



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Physiotherapy

EFFECT OF AEROBIC TRAINING COMBINED WITH RESPIRATORY MUSCLE STRETCHING ON THE FUNCTIONAL EXERCISE CAPACITY IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE (COPD) - A REVIEW

KEY WORDS: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), respiratory muscles, muscular stretching, respiratory mechanics, dyspnea

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ABSTRACT

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is very common. To improve functional exercise capacity these techniques are use. The aim of this paper is to comprehensively review the literature concerning this topic and summarize existing knowledge on the effect of Aerobic training combined with respiratory muscle stretching on the functional exercise capacity in patients with Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). This paper provides a narrative review of literature in this area. Furthermore, this review identifies areas for further research and makes recommendation for clinical practice.

INTRODUCTION

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is characterized by a progressive and persistent airflow limitation and decreased parenchymal elasticity.¹ The respiratory muscles remain contracted for prolonged periods in an attempt to meet the increased ventilatory flow demand on the respiratory muscles.^{2,3} The association between both hyperinflation and increased respiratory demand reduces the contractile range of sarcomere of the respiratory muscles, resulting in even more severe dyspnea further stimulation increase in the ventilatory demand.^{3,4}

Dyspnea and shortening of respiratory muscles hamper the performance of activities, which results in physical deconditioning in patients with COPD.⁵ Aerobic training improves their physical capacity and reduces dyspnea.⁶ Muscle stretching modifies the properties of tissues, increasing sarcomere size and muscle viscoelasticity.⁸ Respiratory muscle stretching increases the capacity for chest wall expansion.^{8,9} Currently, there is no evidence to support the recommendation of respiratory muscle stretching for treating patients with COPD,^{10,11} Respiratory muscle stretching might potentiate the benefits of aerobic training by improving thoracoabdominal mobility.¹²

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Noll DR et al (2009) determined the immediate effect of four osteopathic techniques on pulmonary function measures in persons with Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease relative to a minimal touch control protocol.¹ The effect of diaphragmatic breathing learning on chest wall motion, mechanical efficiency of the respiratory muscles, breathing pattern and dyspnea sensation was studied by Gosselink RA et al (1995). Tidal volume, respiratory frequency and duty cycle did not change significantly during diaphragmatic breathing.²

Yamaguti WP et al (2012) studied the effects of a diaphragmatic breathing training program on functional capacity in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. He concluded that diaphragmatic breathing training program for patients with COPD disease induced increased diaphragm participation during natural breathing.³ Ventilatory techniques to optimize mechanical ventilation in acute exacerbation of COPD studied by Reddy RM et al (2007).⁴ Paradoxical movement of the lower ribcage at rest and during exercise in Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Lower ribcage paradox at rest is responsible and hyperinflation of the chest wall and predominant dyspnea at end- exercise. This study was conducted by Calverley PM et al (2009).⁵

Dynamic hyperinflation of the lungs impairs exercises performance in Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Dynamic hyperinflation is not the only mechanism limiting exercise performance in patients with stable Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. This studied by Stevenson N et al (2004).⁶ Polkey MI et al (2013) studied six-minute walk test in Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease⁷ and Zainuldin MR et al (2007) studied cycle training intensity for patients with Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is normally based on an incremental cycle test and cycle training intensity by utilising a simple, reliable and inexpensive 6MWT, thus providing a better standard of care for patients with COPD referred to pulmonary rehabilitation.⁸ Lung and chest wall mechanics can be modelled and which are the mechanical constraints imposed on the ventilatory system studied by Aliverti A et al (2008).⁹

Heneghan NR et al (2015) studied manual therapy for Chronic obstructive pulmonary airway disease.¹⁰ and Specific hold and relax stretching techniques was capable of reversing the effect of tight chest wall muscles by increasing chest expansion, vital capacity and decreasing perceived dyspnea and respiratory rate in persons with COPD studied by Putt MT et al (2008)¹¹ and Rilay DA et al (2012) studied active stretch is necessary for regulating muscle fibre length and effect of stretching muscle fibres is expected when the lengthening exceeds the optimum fibre length.¹² Geogiadou O et al (2007) studied the effect of pulmonary rehabilitation on the regulation of total chest wall and compartment volumes during exercise in patients with COPD.¹³

Pulmonary rehabilitation is recognized as a core component of the management of individuals with COPD conducted by Spruit MA et al (2013)¹⁴ and Dodd JW et al (2011) conducted the Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) assessment test (CAT) is a recently introduced, simple to use patient completed quality of life instruments and CAT score is simple to implement as an outcome measures, improves in responses to PR.¹⁵ Minoguchi H et al (2002) studied the effects of respiratory muscle stretch gymnastics, proposed as a possible additional form of rehabilitation for patients with COPD, with inspiratory muscle training.¹⁶ The control of breathing results from a complex interaction involving the respiratory centres, feed signals to a central control mechanism and in turn, provides output to the effector muscles.¹⁷

Ito M et al (1999) investigated the immediate effect of respiratory muscle stretch gymnastics and diaphragmatic breathing on the respiratory pattern in patients with COPD¹⁸ and the effect of inspiratory muscle thixotropy on the 6-min walk distance in COPD studied by Satake M et al (2008)¹⁹ and Gagliardi E et al (2014)

studied interrelations among chest wall kinematics, ventilatory profile following cycle exercise training have not systematically evaluated in hyperinflation COPD.20

CONCLUSION

Our results suggest that an aerobic training program combined with respiratory muscle stretching reduces dyspnea and increases functional and ventilatory capacities in patient with Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The program used in this study increased inspiratory muscle efficiency.

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