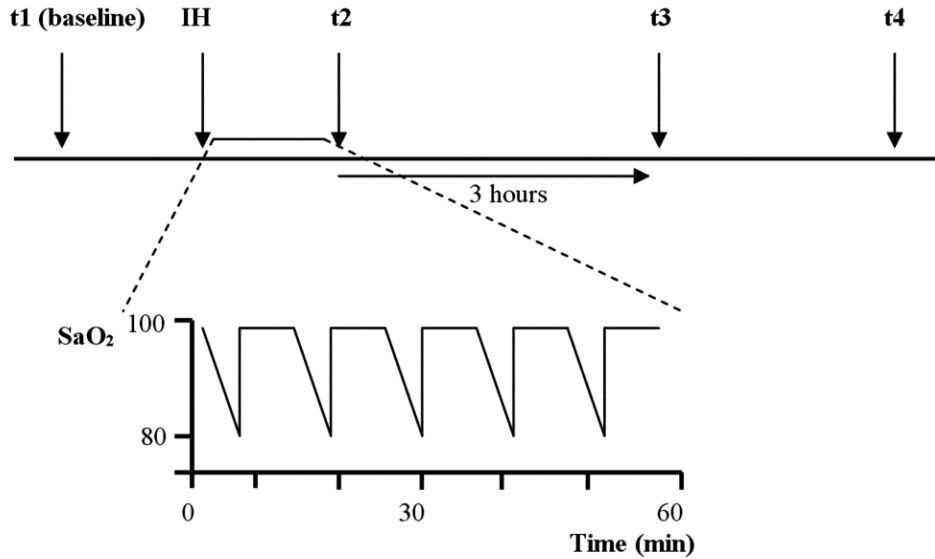


SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Supplementary Figure 1. Outline of the study protocol, which included measurement at baseline (t1), immediately after the intervention (t2), after 3 hours (t3) and after 6 hours (t4). The intervention consisted in 1) 6-minute breathing of 13% oxygen mixture 5 times each separated by 6-minute recovery (IH) or 2) placebo (breathing room air with 21% FiO₂ for 1 hour), in a single blind protocol. Standardized meal was given to the patients after t2 on both days. IH and placebo days were spaced at least 7 days apart.



Supplementary Figure 2. The “ventilatory recruitment threshold” [VRT- CO₂] describes the point at which the ventilation started to increase during the progressive hypercapnic ventilatory response. VRT- CO₂ was identified by interpolating the ventilation/CO₂-et plot using a 4th-order polynomial function.

