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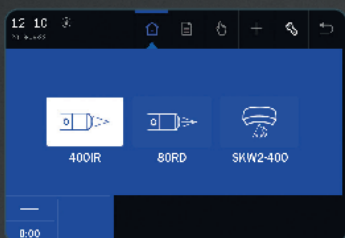
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ZASTOSOWANIE:

TERAPIA POWAŻNYCH KONTUZJI I USZKODZEŃ MIĘŚNI

Głęboka Oscylacja doskonale sprawdza się w leczeniu poważnych kontuzji i uszkodzeń, które są efektem naciągnięcia mięśni i ścięgien.

Głęboka oscylacja z powodzeniem jest stosowana także po treningu: bardzo szybko relaksuje mięśnie, redukuje ból i skutecznie chroni przed mikro-urazami. Stymuluje komórki, dzięki czemu produkty przemiany materii zostają szybciej wydalone przez organizm. Wszystko to sprawia, że organizm znacznie szybciej się regeneruje i pacjent w krótszym czasie wraca do pełnej sprawności.

REDUKCJA OBRZĘKÓW

Głęboka Oscylacja stymuluje przepływ limfy, dzięki temu zbędne produkty przemiany materii jak i płyny zalegające w obrzękach zostają przetransportowane i wydalone. Dlatego w przypadku stosowania DEEP OSCILLATION® obrzęki wchłaniają się znacznie szybciej niż ma to miejsce w przypadku stosowania tradycyjnych zabiegów.

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Badania naukowe potwierdziły, że Głęboka Oscylacja ma istotny wpływ na zdolność podejmowania powtarzalnych wysiłków siłowych. Zastosowanie głębokiej oscylacji zwiększa wytrzymałość siłową, obniża powysiłkowy ból mięśniowy oraz napięcie mięśniowe a także wypłukuje z krwi biochemiczne markery zmęczenia mięśniowego. Najkorzystniejsze efekty uzyskuje się stosując Głęboką Oscylację natychmiast po zmęczeniu.

PRZYSPIESZANIE PROCESU GOJENIA SIĘ RAN

Poprzez redukcję obrzęków, procesy stymulujące układ immunologiczny oraz poprawę metabolizmu Głęboka Oscylacja skraca okres gojenia się ran. Leczenie z wykorzystaniem Głębokiej Oscylacji może być stosowane we wczesnej fazie terapii, już w pierwszej dobie po zabiegu chirurgicznym.

WZMACNIANIE ORGANIZMU

Głęboka oscylacja stymuluje miejscowy układ odpornościowy. Badania kliniczne potwierdziły, że terapia z wykorzystaniem Głębokiej Oscylacji zapobiega również powstawaniu infekcji.



ZASADA DZIAŁANIA:

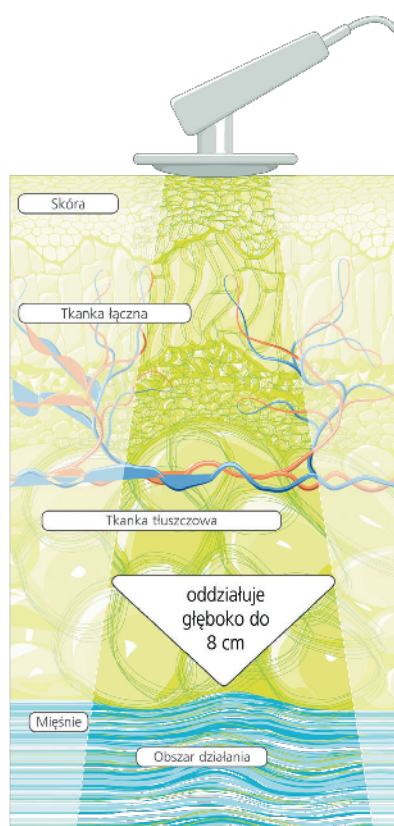
Działanie Głębokiej Oscylacji opiera się na przerywanym polu elektrostatycznym, wytwarzanym za pomocą aparatu DEEP OSCILLATION® pomiędzy aplikatorem, a tkankami pacjenta.

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Działanie Głębokiej Oscylacji zostało potwierdzone klinicznie:

- szybki efekt przeciwbólowy
- działanie przeciwzapalne
- szybkie wchłanianie obrzęków
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Impact of Supervised Active Rehabilitation Program on Functional Activity in Patients with Post Burn Lower Limb

Wpływ nadzorowanego programu aktywnej rehabilitacji na aktywność funkcjonalną pacjentów z poparzeniami kończyn dolnych

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Abstract

Objective. To determine whether active rehabilitation program including both isokinetic and aerobic exercises in lower limb after burn is effective or not? **Method.** Forty patients with lower limb burn were randomly divided into two equal groups, Group A (active rehabilitation group): received guidelines protocol (range of motion exercise, massage, splinting, stretching) plus active rehabilitation program consisted of combined isokinetic and aerobic exercises, while Group B (control group): received guidelines protocol and aerobic exercises. Treatment program was applied for 12 weeks (3 sessions/week). Evaluation methods included Biodex isokinetic dynamometer (BID) for obtaining peak torque (PT) of quadriceps and hamstring strength assessment and Lower Extremity Functional scale (LEFS) for functional activity assessment of lower limb. All measures were gathered before the start of the study, and after termination of the trial (after 12 weeks).

Results. An increase in PT of quadriceps and hamstring was reported in both groups at the end of the trial, 32.69% and 25.7% respectively in group A, while 14.19% and 10.22% respectively in group B. The difference between both groups was statistically significant ($p < 0.05$). Also, there was a statistical improvement in LEFS score in group A compared with that of group B ($p < 0.05$), as the percent of improvement in group A and B was 72.9% and 38.91% respectively. **Conclusion.** Higher statistical results were achieved with active rehabilitation program illustrating the prominent effects of isokinetic exercises in lower limb burn in the term of improving leg muscles strength and functional activity.

Key words:

Burn, Isokinetic exercise, Aerobic exercise, Biodex isokinetic dynamometer (BID), and Lower Extremity Functional scale (LEFS)

Streszczenie

Cel. Ustalenie, czy aktywny program rehabilitacji obejmujący ćwiczenia izokinetyczne i aerobowe kończyn dolnych po oparzeniu jest skuteczny. **Metoda.** Czterdziestu pacjentów z oparzeniem kończyn dolnych losowo podzielono na dwie równe grupy: grupa A (grupa aktywnej rehabilitacji): protokół wytycznych (zakres ćwiczeń ruchowych, masażu, unieruchomienie za pomocą szyny, rozciągania) oraz program aktywnej rehabilitacji składający się z ćwiczeń izokinetycznych i aerobowych; grupa B (grupa kontrolna): protokół wytycznych i ćwiczenia aerobowe. Pacjenci byli poddawani leczeniu przez okres 12 tygodni (3 sesje/tydzień). Metody oceny obejmowały ocenę uzyskiwania szczytowego momentu obrotowego (PT) mięśnia czworogłowego i ścięgna podkolanowego przy użyciu izokinetycznego dynamometru Biodex (BID) oraz skalę funkcjonalną kończyny dolnej (LEFS) do oceny czynności funkcjonalnej kończyny dolnej. Wszystkich pomiarów dokonano przed rozpoczęciem i po zakończeniu badania (po 12 tygodniach).

Wyniki. Wzrost PT mięśnia czworogłowego i ścięgna podkolanowego odnotowano w obu grupach na koniec badania, odpowiednio o 32,69% i 25,7% w grupie A, i odpowiednio o 14,19% i 10,22% w grupie B. Różnica między obiema grupami była istotna statystycznie ($p < 0,05$). Ponadto nastąpiła statystycznie istotna poprawa wyniku LEFS w grupie A w porównaniu z grupą B ($p < 0,05$), ponieważ procent poprawy w grupie A i B wynosił odpowiednio 72,9% i 38,91%. **Wniosek.** Wyższe wyniki istotne statystycznie osiągnięto dzięki programowi aktywnej rehabilitacji, co wskazuje na znaczące efekty ćwiczeń izokinetycznych w przypadku oparzeń kończyn dolnych pod względem poprawy siły mięśni nóg i aktywności funkcjonalnej.

Słowa kluczowe:

Oparzenie, ćwiczenia izokinetyczne, ćwiczenia aerobowe, dynamometr izokinetyczny Biodex (BID) i skala funkcjonalna kończyny dolnej (LEFS)

Introduction

Burn wounds have happened ever since the disclosure of fire [1], causing incessant and expanded skeletal muscle catabolism and impairment, confounded by extended physical inactivity. Muscular wasting is a hyper-metabolic reaction in burn injured patients. Increment of protein decay after burn injuries has been considered to be the main factor of muscle loss [2]. Absence of skeleton loading has been found to induce muscular atrophy and wasting especially within the antigravity muscles, accompanied by deterioration of motor control, diminution of cognitive status, pain and anxiety disorder [3]. Conditioning exercises include isotonic exercises executed with a fixed resistance, isometric exercises executed with a fixed posture, and isokinetic exercises executed at a fixed joint angular speed [4]. Prominent effects of isokinetic training on muscle mass enlargement and hypertrophy appear after eight weeks at least, through inducing protein synthesis that stimulate formation of actin and myosin contractile components, hence increasing muscle size and effort [5]. Aerobic training is a type of exercise that target larger muscle groups putting an over-load on both lung and heart that in turn act harder more than during rest for about 15-20 min or more [6] leading to improving the patient's functional activity and physiological training impacts. Resistance training (RT) was recommended for both children and adults as a type of exercises that enables restoring muscle power, strength and inhibits muscle atrophy through inducing protein synthesis and muscle development [7]. The target of rehabilitation is eventually returning of the patients' physical abilities and independency. Burn rehabilitation methods alter vastly between facilities; there are no definitive guidelines for the best rehabilitation program post burn [8]. There is a need to an effective burn rehabilitation program to restore muscle power, function and improve the individual's quality of life; hence this study was designed to evaluate the impacts of combined isokinetic and aerobic exercises in lower limb following burn, aiming to supply an efficient rehabilitation program in such conditions.

Materials and Methods

Trial design

This is a single blind, active-control, randomized controlled trial.

Participants

Forty participants of both genders with lower extremity burn were enrolled in the trial in case of having the next criteria: Age range from 25-40 years, participants with 2nd burn degree and 30% to 40% of total burn surface area evaluated by rule of nine mode and patient with burn in lower limb for 3 months or more including quadriceps and hamstring. Patients were excluded if had cardiovascular, neurological, pulmonary or renal diseases, deep venous thrombosis, diabetic patient, orthostatic hypotension diseases, and orthopedic problems (e.g. Rheumatological factors, arthritis).

Randomization process

The study was a single blinded randomized controlled experimental trial and was approved by the ethical committee of Faculty of Physical Therapy, Cairo University, Egypt. All pa-

tients were given an informed consent and informed about the nature and the effect of the treatment and measurement devices. The patients were divided at random into 2 equal groups. Randomization steps were applied by the envelope mode. After patients' agreement to partake in the study, cards with "active rehabilitation program" or "traditional program" written on them were sealed in envelopes; then a blinded physical therapist was asked to select one envelope. According to the selected card, patients were assigned to their competent group. Appointments for starting the allocated therapy were regulated and the therapy was begun through the first week of randomization. The examiner physical therapist was not included in randomization procedures and kept unrealized of the therapy allocation. Patients were asked not to uncover their therapy allocation to the physical therapist during assessment. The participants were informed to announce about any harm effects throughout the treatment periods.

Treatment

Group A

This group included 20 patients who received guidelines protocol in addition to active rehabilitation program including isokinetic and aerobic exercise for 12 weeks (3 times/week). The program was begun between the 2nd and 4th day following the first assessment.

Aerobic training program

Patients participated in an aerobic exercise in the form of treadmill (A RAM model 770 CF electronic treadmill) for 20-40 min each session. Each one practiced at 70-85% of his formerly identified $\text{VO}_{2\text{max}}$ [9]. Treadmill exercise started and finished with warm-up and cool-down periods through walking on the treadmill for about 5-10 min at a velocity of 1-1.5 kilometers/hour with no inclination. In the cool-down period, the velocity was gradually diminished till reaching zero [10, 11]. Patients were constantly observed during exercising, with recording their heart rates (HR) throughout the exercise sessions.

Isokinetic exercise program

The program included 36 sessions, 60% of the mean PT was selected as a starting dose of isokinetic exercise, and a progressive dose program was applied in the 1st to 5th sessions (one set to five sets), and a dose of six sets was applied from the sixth to the 24th session and, finally, a dose of 10 sets was applied from the 25th to the 36th sessions. Each set consists of 10 repetitions concentric contraction at an angular velocity of $150^{\circ} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and patients were allowed 3 min of rest between sets [12, 13].

Group B (control group)

This group included 20 patients who received guidelines protocol in the form of (range of motion exercise, massage, splinting, stretching) in addition to aerobic exercise. Hot packs were applied for 15 min on quadriceps and hamstring before stretching exercises; manual passive stretch of both muscles were performed for both extremities. Each muscle group was stretched 5 times for 30 s alternately for 5 min [12,13], for hamstring stretch, the therapist stand in a solid stance then patient was asked to keep the limb completely relaxed to help the joints to warm up and then creeping was applied by taking limb passively in about 80 degree

full leg raising with hold for 30 s then relax and repeat, while for quadriceps the patient was asked to lie sideline and bend affected limb and then his leg was taken in full extension with hold for 30 s then relax and repeat [14]. Physical therapy program should be applied 3 times weekly for 12 weeks, patients were asked to frequently perform active exercises in between sessions.

Assessment methods

Biodex isokinetic dynamometer (BID)

The therapist applied the initial examination of quadriceps and hamstring strength of the most affected extremity with Biodex isokinetic dynamometer (Biodex Medical System, Shiley, NY, USA, linked to IBM PC-computer software). Calibration of the Biodex for torque and angular speed was done according to the prescribed manufacturer's guidelines before each recording session. Following the warm-up, the participants were positioned in BID with hip angle of 100°. According to the Test and Rehabilitation System User's Guide of Biodex, stabilization of the trunk, pelvis and thigh was done by straps.

The patients were informed about the testing and training proceedings, the test proceeding was explained clearly to the patients, and patients were permitted to perform the actual motion throughout the 3 submaximal repetitions without resistance as a warming up. Additional repetitions were not permitted to avoid fatigue. The anatomical axis of the dynamometer rotation was visibly aligned to the rotation axis of knee joint prior to the test, whilst the isokinetic test was performed at angular velocity of 150° s⁻¹. We used this speed versus lower or higher angular speeds, because it was well tolerated by the burned patient [15]. Following warming-up repetitions, patients executed 10 consecutive maximal active muscle contractions with no rest in-between, 3 min of rest was allowed to diminish the impacts of fatigue, and then the test was repeated. Verbal motivations, also visual feedback from the device, were provided to reach the ultimate voluntary contractions that each participant was asked to perform [13]. Values of PT were calculated by the Biodex software system.

Lower Extremity Functional scale (LEFS)

LEFS is a self-reported scale which was utilized to assess the patient's lower extremity functional condition. It's a valid scale for lower extremity musculoskeletal cases [16-18]. Moreover, the scale has newly been utilized in functional assessment of lower extremity in patients with HIV-related distal sensory polyneuropathy [19].

LEFS includes 20 sections, each with ultimate score of 4. Sections are rated on a 5-point scale, from 0 (extremely difficult/incapable to do activity) to 4 (no difficulty). The total possible score of 80 indicates a high functional level. The scale is one page, the patient was asked to fill out the scale, filling this scale takes less than 2 minutes, and is scored by tallying the responses for all of the items. Scoring is performed without the use of a calculator or computer and requires approximately 20 seconds [16]. All assessment methods were gathered prior to the start of the trial and at the end of the treatment (after 12 weeks).

Statistical analysis

All statistical measures were performed through the Statistical Package for Social Studies (SPSS) version 23 for windows. The current test involved two independent variables. The first one was the (tested group); between subjects' factor which had two levels (Group A & Group B). The second one was the (training periods); within subject factor which had two levels (pre and post). In addition, this test involved three tested dependent variables (peak torque of quadriceps and hamstring and functional scale of lower limb). Preliminary assumption checking revealed that data was normally distributed for all dependent variables, as assessed by Shapiro-Wilk test ($p > 0.05$); there were no univariate or multivariate outliers, as assessed by boxplot and Mahalanobis distance ($p > 0.05$), respectively; there were linear relationships, as assessed by scatterplot; no multicollinearity. There was homogeneity of variances ($p > 0.05$) and covariances ($p > 0.05$), as assessed by Levene's test of homogeneity of variances and Box's M test, respectively. Accordingly, 2×2 mixed design MANOVA was used to compare the tested variables of interest at different tested groups and training periods. The MANOVAs were conducted with the initial alpha level set at 0.05.

Results

A diagram of the patients' randomization in the trial is illustrated in Fig 1. Forty seven patients were admitted and assessed for eligibility; seven of them were excluded as they didn't meet the required criteria while forty patients were found to be eligible to partake in the trial. All patients completed the treatment period without any withdrawal.

Baseline and demographic data

As indicated by the independent t test, there were no statistically significant differences ($P > 0.05$) between subjects in both groups concerning age and height (Table 1).

Table 1. Demographic characteristics of both groups

	Group A $\bar{x} \pm SD$	Group B $\bar{x} \pm SD$	p-value
Age (years)	30.85 ± 4.67	31.5 ± 4.18	0.72
Weight (kg)	78.45 ± 3.53	79.55 ± 4.18	0.26
Height (cm)	169.8 ± 6.36	169.86 ± 5.39	0.87
Sex	Females	6 (30%)	0.78
	Males	14 (70%)	

SD – standard deviation; MD – mean difference; p-value – probability value

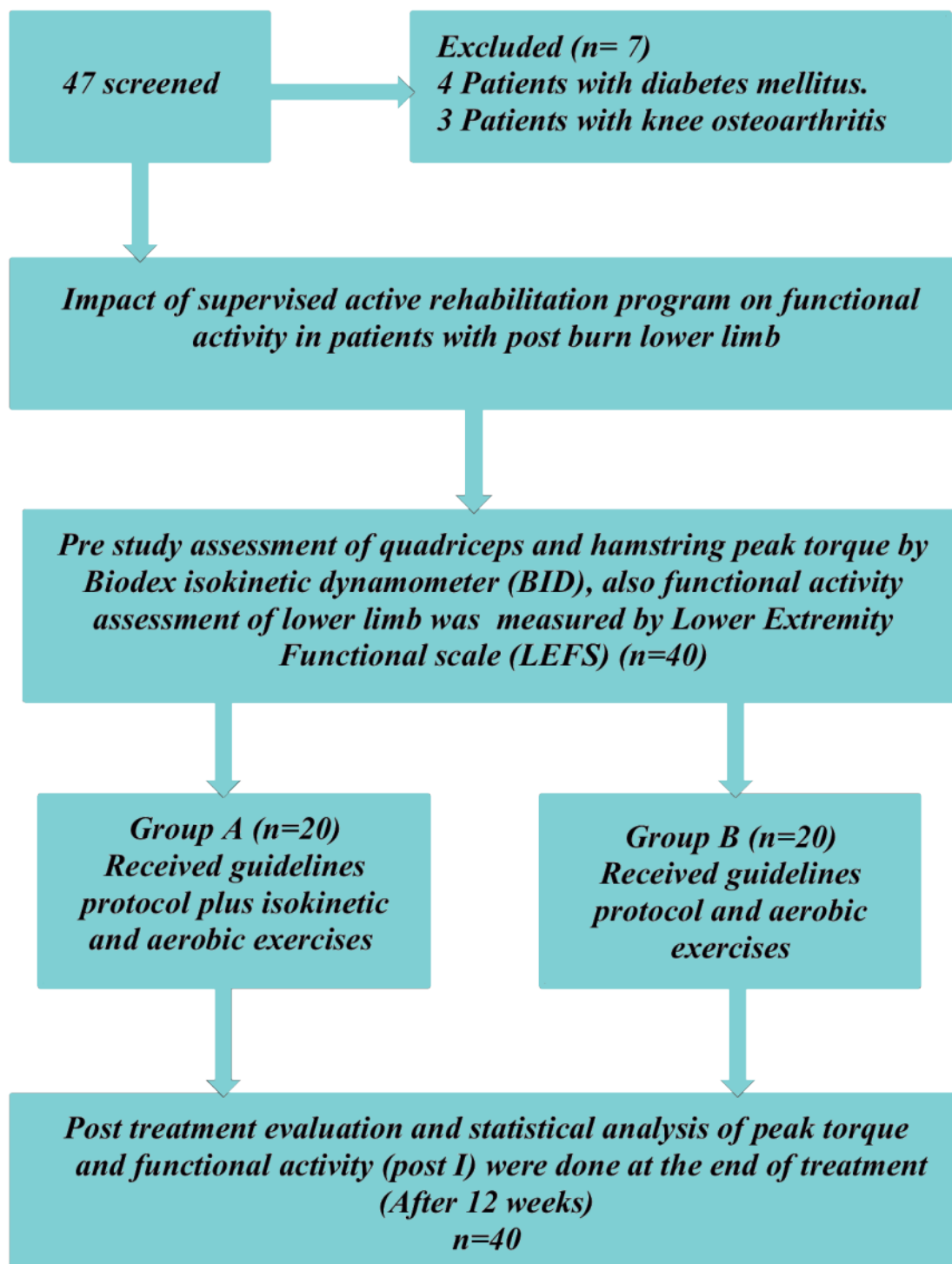


Figure 1. Participants flowchart. Isokinetic exercise, Aerobic exercise, Biodex isokinetic dynamometer (BID), and Lower Extremity Functional scale (LEFS)

Statistical analysis using mixed design MANOVA analyzed thirty patients assigned into two equal groups. It revealed that there were significant within subject ($F = 933.166$, $p = 0.0001$), treatment*time ($F = 101.804$, $p = 0.0001$) and between subject effects ($F = 116.574$, $p = 0.0001$). Table 2. present descriptive statistic and multiple pairwise comparison tests (Post hoc tests) for the all dependent variables. In the same context, the multiplepairwise comparison tests revealed

that there was significant increase ($p < 0.05$) in PT of quadriceps, hamstring and Lower Extremity Functional scale (LEFS) in the post treatment condition compared with the pretreatment one in both groups. Regarding between subject effects multiple pairwise comparisons revealed that there was significant increase ($p < 0.05$) in PT of quadriceps and hamstring and LEFS in group A compared with group B.

Table 2. Descriptive statistic and multiple pairwise comparison tests (Post hoc tests) for the all dependent variables for both groups at different measuring periods

Variables	Group A		Group B	
	Pre-treatment	Post-treatment	Pre-treatment	Post-treatment
Peak torque of Quadriceps (Nm)	83.5 (2.48)	110.8 (7.34)	83.15 (1.75)	94.95 (0.99)
Peak torque of Hamstring (Nm)	56.15 (2.18)	70.6 (2.66)	57.2 (1.67)	63.05 (2.66)
Lower Extremity Functional	42.85 (1.53)	74.1 (0.96)	43.3 (1.68)	60.15 (3.46)
Within groups (Pre Vs. Post)				
p-value	Peak torque of Quadriceps	Peak torque of Hamstring	Lower Extremity Functional Scale	
Group A	0.0001*	0.0001*	0.0001*	
Group B	0.0001*	0.0001*	0.0001*	
Between groups (group A Vs. group B)				
p-value	Peak torque of Quadriceps	Peak torque of Hamstring	Lower Extremity Functional Scale	
Pre-treatment	0.61	0.096	0.383	
Post-treatment	0.0001*	0.0001*	0.0001*	

*The mean difference is significant at the alpha level ($p < 0.05$)

Discussion

Strengthening exercises have significant impacts on overall general health with obvious functional benefits, involving improvement of joint stability and musculoskeletal components (muscle, tendon, ligament and bone), decreasing the incidence of injuries, ameliorating of bone thickness and physical fitness, with improvement of cardiovascular function. RT acts by increment the muscular force output through gradual increasing the applied resistance using different types of exercises and devices. RT is mainly anaerobic; however, it has been adjusted by some advocates to provide the advantages of aerobic exercise over circuit training [20].

Several studies have discussed the role of exercises in burn care rehabilitation; however, limited researches evaluated

combination of strengthening and aerobic exercises. According to our familiarity this is the first study that assessed impacts of combined isokinetic and aerobic exercises in lower limb following burn. In our trial we reported higher statistical improvement of both quadriceps and hamstring PT in the active rehabilitation group compared to control group ($p = 0.0001$), additionally there is remarkable amelioration in LEFS score. We believed that surprising outcomes are due to reinforcement of musculoskeletal components and muscle mass development induced by isokinetic strengthening exercises.

In clinical controlled trial, 30 grafted burn patients were subjected to either aerobic exercise combined high intensive resistance exercises (70-80% of maximal HR) or traditional treatment for 6 weeks, assessment after 3 months of treatment

program revealed significant increase in muscle strength (kg) of quadriceps, latissimus dorsi, right and left hand grip in the experimental group (66.87, 27.82, 14.86, and 16.83 respectively) compared to control group (17.5, 6.07, 4.86, and 7.26 respectively), moreover, significant ameliorations of VO_2 peak, shuttle gait distance, and QuickDash were statistically improved in the experimental group (0.93, 459, and -23.98 respectively) compared to control group (0.11, 168.93, and -5.7 respectively). The results of this study demonstrated the benefits of the strengthening exercise on functional activities and individual's quality of life and considered it as a necessary aspect of burn rehabilitation program [21]. In a similar study, 47 children with major burn were recruited to receive either combined aerobic (20–40 minutes aerobic exercise 3–5 days/week at 70–85% of VO_2 peak) and resistive exercises (incremental load graded from 50–60% of 3 maximal repetitions at the start of the treatment to 80–85% by the end of the study) or traditional standard care for 12 weeks. Post-treatment measurements of muscle strength and maximum aerobic fitness revealed significant ameliorations of relative PT (138 ± 9 vs $106 \pm 9 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1}$) and VO_2 peak (32 ± 1 vs $28 \pm 1 \text{ ml} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$) in the study and controlled group respectively, while dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DEXA) measurements revealed statistical improvements of the whole body and leg LBM in the study group compared to control group [22].

Al-Mousawi et al, [23] evaluated RT program in children suffering from severe burn for 12 weeks emphasizing on upper and lower extremities, and was executed initially at 50–60% of 3 maximal repetitions, increasing to 70–75% at 2nd week and reaching to 80–85% by the end of the training, plus aerobic exercise (30 min at 70–85% of VO_2 peak, 3 times/week). The most important clinically relevant findings were increment of LBM ($8.75 \pm 5.65\%$ vs $2.06 \pm 3.17\%$) in the training and controlled group respectively, which was persistent with respect to height normalization ($6.14 \pm 6.46\%$ vs $0.70 \pm 2.39\%$ respectively), also an obvious improvement in muscle PT was reported more in the the training group ($54.31 \pm 44.25\%$) compared to the control group ($12.29 \pm 16.49\%$). In a randomized, control prospective study, Suman and Herndon, [15] examined 12 weeks strengthening rehabilitation program on 20 children with severe burn. Assessment using DEXA and BID revealed increment in LBM and muscle PT ($6.4\% \pm 1.9\%$, $40.7\% \pm 8.6\%$, respectively), while the controlled group (no exercising) showed no statistical differences in LBM and muscle PT ($1.9\% \pm 2.6\%$, $3.4\% \pm 4.5\%$, respectively), moreover follow up assessment (after 3 months) showed statistical increase in LBM ($10.7\% \pm 4.8\%$, $P \pm 0.03$) without statistical change in the controlled group ($3.5\% \pm 1.8\%$).

Ebid et al., [24] applied lower extremity 12 weeks isokinetic exercise program on 33 children with 36 to 45%, burn surface area, during evaluation, the quadriceps PT was assessed in the experimental and control groups using BID, whereas the percent of improvement was 68.40% ($79.25 \pm 0.93 \text{ Nm}$), and 9.84% ($51.88 \pm 1.31 \text{ Nm}$) respectively, also the percent of improvement of quadriceps volume using tape measurement was 7.47% ($31.50 \pm 0.89 \text{ cm}$), and 1.02% ($29.26 \pm 1.02 \text{ cm}$)

respectively. The most obvious finding to emerge from gait analysis using GAITRite system is that all gait parameters including stride and step length, velocity and cadence showed statistical improvement in the experimental group as the percent of improvement was 53.97%, 63.77%, 81.42%, and 66.96% respectively compared to control group where the percent of improvement was 6.68%, 15.15%, 8.6%, and 9.01% respectively.

In another randomized control study, Ebid et al., [25] evaluated the impacts of lower limb 12 weeks isokinetic exercise on adults with 35–55% burn surface area in the form of quadriceps and hamstring PT measurement using BID. The most important clinically relevant finding was incremental of knee extensor and flexor PT in the study group compared to no exercising group as the percent of improvement was 21.55%, 15.48%, and 9.2%, 5.35% respectively, while the percent of improvement of the total work was 22.39%, 19.11% and 7.6%, 4.86% respectively. It can therefore be concluded that the isokinetic exercises have beneficial effects in increasing muscle strength and power in burn victims.

Grisbrook et al., [26] assessed the aerobic capacity in both healthy and chronic burn injured participants subjected to different intensities of exercise therapy for 12 weeks; evaluation modes included pulmonary spirometer, and VO_2 peak under gradate exercise testing (GXT), the results manifested statistical improvement of aerobic capacity and occupational performing aims ($p < 0.001$). One interesting finding is that both groups showed obvious improvements in VO_2 peak and full work done on treadmill without significant changes between them ($p = 0.788$, $p = 0.33$ respectively). In another randomized controlled study, 30 patients were divided equally to 2 groups and subjected either to aerobic exercise (3 days/week for 60 min) or conventional therapy for 12 weeks, assessments of VO_2 peak, equilibrium and treadmill period were done prior to and after treatment termination, it is interesting to note that all measurements showed statistical ameliorations with superior results reported in the experimental group [27].

Also De Lateur, [28] introduced 12-week of treadmill exercising program in 35 severe burn injured adults where patients received either intensive exercise in accordance to predetermined quotas or exercising to tolerance or traditional standard care. Measurement of maximal aerobic capacity showed significant improvement in both intervention groups without significant changes between them, whilst the controlled group didn't exhibit any improvement.

Limitations

Our trial is limited by absence of secondary outcomes measurement as gait analysis, which may have enabled better statistical analysis; also lack of patients' follow up is considered one of our limitations, so further researches are in demand to investigate the capability of other clinical tests for assessment of muscle strength, functional activity and gait analysis. Follow up studies are required to illustrate the impact of exercise training on muscle strength and functional activity on the long run, also other researches are necessary for clarifying the impacts of other therapeutic exercises for better lower limb functional outcomes after burn.

Conclusion

In this trial combined isokinetic and aerobic training achieved satisfactory results in improving muscle strength, and power in patients with post-burn lower limb with reinforcing the physical performance of daily living activities. This study has identified that combination of isokinetic and aerobic exercises is an efficient and safe rehabilitative program for individuals with lower extremities burn.

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