

## Supplementary material

**Table S1:** Standard doses of drugs, based on body mass used for white rhinoceros in Study 1. Animals were weighed by encouraging them to enter a crate, which was then weighed using a crane balance during the 4-6 week habituation period and at the end of each immobilization trial. Rhinoceros weighed on average  $1145 \pm 75$  kg (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation).

Rhinoceros body mass (kg)	Etorphine (mg) <sup>a</sup>	Butorphanol (mg) <sup>b</sup>	Naltrexone (mg) <sup>c</sup>
1000 - 1250	2.5	25	50
1250 - 1500	3.125	31.25	62.5

<sup>a</sup>Etorphine (0.02 mg/kg)

<sup>b</sup>Butorphanol (10 $\times$  etorphine dose, mg)

<sup>c</sup>Naltrexone (20 $\times$  etorphine dose, mg)

**Table S2:** Standard doses of drugs, based on body mass used for white rhinoceros in Study 2. Rhinoceros weighed on average  $1311 \pm 115$  kg (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation).

Rhinoceros body mass (kg)	Etorphine (mg) <sup>a</sup>	Azaperone (mg) <sup>b</sup>	Midazolam (mg) <sup>c</sup>	Medetomidine (mg) <sup>d</sup>	Butorphanol (mg) <sup>e</sup>	Naltrexone (mg) <sup>f</sup>
750 -1000	2.0	10.0	10.0	5.0	40	40
1000 -1250	2.5	12.5	12.0	6.25	50	50
1250 – 1500	3.0	15.0	15.0	7.5	60	60

<sup>a</sup>Etorphine (0.002 mg/kg)

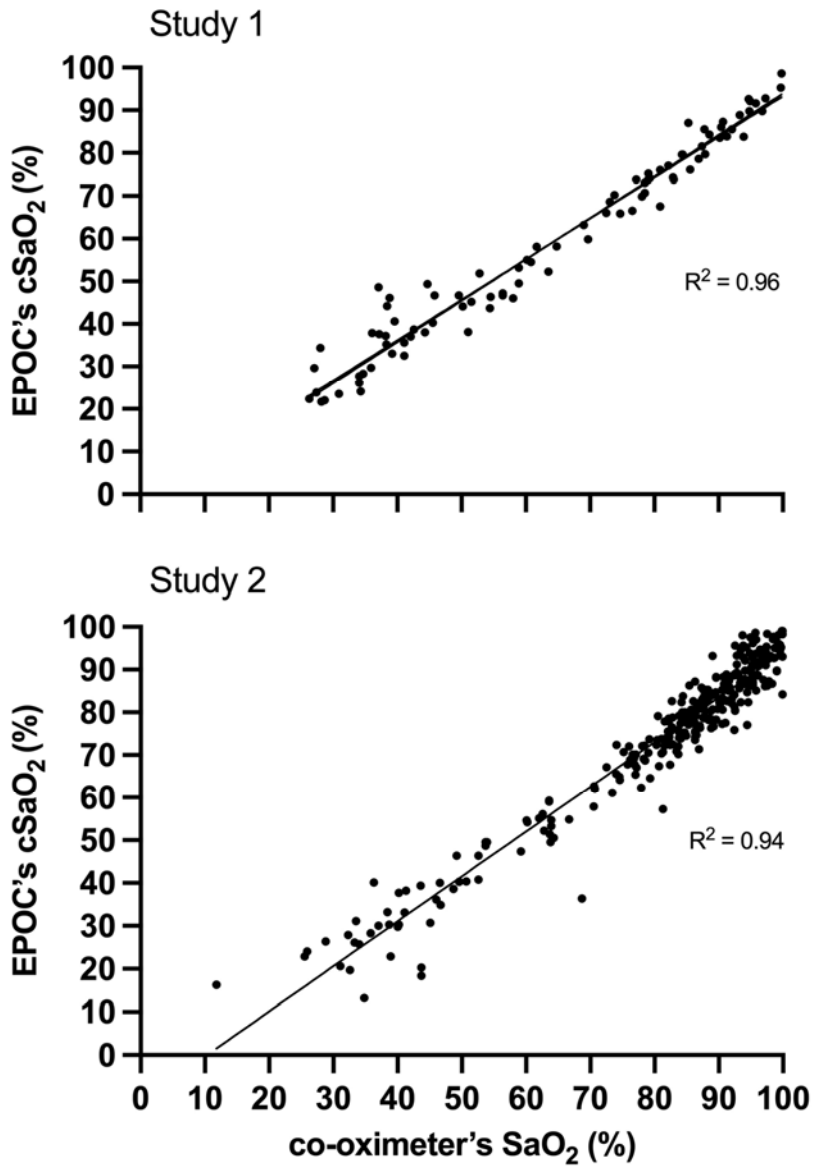
<sup>b</sup>Azaperone (0.01 mg/kg)

<sup>c</sup>Midazolam (0.01 mg/kg)

<sup>d</sup>Medetomidine (0.005 mg/kg)

<sup>e</sup>Butorphanol (10 $\times$ etorphine dose)

<sup>f</sup>Naltrexone (20 $\times$ etorphine dose)



**Figure S1:** Calculated arterial oxygen-hemoglobin saturations (cSaO<sub>2</sub>) obtained from the EPOC blood gas analyser plotted against arterial oxygen-hemoglobin saturations (SaO<sub>2</sub>) measured by the AVOXimeter 4000 co-oximeter in 8 immobilized white rhinoceros in Study 1 and a further 8 individuals in Study 2. The R<sup>2</sup> values for Study 1 (n = 89) and Study 2 (n = 300) are 0.96 and 0.94, respectively.

**Table S3:** Deming (Model II) Linear Regression between calculated arterial oxygen haemoglobin saturations (cSaO<sub>2</sub>) obtained from the EPOC blood gas analyser and arterial oxygen haemoglobin saturations (SaO<sub>2</sub>) measured by the AVOXimeter 4000 co-oximeter in 8 immobilized white rhinoceros in Study 1 (n = 89) .

Slope	0.9691
Y-intercept	-3.022
X-intercept	3.118
1/slope	1.032
Slope standard error	0.01939
Y-intercept standard error	1.524
Slope 95% CI	0.9305 to 1.008
Y-intercept 95% CI	-6.051 to 0.007066
F statistics	2290
DFn, DFd	1, 87
P value	<0.0001
Deviation from zero?	Significant
Equation	$cSaO_2 = 0.9691 * SaO_2 - 3.022$

**Table S4:** Deming (Model II) Linear Regression between calculated arterial oxygen haemoglobin saturations (cSaO<sub>2</sub>) obtained from the EPOC blood gas analyser and arterial oxygen haemoglobin saturations (SaO<sub>2</sub>) measured by the AVOXimeter 4000 co-oximeter in 8 immobilized white rhinoceros in Study 2 (n= 300).

Slope	1.082
Y-intercept	-13.56
X-intercept	12.54
1/slope	0.9246
Slope standard error	0.02385
Y-intercept standard error	2.070
Slope 95% CI	1.035 to 1.129
Y-intercept 95% CI	-17.64 to -9.491
F statistics	4941
DFn, DFd	1, 298
P value	<0.0001
Deviation from zero?	Significant
Equation	$cSaO_2 = 1.082 * SaO_2 - 13.56$

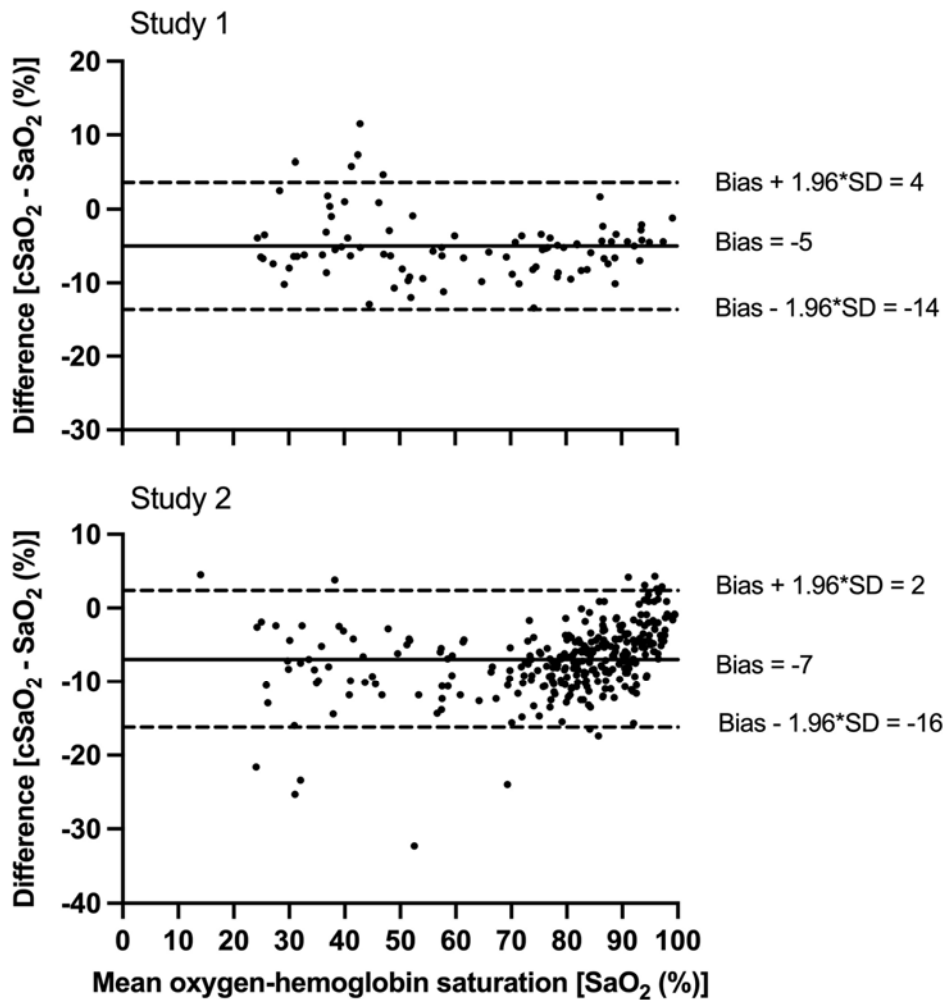


Figure S2: Bland-Altman plots, showing poor agreement between the EPOC's calculated arterial oxygen-hemoglobin saturation (cSaO<sub>2</sub>) and the co-oximeter's measured arterial oxygen-hemoglobin saturation (SaO<sub>2</sub>) in 8 immobilized white rhinoceros used in Study 1 and a further 8 individuals in Study 2. The difference between cSaO<sub>2</sub> and SaO<sub>2</sub> is plotted against the mean arterial oxygen-hemoglobin saturation values obtained from the EPOC and the co-oximeter (cSaO<sub>2</sub> and SaO<sub>2</sub>) along the entire saturation range. The bias is represented by the solid line and the limits of agreement (bias ± 1.96×SD) are represented by the dashed lines. Each datum point represents the difference in the paired cSaO<sub>2</sub>-SaO<sub>2</sub> measurements taken from the rhinoceros.

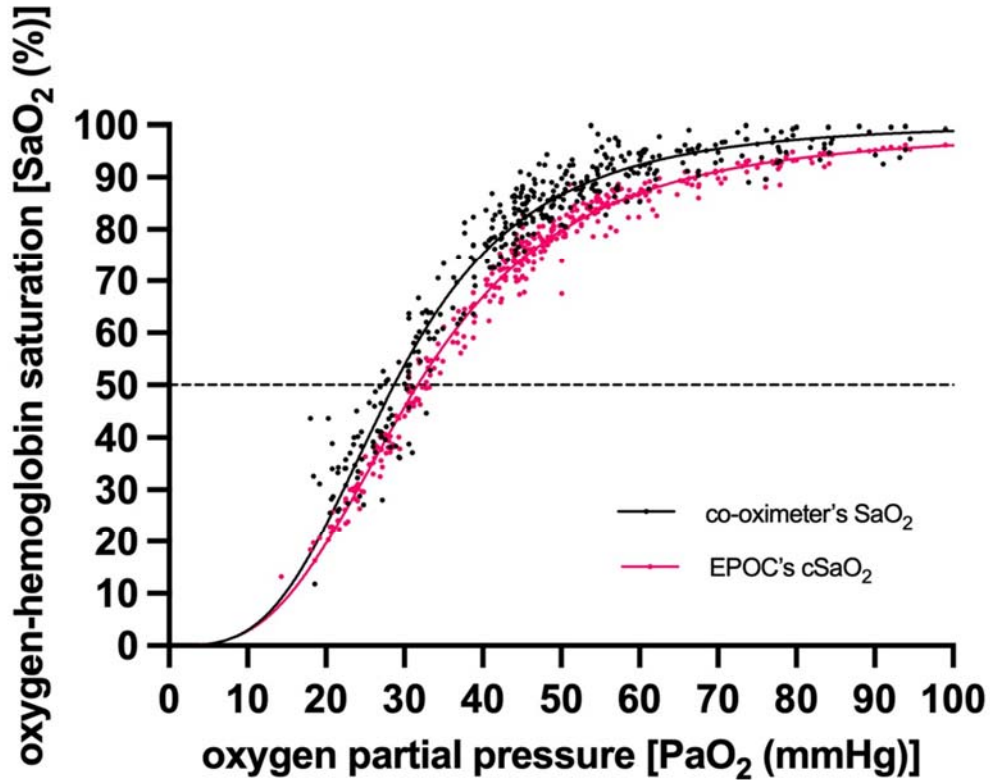


Figure S3: Relationship between arterial oxygen partial pressure (PaO<sub>2</sub>) and the EPOC's calculated arterial oxygen-hemoglobin saturation (cSaO<sub>2</sub>) and co-oximeter's arterial oxygen-hemoglobin saturation (SaO<sub>2</sub>) at a pH of  $7.3 \pm 0.1$  (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation), dissolved arterial CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure (PaCO<sub>2</sub>) of  $73.7 \pm 10.5$  mmHg, body temperature of  $37.4 \pm 1.8^\circ\text{C}$ , bicarbonate ion concentration of  $35.5 \pm 2.8$  mmol/L and chloride ion concentration of  $93.0 \pm 4.7$  mmol/L. The data were plotted and a specific binding with Hill slope model was applied. The dashed line at 50% SaO<sub>2</sub> helps visualize the arterial oxygen partial pressure at which haemoglobin is 50% saturated with oxygen (p50) according to the two curves. Note that a decrease in pH and an increase in PaCO<sub>2</sub> leads to a right-shift in both the EPOC's cSaO<sub>2</sub> oxygen-hemoglobin dissociation curve (p50  $\sim$  32 mmHg) and the co-oximeter's SaO<sub>2</sub> oxygen-hemoglobin dissociation curve (p50  $\sim$  29 mmHg).