


# INSOMNIA and COMISA Drive Hidden Nocturnal Glycemic Variability in Well-Controlled TYPE 2 DIABETES –

## Insights from Multi-Night Sleep and CGM Monitoring

*YOUNG Hai Ka Betty, KWOK Chak Yan Isaac, HUI Pui Sze Grace,  
YAN Ka Shing, WONG Yin San Florence, WONG Man Chi,  
LEUNG Lydia, CHEUNG Cynthia, TSAI Chih-Wei*

*Tung Wah Eastern Hospital, Hong Kong   
Belun Technology Company Limited, Hong Kong*





## OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA (OSA) in T2DM

- Exceeded 50% globally (*Reutrakul et al. Chest 2017*)
- Estimated 17.5% in Chinese diabetic patients (*Lam et al. Chest 2010*)
- 30-60 aged Chinese subjects with OSA have 5-fold risk of metabolic syndrome. (*Lam et al. Respir Med 2006*)

## INSOMNIA in T2DM

- Estimates for clinical insomnia (ISI>14) 9.1% among aged 60+T2DM in the HK Diabetes Register
- Insomnia is an independent risk factor for chronic cognitive impairment, nearly tripling the risk of developing dementia (*O et al. J Diabetes Complications 2023*)

## COMISA in T2DM

- Prevalence is roughly 41% 
- Associated with higher cardiovascular risk (*Hein et. al. Sleep Sci 2022*) 

### Unmet Need:

Scarce PSG resources; lack of objective, multi-night sleep tracking; insensitive questionnaires → underdiagnosis and delayed treatment



## BI-DIRECTIONAL RELATIONSHIP

### Sleep disturbance and Glycemic Variability (GV) in T2DM

Vicious cycle → synergistic health risks



#### Sleep Disturbance

- Intermittent nocturnal hypoxia
- Sleep fragmentation/deprivation
- Sympathetic activation
- Oxidative stress
- Systemic inflammation
- Insulin resistance

#### Diabetes complications

- Obesity
- Autonomic dysfunction
- Systemic inflammation
- Neuropathic pain
- Psychological stress
- High/low blood glucose levels



Healthcare Burden:

↑ hospitalization and premature mortality



### Treatment Options:

#### Insomnia

- CBTi reduces HbA1c 0.43% at 12 months

#### OSA

- 12 weeks CPAP treatment improved glycemic control



Zhang HZ et al. *World J Diabetes* 2021;  
Chasens et al. *Endocr Pract.* April 2022



# WHAT IS LACKING ?

## in Well-Controlled, Chinese Diabetics

### LOW EFFICIENCY



**Underdiagnosis of  
OSA, Insomnia  
and COMISA**

**Lack of objective,  
home-based tracking  
for insomnia symptoms**



**HIGH DEMAND**

### LIMITED SELF-HEALTH MANAGEMENT



**Absence of  
evidence-based, self-  
monitoring devices  
to engage patients in  
lifestyle modifications**

# AIM

This study evaluated whether **insomnia**, **OSA**, and their co-occurrence (**COMISA**) have distinct **nocturnal GV profiles** in a real-world cohort of well-controlled, Chinese, Type 2 Diabetics

# METHODOLOGY

Analysis focus

Group comparisons

Nightly GV endpoints

SLP-CV / CONGA

Repeated-night GLMM

## 1 Recruitment



Screening in T2DM  
Outpatient Clinic:  
(excluded known OSA)

- i)  $ISI \geq 8$  OR
- ii) STOP-Bang  $\geq 3$  & ESS  $\geq 9$

## 2 Baseline



Blood Testing

- i) HbA1c
- ii) fasting glucose

## 3 Monitoring



14-day paired Monitoring

- i) Belun Ring
- ii) FreeStyle Libre 2

## 4 Analysis



Sleep Phenotype  
HRV Metrics

CGM metrics



COMISA

SLP-CV<sup>1</sup>

Insomnia

CONGA-1<sup>2</sup>

OSA

Nocturnal GV

Synchronized tracking of sleep and CGM metrics empowers healthcare professionals and patients to track their dynamic metabolic improvement upon personalized strategies for sleep interventions.

1: sleep-time glycemc coefficient of variance (SLP-CV) 2: sleep-time continuous overall net glycemc action (CONGA-1)



## RESULTS - Demographics

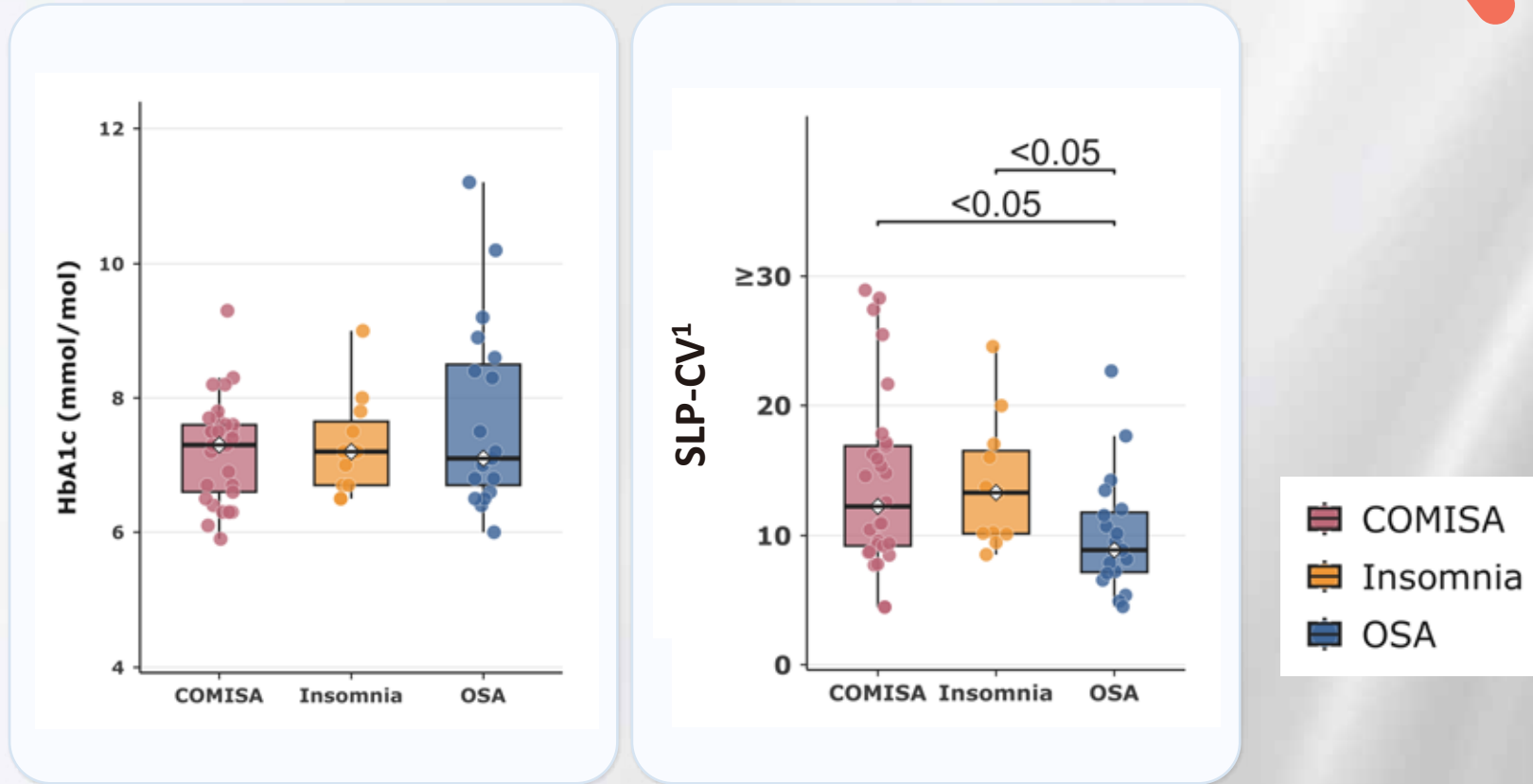
Among 59 subjects with suspected sleep disorders,

- 100% have diagnosed either with OSA, Insomnia or COMISA.
- Almost half (49%) of the subjects are diagnosed with COMISA.

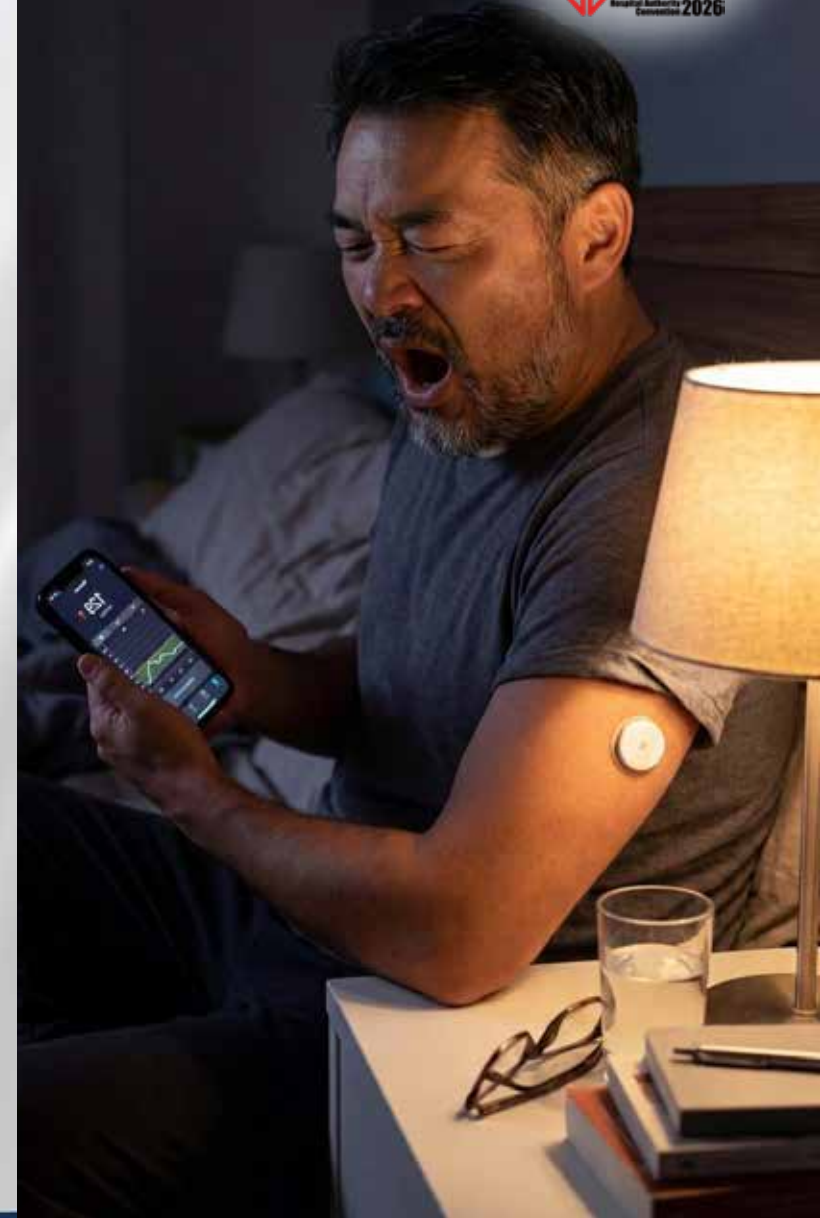


Parameter	All	COMISA	Insomnia	OSA	P-value
Subject (%)	59 (100%)	29 (49%)	11 (19%)	19 (32%)	–
Sex (%)					
Male	29 (49%)	14 (24%)	5 (8%)	10 (17%)	0.83 <sup>a</sup>
Female	30 (51%)	15 (25%)	6 (10%)	9 (15%)	
Age (y)	62.0 (55.0–67.0)	64.0 (61.0–68.0)	66.0 (62.0–68.5)	53.0 (48.5–57.5)	<0.001 <sup>b</sup>
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	26.0 (22.7–29.5)	26.0 (24.1–30.0)	21.9 (20.6–28.8)	26.0 (23.4–28.2)	0.50 <sup>b</sup>
HbA1c (mmol/mol)	7.2 (6.7–7.8)	7.3 (6.6–7.6)	7.2 (6.7–7.7)	7.1 (6.7–8.5)	0.81 <sup>b</sup>
FBG (mmol/L)	6.8 (5.6–7.8)	6.8 (5.5–7.9)	7.2 (6.3–7.9)	6.6 (5.7–7.6)	0.72 <sup>b</sup>
Tested Night	14.0 (12.9–15.0)	14.0 (11.0–15.0)	14.0 (13.0–14.0)	14.0 (12.5–17.5)	0.35 <sup>b</sup>

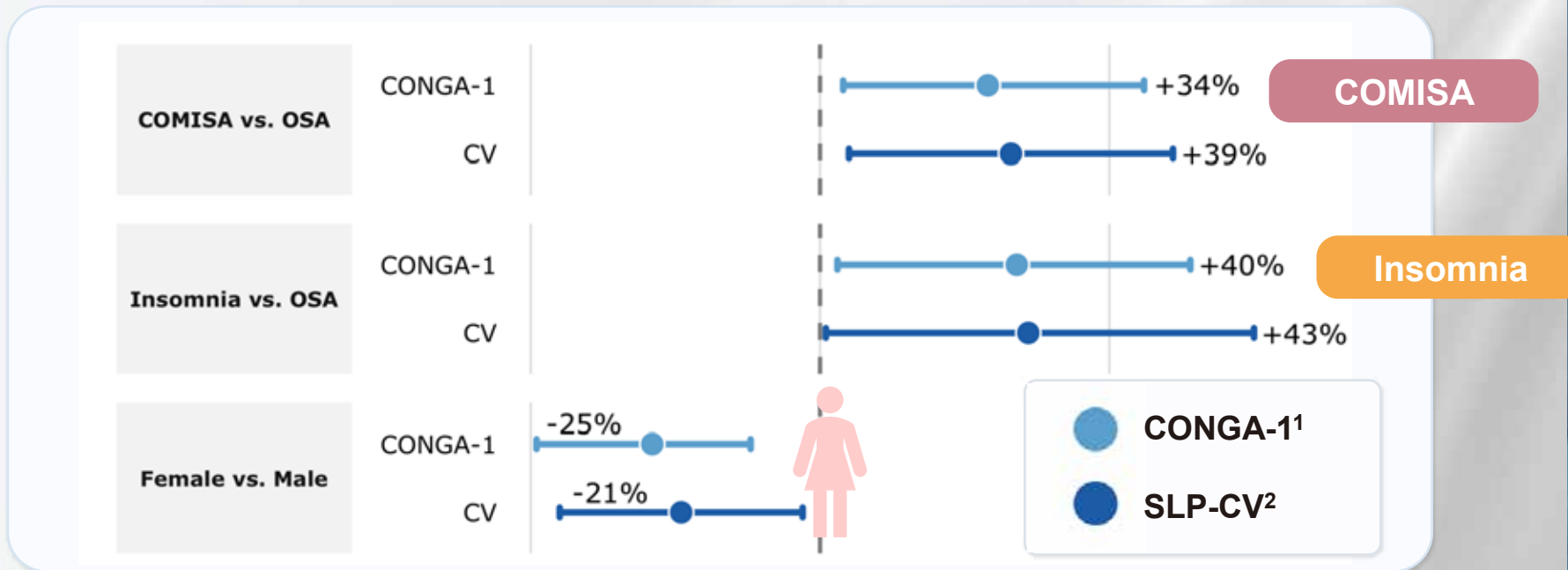
Higher variability of nocturnal GV in diabetics with insomnia complaints with comparable HbA1c.



1 : sleep-time glycemic coefficient of variance (SLP-CV)



- More than 34% higher in SLP-CV and CONGA-1 in diabetics with insomnia complaints (Both insomnia and COMISA).
- Women demonstrated as contributor to lower SLP-CV and CONGA-1.



OSA and male were treated as reference groups in the models using Forrest plot.



**Synchronized sleep and CGM tracking helps clinicians create comprehensive metabolic profiles.**



# Workflow Impact & Value

## IMPROVE EFFICIENCY



- Ensure proper sleep disorder screening for at-risk diabetic patients.
- Accelerate diagnosis and reduce wait times using **AI** (e.g., *Belun Ring*, *CGM*).

- Enable objective, multi-night sleep tracking in real-world settings.
- Drive personalized treatment and long-term monitoring by linking sleep phenotypes with demographics



## ADDRESS DEMAND VIA TECH

## SELF-HEALTH MANAGEMENT



- Empower immediate lifestyle modifications through real-time tracking.
- Facilitate agile treatment adjustments using objective glycemic and sleep metrics.

## Potential benefits:

- Faster diagnosis (OSA, insomnia, COMISA)
- Personalized interventions
- Streamlined remote monitoring
- ↓ Complications
- ↓ T2DM Healthcare burdens



# THANK YOU!

*Wishing everyone a better sleep  
and metabolic health*

