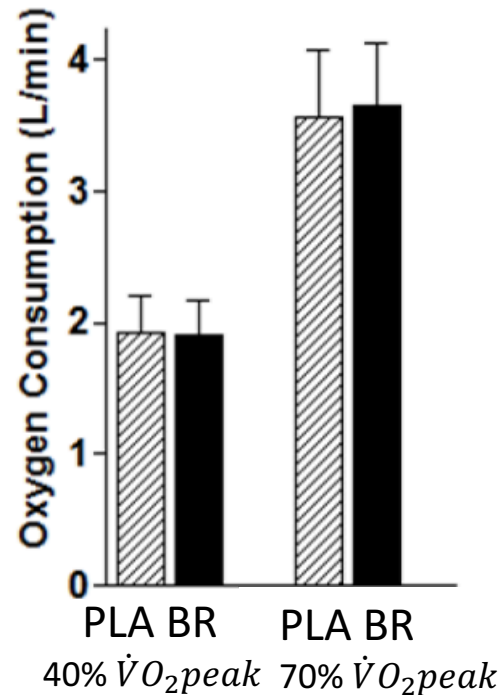
# ARM-ERGOMETER EXERCISES



# CONCLUSION

Exposure to altitude influences **nitric oxide metabolites**

Dietary nitrate supplementation affects moderate and severe intensity exercises reducing **oxygen consumption** and increasing **time to exhaustion** both in leg and in arm exercises



Carriker et al, *Int J Sport Nutr Exerc Metab*, 2016

In cycle ergometer exercise dietary nitrate supplementation was less effective in subjects with high **fitness level**



# TAKE HOME MESSAGE



**Dietary nitrate supplementation** seems to be a valid aid to enhance exercise efficiency and improve **exercise tolerance** at **high altitude**



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

