Assessment of Mandibular Movement Monitoring With Machine Learning Analysis for the Diagnosis of Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Jean-Louis Pépin, MD, PhD; Clément Letesson, PhD; Nhat Nam Le-Dong, MD, PhD; Antoine Dedave, MSc; Stéphane Denison, MSc; Valérie Cuthbert, MSc; Jean-Benoît Martinot, MD; David Gozal, MD, MBA

Abstract

IMPORTANCE Given the high prevalence of obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), there is a need for simpler and automated diagnostic approaches.

OBJECTIVE To evaluate whether mandibular movement (MM) monitoring during sleep coupled with an automated analysis by machine learning is appropriate for OSA diagnosis.

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS Diagnostic study of adults undergoing overnight in-laboratory polysomnography (PSG) as the reference method compared with simultaneous MM monitoring at a sleep clinic in an academic institution (Sleep Laboratory, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Université Catholique de Louvain Namur Site Sainte-Elisabeth, Namur, Belgium). Patients with suspected OSA were enrolled from July 5, 2017, to October 31, 2018.

MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES Obstructive sleep apnea diagnosis required either evoking signs or symptoms or related medical or psychiatric comorbidities coupled with a PSG-derived respiratory disturbance index (PSG-RDI) of at least 5 events/h. A PSG-RDI of at least 15 events/h satisfied the diagnosis criteria even in the absence of associated symptoms or comorbidities. Patients who did not meet these criteria were classified as not having OSA. Agreement analysis and diagnostic performance were assessed by Bland-Altman plot comparing PSG-RDI and the Sunrise system RDI (Sr-RDI) with diagnosis threshold optimization via receiver operating characteristic curves, allowing for evaluation of the device sensitivity and specificity in detecting OSA at 5 events/h and 15 events/h.

RESULTS Among 376 consecutive adults with suspected OSA, the mean (SD) age was 49.7 (13.2) years, the mean (SD) body mass index was 31.0 (7.1), and 207 (55.1%) were men. Reliable agreement was found between PSG-RDI and Sr-RDI in patients without OSA (n = 46; mean difference, 1.31; 95% CI, −1.05 to 3.66 events/h) and in patients with OSA with a PSG-RDI of at least 5 events/h with symptoms (n = 107; mean difference, −0.69; 95% CI, −3.77 to 2.38 events/h). An Sr-RDI underestimation of −11.74 (95% CI, −20.83 to −2.67) events/h in patients with OSA with a PSG-RDI of at least 15 events/h was detected and corrected by optimization of the Sunrise system diagnostic threshold. The Sr-RDI showed diagnostic capability, with areas under the receiver operating characteristic curve of 0.95 (95% CI, 0.92-0.96) and 0.93 (95% CI, 0.90-0.93) for corresponding PSG-RDIs of 5 events/h and 15 events/h, respectively. At the 2 optimal cutoffs of 7.63 events/h and 12.65 events/h, Sr-RDI had accuracy of 0.92 (95% CI, 0.90-0.94) and 0.88 (95% CI, 0.86-0.90) as well as posttest probabilities of 0.99 (95% CI, 0.99-0.99) and 0.89 (95% CI, 0.88-0.91) at PSG-RDIs of at least 5 events/h and at least 15 events/h, respectively, corresponding to positive likelihood ratios of 14.86 (95% CI, 9.86-30.12) and 5.63 (95% CI, 4.92-7.27), respectively.

Key Points

Question How does the performance of an automated mandibular movement analysis for the diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea compare with that of polysomnography?

Findings In this diagnostic study of 376 adults with suspected obstructive sleep apnea, the mandibular movement-derived respiratory disturbance index identified patients with a polysomnography respiratory disturbance index of at least 5 events/h or at least 15 events/h with accuracy of 0.92 and 0.88, respectively.

Meaning Automatic analysis of mandibular movement patterns reliably calculated respiratory disturbance index, and the use of this approach in obstructive sleep apnea diagnosis appears to be promising.
CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE  Automatic analysis of MM patterns provided reliable performance in RDI calculation. The use of this index in OSA diagnosis appears to be promising.

Introduction

Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) affects almost 1 billion people worldwide, resulting in high socioeconomic and health care burden. Excessive daytime sleepiness and fatigue, the chief problems reported by patients with OSA, may have negative consequences on neurocognitive function, mood, and productivity at work, leading to decreased quality of life and increased risk of occupational injuries and motor vehicle crashes. Obstructive sleep apnea is also a major risk factor for a variety of medical conditions, increasing the risk and severity of cardiometabolic diseases, including hypertension, arrhythmias, stroke, coronary heart disease, type 1 and type 2 diabetes, and metabolic dysfunction, ultimately resulting in increased overall mortality. Continuous positive airway pressure, the first-line therapy for OSA, is effective in alleviating symptoms, restoring neurocognitive function, and improving quality of life. Although OSA is one of the most prevalent chronic diseases associated with a wide range of disabilities, it remains an underdiagnosed health problem.

Polysomnography (PSG), the reference method and criterion-standard diagnostic tool for OSA, is unsuitable for the widespread use required to address the sleep apnea epidemic. The performance of PSG is onerous because of the complexity of implementation and the time-consuming and laborious scoring of multichannel recordings, including electroencephalogram, electrocardiogram, and respiratory signals. The manual scoring of sleep stages, microarousals, and respiratory events in a specialized clinic is tedious, technically challenging, and not suitable to the growing population in need of OSA evaluation.

There is consensus among experts on the need to develop advanced diagnostic approaches that incorporate novel technologies providing valid surrogates for sleep staging and respiratory pattern evaluation. Therefore, artificial intelligence-driven sensors that automatically score sleep and respiratory events might be a future direction for OSA diagnosis.

In this context, the objective of this study was to assess the diagnostic capabilities of a novel technology predicated on mandibular movement (MM) analysis (Sunrise) compared with PSG in a large population of consecutive patients with suspected OSA. The Sunrise system represents a technological advancement that combines MM recordings with an automated analysis that is supported by machine learning. Mandibular movement analysis has the advantage of being a reliable marker of sleep fragmentation and respiratory effort, providing information on the obstructive nature of respiratory events during sleep. We hypothesized that the Sunrise system-derived respiratory disturbance index (Sr-RDI) would compare favorably with the PSG-derived RDI (PSG-RDI).

Methods

Study Design

In this prospective, diagnostic study of adult patients who were referred for a single overnight in-laboratory PSG, the PSG was used as the reference method and, with blinding, was compared with simultaneous MM recordings using the Sunrise system (a full description is given in the MM Recordings and Description of the Sunrise System subsection). The study was conducted at a sleep clinic at an academic institution (Sleep Laboratory, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Université Catholique de Louvain Namur Site Sainte-Elisabeth, Namur, Belgium). The Comité d’Éthique
Hospitalo-Facultaire-Universitaire de Liège approved the study, and each participant provided written informed consent. This study followed the Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy (STARD) reporting guideline.

**Overnight Sleep Study**

In-laboratory PSG was recorded with a digital acquisition system (Somnoscreen Plus; Somnomedics). The parameters monitored included electroencephalogram (Fz−A+, Cz−A+, and Pz−A+), right and left electro-oculogram, submental electromyogram, tibial electromyogram, chest and abdominal wall motion by respiratory inductance plethysmography (SleepSense; S.L.P. Inc), and nasal and oral flows with a pressure transducer and a thermistor, respectively, as well as oxygen saturation by digital oximeter displaying pulse waveform (Nonin; Nonin Medical).

The PSG data were manually scored by 2 experienced investigators (V.C. and a nonauthor) who were blinded to the identity of the patients. All sleep stages, electroencephalogram arousals, and sleep-related respiratory events were visually scored in accordance with the recommended criteria established by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) *Manual for the Scoring of Sleep and Associated Events*. Hypopneas were scored using the AASM-recommended hypopnea 1A definition, requiring at least a 30% decrement in airflow lasting 10 seconds or longer and associated with a decrease of at least 3% in oxygen saturation as measured by pulse oximetry or an arousal. Obstructive sleep apnea diagnosis was established according to the third edition of the *International Classification of Sleep Disorders* (ICSD-3) and required either evoking signs or symptoms or related medical or psychiatric comorbidities coupled with at least 5 predominantly obstructive respiratory events (ie, obstructive and mixed apneas, hypopneas, or respiratory effort–related arousals [hereafter referred to as PSG-RDI]) per hour of sleep during PSG. Alternatively, a frequency of obstructive respiratory events of at least 15 events/h satisfied the diagnosis criteria even in the absence of associated symptoms or comorbidities. Interobserver agreement for scoring PSG was evaluated for all studies by intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC) using a 2-way random model for single measures (ICC, 2.1). Interobserver agreement (ICC, 2.1) for PSG double-scoring was 92% (95% CI, 89%-94%; \( P < .001 \)) in our laboratory. A prespecified, clinically relevant RDI difference of 3 events/h (with an upper bound at 5 events/h) between PSG-RDI and Sr-RDI was agreed on a priori by the study investigators (J-L.P., J-B.M., and D.G.).

**MM Recordings and Description of the Sunrise System**

The Sunrise system is composed of coin-sized hardware attached by the sleep technician to the chin of the patient in the mentolabial sulcus. Its embedded inertial measurement unit enables MM sensing and communicates with a smartphone application for external control. The collected MM data were automatically transferred to a cloud-based infrastructure at the end of the night, and data analysis was conducted with a dedicated machine learning algorithm (*Figure 1*). Details on the algorithm and the independent sample in which it was developed are provided in eFigure 2, eTable 1, and eTable 2 in the *Supplement*.

The Sunrise algorithm allowed for automatic identification of obstructive and mixed apneas and hypopneas or respiratory effort–related arousals through stereotypical MM patterns (eFigure 1 in the *Supplement*). For that purpose, the algorithm automatically processed MM signal components and assessed whether MM patterns could be classified as wake, arousal, respiratory effort, or quiet sleep. To identify wake, the algorithm tested whether MM signals were fast, irregular, and unpredictable. For the identification of arousal movements, the algorithm detected brisk MM of large amplitude, indicating abrupt closure of the mouth characteristic of arousals. Respiratory effort was identified through oscillating MM at the breathing frequency. The Sunrise algorithm identifies respiratory disturbances as a period of respiratory effort ended by an arousal or an awakening. The Sr-RDI consists of the total number of respiratory disturbances accompanied by respiratory effort divided by the total sleep time (TST), which is estimated from the Sunrise analytics.
Statistical Analysis
Data analysis was conducted using R statistical programming language (R Project for Statistical Computing). The analysis focused on evaluating the agreement between MM-derived parameters (Sr-RDI, Sr-TST, and arousal index [Sr-ArI]) and their PSG counterparts (PSG-RDI, PSG-TST, and PSG-ArI) as well as optimizing the clinical performance of the RDI derived from Sunrise system analysis in ruling in a diagnosis of OSA at the 2 reference thresholds of PSG of at least 5 events/h or at least 15 events/h, leading to the classification of participants in the following 3 clinical groups: non-OSA (OSA ruled out), PSG-RDI of at least 5 events/h (OSA ruled in with PSG-RDI ≥5 events/h and the patient had either signs or symptoms or a comorbid medical or psychiatric disorder), and PSG-RDI of at least 15 events/h (OSA is ruled in with PSG-RDI ≥15 events/h even in the absence of associated symptoms or comorbid disorders).

A complete and groupwise Bland-Altman plot was prespecified to estimate the 95% limits of agreement and the systematic bias of MM-derived indexes compared with their PSG counterparts. Estimations of the mean differences and 95% limits of agreement were based on the individual random errors extracted from a mixed model. Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve analysis was used to evaluate the overall clinical effectiveness of the new diagnostic tool via area under the curve (AUC), and a post hoc analysis was performed to optimize the cutoff points of Sr-RDI for diagnostic decisions compared with the criterion-standard cutoff values of obstructive PSG-RDI recommended in ICSD-3 (5 events/h and 15 events/h). The optimal MM cutoffs were assessed at the highest value of the Youden index (sensitivity plus specificity minus 1). The metrics of clinical utility and accuracy were also calculated for the optimal detection thresholds. The posttest probability for each cutoff point was also calculated as recommended by Collop et al. P < .001 was considered statistically significant, and all tests were 2-tailed.

Results
In total, 376 consecutive adults with suspected OSA were enrolled from July 5, 2017, to October 31, 2018. Their mean (SD) age was 49.7 (13.2) years, their mean (SD) body mass index (calculated as weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared) was 31.0 (7.1), and 207 (55.1%) were men. Details on the sample size calculation are provided in the eAppendix in the Supplement.

The final data set included all 376 patients recruited and was stratified into 3 clinical groups according to ICSD-3 diagnosis rules. Enrolled patients represented a clinical referral population in which the pretest probabilities were 82.5% and 55.7% for PSG-RDIs of at least 5 events/h and at least 15 events/h, respectively. No technical failures occurred with the use of the Sunrise system.

Figure 1. Flow Diagram of the Study Protocol

Shown is a comparison between polysomnography (PSG) and automated mandibular movement (MM) analysis procedures. Data concomitantly recorded by in-laboratory PSG and the Sunrise system device were analyzed independently. A, The PSG data were manually scored to export a respiratory disturbance index (PSG-RDI) as the reference method for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) diagnosis. B, The Sunrise system (Sr) data were automatically uploaded into a cloud-based platform without human intervention, where data were handled by a proprietary machine learning algorithm. After algorithm processing, Sr-RDI was automatically derived for agreement analysis and evaluation of diagnosis performance. ArI indicates arousal index; TST, total sleep time.
The characteristics of the cohort are listed in Table 1. The cohort had a median PSG-RDI of 18.80 (interquartile range, 7.80-29.80) events/h and a median sleep duration of 7.20 (interquartile range, 6.40-8.00) hours.

**Evaluation of the Agreement Between the Sunrise System and PSG for Measuring Sleep Apnea Indexes**

An extended Bland-Altman plot (Figure 2) was used to evaluate the agreement level between the Sunrise system-based approach and PSG (reference method) for RDI measurement and to anticipate

| Table 1. Characteristics of the Study Population of Adults With Suspected OSA Undergoing Overnight In-Laboratory PSG |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| **Characteristic** | **Median (Interquartile Range)** | **PSG-RDI ≥5 events/h With Symptoms** | **PSG-RDI ≥15 events/h** |
| **Non-OSA** (n = 46) | | |
| **Age, y** | 38.3 (33.7-47.5) | 45.6 (36.5-55.7) | 52.6 (43.6-61.5) |
| **Height, cm** | 170 (165-175) | 172 (163-178) | 174 (167-180) |
| **Weight, kg** | 71 (63-90) | 87 (75-103) | 95 (82-106) |
| **Neck circumference, cm** | 37 (35-39) | 39 (37-42) | 42 (39-45) |
| **BMI** | 23.5 (21.3-30.1) | 28.7 (25.6-36.8) | 31.3 (27.4-35.5) |
| **ESS score** | 11 (8-15) | 9 (6-14) | 12 (7-15) |
| **PSG-Arl, events/h** | 7.85 (5.96-10.80) | 13.30 (11.00-16.90) | 28.50 (20.10-41.50) |
| **PSG-Oti, events/h** | 2.25 (0.63-4.05) | 6.50 (2.85-12.20) | 31.10 (16.20-51.60) |
| **PSG-RI, events/h** | 3.35 (2.08-4.68) | 11.80 (8.79-13.88) | 29.70 (21.71-49.46) |
| **PSG-AHI, events/h** | 7.85 (5.96-10.80) | 13.30 (11.00-16.90) | 28.50 (20.10-41.50) |
| **PSG-ODI, events/h** | 2.25 (0.63-4.05) | 6.50 (2.85-12.20) | 31.10 (16.20-51.60) |
| **PSG-RDI, events/h** | 3.35 (2.08-4.68) | 11.80 (8.79-13.88) | 29.70 (21.71-49.46) |
| **PSG-TST, h** | 7.20 (6.52-7.75) | 7.20 (6.45-8.00) | 7.10 (6.20-7.95) |

**Abbreviations:** AHI, apnea/hypopnea hourly index; ArI, arousal index; BMI, body mass index (calculated as weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared); ESS, Epworth Sleepiness Scale; ODI, oxygen desaturation index (3%); OSA, obstructive sleep apnea; PSG, polysomnography; RDI, respiratory disturbance index; TST, total sleep time.
the reliability of switching from PSG to the Sunrise system as a diagnostic tool. Overall, the Bland-Altman plot (Figure 2B) showed systematic bias between the 2 methods, with a mean difference of −7.00 events/h (95% CI, −15.24 to 1.23 events/h).

Detailed analysis (Figure 2B) showed that in the non-OSA group (n = 46) the disagreement was normally distributed and below a clinically relevant difference (mean difference, 1.31; 95% CI, −1.05 to 3.66 events/h, thus including 0). The disagreement was also normally distributed in the OSA group with a PSG-RDI of at least 5 events/h (n = 107), and the mean difference was low (−0.69; 95% CI, −3.77 to 2.38 events/h) and included 0. In contrast, the distribution of disagreement in the group of patients diagnosed as having a PSG-RDI of at least 15 events/h became positively skewed because of outliers at values exceeding 40 events/h on the PSG-RDI scale. The mean difference was estimated at −11.74 (95% CI, −20.83 to −2.67) events/h in the OSA group with a PSG-RDI of at least 15 events/h.

The RDI distribution curves (Figure 2A) were uniform in the 3 clinical groups irrespective of the measurement method examined. The distribution of Sr-RDI was slightly moved to the left compared with PSG-RDI in the 2 OSA groups but almost overlapped within the non-OSA group, indicating that the systematic bias between PSG-derived and Sunrise system-derived indexes could be corrected by relocating the diagnostic cutoffs on the Sr-RDI scale using ROC curve analysis.

The agreement between PSG-derived and Sunrise system-derived indexes for TST and ArI is shown in Bland-Altman plots in eFigure 3 and eFigure 4 in the Supplement. The difference in TST between the 2 methods contributed to less than 1 unit of the difference between RDIs.

Optimization of Sr-RDI Diagnostic Performance in OSA by ROC Curve Analysis
The variability of Sr-RDI among the 3 clinical groups was explored using pairwise comparisons in a Gardner-Altman plot. The mean differences in Sr-RDI between patients with and without OSA diagnosed at the cutoffs of 5 events/h and 15 events/h were 6.11 (95% CI, 4.59-7.61; \(P < .001\)) and 21.20 (95% CI, 18.87-23.52; \(P < .001\)), respectively (eFigure 5 in the Supplement).

An ROC curve analysis was performed to evaluate the clinical performance of Sr-RDI diagnostic rules to detect PSG-defined OSA at the 2 clinical thresholds of 5 events/h and 15 events/h (Figure 3). The AUCs of the 2 Sr-RDI binary classification rules targeting PSG-RDI of at least 5 events/h or at least 15 events/h were 0.95 (95% CI, 0.92-0.96) and 0.93 (95% CI, 0.90-0.93), respectively. The variability of performance metrics over all possible cutoffs on the Sr-RDI scale is shown in eFigure 6 in the Supplement.

At the 2 optimal cutoffs of 7.63 events/h and 12.65 events/h, Sr-RDI detected patients with PSG-RDI of at least 5 events/h or at least 15 events/h with high accuracy (0.92 [95% CI, 0.90-0.94]).
and 0.88 [95% CI, 0.86-0.90], respectively) and good balance between precision and recall (F1 score [the harmonic mean between precision and recall], 0.95 [95% CI, 0.94-0.97] and 0.91 [95% CI, 0.89-0.92], respectively). The Sr-RDI diagnostic rules also showed superior diagnostic performance compared with baseline self-reported symptoms, with high posttest probabilities of obtaining a true-positive diagnosis (0.99 [95% CI, 0.99-0.99] for patients with PSG-RDI ≥5 and 0.89 [95% CI, 0.88-0.91] for patients with PSG-RDI ≥15, corresponding to positive likelihood ratios of 14.86 [95% CI, 9.86-30.12] and 5.63 [95% CI, 4.92-7.27], respectively) (Table 2).

### Discussion

In a large, prospective cohort of patients with and without OSA, we evaluated the agreement between MM-derived Sr-RDI and blindly scored PSG-RDI (Figure 2B). The maximum agreement between PSG-RDI and Sr-RDI was found in patients without OSA and in those with OSA with PSG-RDI of at least 5 events/h, with the latter group representing the most challenging population to be diagnosed when using simplified approaches.35

#### Diagnostic Capabilities of the Sunrise System vs PSG

The study sample was representative of a typical clinical referral population, including patients with low to high pretest probability of OSA, thus embracing the entire spectrum of OSA. This factor is clinically relevant because simple and less onerous diagnostic strategies are particularly desirable in asymptomatic or specific at-risk populations, such as those with cardiometabolic disease or obesity.36 Similar skewed RDI distributions were found for PSG and the Sunrise system irrespective of the group of patients being considered (Figure 2A). Accordingly, the optimal diagnostic cutoff was adjusted, and the diagnostic PSG-RDI cutoffs of at least 5 events/h and at least 15 events/h could be extrapolated with confidence to Sr-RDI cutoffs of at least 7.63 events/h and at least 12.65 events/h. The Sunrise system diagnostic performance after cutoff optimization compared favorably with PSG, with ROC curves showing high AUCs of 0.95 and 0.93, respectively. At these cutoffs, the mean positive likelihood ratios were 14.86 and 5.63, respectively, and led to posttest probabilities of obtaining a true-positive diagnosis of 99% and 89%, respectively. These results are in line with the recommendations by Collop et al,35 who stated that to efficiently rule in a diagnosis of OSA, portable monitoring devices should improve the pretest probability to a sufficiently high posttest probability.

Sleep apnea is a common chronic disease associated with significant deterioration in quality of life. Continuous positive airway pressure is effective in symptomatic patients and, if adherently used,

### Table 2. Performance of the Sr-RDI to Detect Patients With PSG-RDI at the Diagnostic Levels Reported in the Third Edition of the International Classification of Sleep Disorders30a

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Value (95% CI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PSG-RDI ≥5 Events/h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sr-RDI cutoff</td>
<td>7.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youden index</td>
<td>0.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUC</td>
<td>0.95 (0.92-0.96)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balanced accuracy</td>
<td>0.92 (0.90-0.94)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitivity</td>
<td>0.91 (0.89-0.92)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specificity</td>
<td>0.94 (0.91-0.97)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False-positive rate</td>
<td>0.06 (0.03-0.09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False-negative rate</td>
<td>0.09 (0.08-0.11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive likelihood ratio</td>
<td>14.86 (9.86-30.12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative likelihood ratio</td>
<td>0.10 (0.08-0.12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive predictive value</td>
<td>0.99 (0.99-0.99)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative predictive value</td>
<td>0.59 (0.55-0.63)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F1 score</td>
<td>0.95 (0.94-0.97)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abbreviations: AUC, area under the curve; PSG-RDI, polysomnography-derived respiratory disturbance index; Sr-RDI, Sunrise system RDI.

* Optimal cutoff points were assessed at the highest value of the Youden index (sensitivity plus specificity minus 1). The F1 score is the harmonic mean between precision and recall. The 95% CIs were obtained by bootstrapping.
may reduce the magnitude of disabling symptoms and restore quality of life, social functioning, and work productivity. Under such circumstances, a diagnostic tool should be sensitive to detect patients across the full spectrum of disease severity. Therefore, our main challenge was to assess the diagnostic thresholds for MM recordings that would differentiate between patients with OSA of varying severities and patients without OSA. To optimize the delineation of such diagnostic thresholds, we used ROC curves and defined the trade-off between true-positive rates and false-positive rates at PSG-RDI of at least 5 events/h and at least 15 events/h.

Sunrise System and High-Performance Sleep Apnea Diagnosis

Mandibular movement analysis has been validated as an accurate measurement modality of respiratory effort during sleep, providing information on the obstructive or central nature of respiratory events. Compared with other simplified diagnostic techniques, MM also provides reliable estimation of TST and unbiased identification of microarousals. Correct TST calculation prevents RDI underestimation (relative to the total recording time), and microarousal identification ensures recognition of respiratory effort-related arousals. These capabilities are uncommon among existing portable monitoring devices and contribute to the good agreement between PSG-RDI and Sr-RDI.

Persistent Discrepancies in Patients With Severe OSA

We observed systematic underestimation by the Sunrise system compared with PSG for PSG-RDI exceeding 40 events/h. The underestimation might be attributable to the use of the AASM-recommended hypopnea 1A definition. Using this rule, hypopneas can be scored when airflow reduction is followed either by a 3% oxygen desaturation or an arousal from sleep. Whereas cortical arousals are clearly detected through the occurrence of brisk and abrupt MM, hypopnea events that were only scored because of the presence of an isolated 3% oxygen desaturation could have been overlooked by the Sunrise system. Ongoing algorithmic developments will address this issue in the future. The fact that the Sunrise system is already reliable in the most difficult populations to characterize (ie, non-OSA and OSA with PSG-RDI ≥5 events/h [Figure 2B]) is reassuring and indicates the robustness of this approach. Furthermore, the underestimation occurring for PSG-RDI exceeding 40 events/h will not modify the therapeutic decision.

Comparison of Sunrise System With Other OSA Diagnostic Systems

The Sunrise system device is designed to be used for ambulatory diagnosis of OSA outside of a sleep center setting and can thus be categorized in the SCOPER (Sleep, Cardiovascular, Oximetry, Position, Effort, and Respiratory parameters) framework as S3C0O0P2E4R5. As such, the performance of the device not only favorably compares with but also, in many instances, surpasses the performance of other fully automated diagnostic devices also classified within the SCOPER framework. A comparison with alternative solutions for the diagnosis of OSA is summarized in eTable 3 in the Supplement. Signal acquisition was successfully completed in all included patients and was not disturbed by motion artifacts. This outcome is a marked advantage compared with existing type III (portable sleep study limited to sleep apnea and recording ≥4 signals, including electrocardiogram or heart rate, oxygen saturation, and ≥2 channels of respiratory movement and/or airflow) or type IV (sleep study with continuous recording of 1 or 2 signals or any test not fitting into the other categories) systems, which are limited by quality of acquisition in airflow, respiratory movements, or photoplethysmography signals. The performance of the Sunrise system device in identifying OSA can also be positively compared with self-reported measures, such as the Berlin questionnaire, which varies in accuracy depending on the population studied. Interest in the Sunrise system approach relates to the combination of MM recordings with machine learning analysis. Machine learning approaches are increasingly used for diagnosis, disease risk classification, and therapeutic guidance and are especially promising in sleep medicine. The proposed automated method for analyzing MM has the potential to decrease setup and scoring time compared...
with other OSA diagnostic systems, as well as reducing medical errors by facilitating the complex process of respiratory event scoring.

**Limitations**

This study has limitations. First, the chosen Sr-RDI cutoff of 7.63 leaves 9% of individuals as having false-negative results. However, a lower cutoff would optimize sensitivity at the expense of a large decrease in specificity. This factor may be addressed by increasing the number of recording nights. Similar to the Sunrise system device, the criterion-standard reference method using 1-night PSG might underestimate positive diagnosis in mild to moderate OSA. However, discomfort caused by electrodes and cables combined with an unfamiliar environment may result in a first-night effect. Repeated PSG has been suggested in sensitive populations (e.g., those with insomnia and sleep apnea). The use of the Sunrise system has greater capability than PSG for repeating nights at lower cost.

Second, it is theoretically possible that measurement of the amplitude of mandibular displacement was limited by localized constraints (i.e., friction with the pillow in the lateral or prone position of the head or by excessive adipose tissue around the neck), slightly altering results of the automated Sunrise system analysis. Future studies will address these issues in more depth.

Third, the data were obtained in a sleep laboratory and will thus require confirmation and validation via home-based recordings in an ambulatory setting. A future study will evaluate the diagnostic capabilities of the Sunrise system in home-based settings by comparing ambulatory PSG results with consecutive nocturnal recordings using the Sunrise system, with the aim of reducing the consequences of internight variability.

Fourth, relative to the anticipated lower cost associated with the use of the Sunrise system, medicoeconomic data are needed to document inequalities in access to sleep apnea diagnosis and treatment. This information will address possible increases in disease detection and intervention, with potential attendant benefits on outcomes.

**Conclusions**

The Sunrise system automated analysis of MM provided an accurate estimation of RDI obtained during traditional PSG in a large cohort of patients with and without OSA. This approach may provide a suitable and convenient home-based alternative to the sleep center setting and serve as a stand-alone tool for automated assessment of OSA.

**ARTICLE INFORMATION**

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Corresponding Author: Jean-Louis Pépin, MD, PhD, Pôle Thorax et Vaisseaux, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire (CHU) de Grenoble-Alpes (CHUGA), Université Grenoble Alpes, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale, 38043 Grenoble, France (jpepin@chu-grenoble.fr).

Author Affiliations: Pôle Thorax et Vaisseaux, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire (CHU) de Grenoble-Alpes (CHUGA), Université Grenoble Alpes, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale, Grenoble, France (Pépin); Sleep Laboratory, CHU Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL) Namur Site Sainte-Elisabeth, Namur, Belgium (Cuthbert, Martinot); Institute of Experimental and Clinical Research, UCL Bruxelles Woluwe, Brussels, Belgium (Martinot); Department of Child Health, University of Missouri, Columbia (Gozal); Child Health Research Institute, University of Missouri, Columbia (Gozal).

Author Contributions: Drs Pépin and Martinot had full access to all of the data in the study and take responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis.
Concept and design: Pépin, Letesson, Le-Dong, Martinot, Gozal.

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Critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content: Pépin, Letesson, Le-Dong, Martinot, Gozal.

Statistical analysis: Pépin, Letesson, Le-Dong, Dedave, Martinot, Gozal.

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Supervision: Pépin, Letesson, Martinot, Gozal.

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REFERENCES


SUPPLEMENT.

eFigure 1. Behavior of the Sunrise MM Signal (Sr-Derived MM) After Incorporation Into PSG Fragments of a Transition From Wake to Sleep (upper panel), a Sleep Period Marked With Episodes of Obstructive Apnoea (middle panel) or a Respiratory-Effort Related Arousal (RERA) (lower panel)
eFigure 2. Technical Details on the Sunrise Algorithm Development Phase
eTable 1. Characteristics of the Training and Validation Samples
eTable 2. Characteristics of Interest for Sleep Mandibular Movements (MM) Analysis as Shown in eFigure 1
eFigure 3. Bland-Altman Evaluation of the Agreement Between the 2 Methods for TST Measurement
eFigure 4. Bland-Altman Evaluation of the Agreement Between the 2 Methods for the Arousal Index
eFigure 5. Differences in Sr_RDI Values Among the 3 Clinical Subgroups Diagnosed in PSG
eFigure 6. Variability in Diagnostic Performance of Sr_RDI Across All Possible Thresholds
eAppendix. Sample Size Calculation
eTable 3. Comparison With Alternate Techniques for Automated Diagnosis of OSA
eReferences.