Interval Aerobic Exercise versus Cupping Therapy on Essential Hypertension in Women

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Abstract

Background: Exercise and cupping therapy has been suggested to be available treatment for hypertension. This study compares the effect of interval aerobic exercise versus cupping on essential hypertensive women.

Aim of the Study: To determine the effect of interval aerobic exercise versus cupping therapy on Essential Hypertensive women.

Subject and Methods: Thirty women had essential hypertension stage: 1 (140: 160mmHg systole-90-100mmHg diastole) were randomly assigned into two groups equal in number. Group (A) fifteen women received moderate intensity (aerobic interval) exercise (4 to 7) of modified 0-10 Borg scale, exercise session 15:20min, three times per week for a month. Group (B) fifteen women received cupping therapy session on six points in the neck and back 20min, one session at the beginning of a study month.

Results: Significant reduction of systolic blood pressure at post-treatment in comparison to pre-treatment (p-value=0.0001*). There was improvement of systolic blood pressure in group A percent of change (improvement) was 13.79%. There was improvement of systolic blood pressure in Group B percent of change (improvement) was 11.5%, multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was no significant difference of the mean values of the "post" test between both groups with (p=0.096). In spite of that there was no statistical significant difference between Group A and Group B, was clinical difference and high percent of improvement in favor to Group B. There was improvement of diastolic blood pressure in Group A and percent of change (improvement) was 11.96%. Multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was significant reduction of diastolic blood pressure at post-treatment in compare to pre-treatment (p-value=0.0001*) this mean there was improvement of diastolic blood pressure in Group B and percent of change (improvement) was 13.19%. In spite of there was no statistical significant difference between Group A and Group B, there was clinical difference and high percent of improvement in favor to Group B.

Conclusion: It was concluded that participation in aerobic interval exercise or cupping therapy have positive effect on blood pressure in stage one essential hypertensive women and can be used as alternative treatment modalities.

Key Words: Essential hypertension – Interval aerobic exercise – Cupping therapy.

Introduction

CARDIOVASCULAR diseases deaths about 30.3% of all deaths worldwide [1]. One of the important causes of cardiovascular diseases is hypertension. Hypertension is classified as either primary (essential) hypertension or secondary hypertension; about 90-95% of cases are categorized as "primary hypertension" which means high blood pressure with no obvious underlying medical cause. The remaining 5-10% of cases (secondary hypertension) is caused by other conditions that affect the kidneys, arteries, heart or endocrine system. Hypertension is a major risk factor for stroke, myocardial infarction (heart attacks), heart failure, aneurysms of the arteries (e.g. aortic aneurysm), peripheral arterial disease and is a cause of chronic kidney disease [2].

Interval exercise training has now been examined in a wide variety of individuals, ranging from elite athletes to patients with severe cardiovascular disease. The advantages of interval exercise training programmes in comparison with constant intensity exercise programmes are that they appear to deliver superior improvements in several cardiovascular risk factors, fitness and performance. Depending on the design, some interval exercise programmes result in a range of benefits, even though the time
commitment may be dramatically less than more traditional continuous intensity programmes [3].

Cupping is the practice of applying a partial vacuum by means of heat or suction in one or several bell-shaped vessels (suction cups) to specific and different parts of the skin. The procedure is one of the oldest and most effective methods of releasing toxins from the body tissues and organs. Cupping is a safe, non-invasive and inexpensive technique [4].

Subjects and Methods

Thirty women patients represented the sample of this study and all women suffered from stage I essential hypertension. This study was conducted in outpatient clinic in (Al-Safwa Clinic and Ain Shams Public Hospital in Ain Shams Region) from January 2014 to December 2016 to compare cupping therapy versus interval aerobic exercises on essential hypertensive women.

The inclusion criteria:

- Women age (30: 40) years old, Able to perform the therapeutic modality, Have essential hypertension stage I (140-159 mmHg systole) (90-99 mmHg diastole), Women who did not receive cupping to hypertension before or at least six months prior to the study.

Exclusion criteria:

- Women suffering from serious heart troubles or diseases that render the individual prone to bleeding, pregnant women, women taking contraceptive pills, women with bone fractures or muscle spasms, hypertensive women over 40, renal disease women.

Subjects were randomly assigned to two groups equal in number:

- Group (A): Patients were subjected to aerobic interval training three times per week plus their medication for one month.
- Group (B): Patient was subjected to cupping therapy one session at the beginning of the study month plus their medication.

Evaluation procedures:

- Measuring blood pressure with Mercury Sphygmomanometer and stethoscope at the beginning of the study and re-evaluated after four weeks.
- Measuring exercise intensity with: modified (0-10) Borg scale: The Borg Rating of Perceived Exertion (RPE) is a way of measuring physical activity intensity level. The program exercise intensity (4:7) mild to moderate intensity.

Treatment procedures: Group A: (Aerobic interval training program).

- All patients in this group were asked to assume sitting position on a stationary bicycle orgometer to do exercise training. The physical therapist explained the aerobic interval exercise training protocol to the patients and determines intensity according to modified (0-10) Borg scale from (4:7) low to moderate intensity, the session time was 15:20min three times per week for one month.

Group B: (Cupping therapy program) all patients in this group were asked to assume prone position to receive bloodletting technique on six point in the neck and the back patients take one session (20min) in the beginning of the study month.

Results

Comparing the general characteristics of the subjects of both groups revealed that there was no significance difference between both groups in the mean age, weight, height, and BMI ($p>0.05$) (Table 1).

General characteristics:

- The current study was conducted on 30 participants. They were assigned into two equal groups. Group (A) consisted of 15 participants with mean age, body mass, height, and BMI values of $36.33 \pm 3.61$ years, $101.08 \pm 17.56$kg, $157.8 \pm 7.56$cm, and $40.98 \pm 8.95$Kg/m$^2$ respectively. Group (B) consisted of 15 participants with mean age, body mass, height, and BMI values of $35.73 \pm 3.65$ years, $96.6 \pm 13.42$kg, $155.96 \pm 6.54$cm, and $39.83 \pm 5.92$Kg/m$^2$ respectively. As indicated by the independent t-test, there were no significant differences ($p>0.05$) in the mean values of age, body mass, and height between both tested groups (Table 1).

1- 2 X 2 mixed design MANOVA:

A- Overall effect: Statistical analysis using 2 X 2 mixed design MANOVA indicated that there were no significant effects of the tested group (the first independent variable) on the all tested dependent variables; systolic and diastolic blood pressure ($F=1.081, p=0.353$). However, there were significant effects of the measuring periods (the second independent variable) on the tested dependent variables ($F=166.937, p=0.0001$*). However, the interaction between the two independent variables was not significant, which indicates that the effect of the tested group (first independent variable) on the dependant variables was not influenced by the
measuring periods (second independent variable) (F=1.978, p=0.158) (Table 2).

B- Multiple pair wise comparison tests: Systolic blood pressure:

1- Within groups: As presented in (Table 3) and illustrated in Fig. (1), within group’s comparison the mean ± SD values of systolic blood pressure in the "pre" and "post" tests were 149.73±7.75 and 129.06±9.88 respectively in the Group (A). Multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was significant reduction of systolic blood pressure at post-treatment in compare to pre-treatment (p-value=0.0001*) and this mean there was improvement of systolic blood pressure in Group A and percent of change (improvement) was 13.79%. While, the mean ± SD values of systolic blood pressure in the "pre" and "post" tests were 152.4±8.24 and 134.86±8.5 respectively the Group (B). Multiple pairwise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was significant reduction of systolic blood pressure at post-treatment in compare to pre-treatment (p-value=0.0001*) and this mean there was improvement of systolic blood pressure in Group A and percent of change (improvement) was 11.5%.

2- Between groups: Considering the effect of the tested group (first independent variable) on systolic blood pressure, multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that the mean values of the "pre" test between both groups showed no significant differences with (p=0.369). As well as, multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was no significant difference of the mean values of the "post" test between both groups with (p=0.096). In spite of there was no statistical significant difference between Group A and Group B. there was clinical difference and high percent of improvement in favor to Group A.

Diastolic blood pressure:

1- Within groups: As presented in (Table 4) and illustrated in Fig. (2), within group’s comparison the mean ± SD values of diastolic blood pressure in the "pre" and "post" tests were 94.2±4.10 and 82.93±4.57 respectively in the Group (A). Multiple pairwise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was significant reduction of diastolic blood pressure at post-treatment in compare to pre-treatment (p-value=0.0001*) and this mean there was improvement of diastolic blood pressure in Group A and percent of change (improvement) was 11.96%. While, the mean ± SD values of diastolic blood pressure in the "pre" and "post" tests were 96±5.35 and 83.33±6.48 respectively the Group (B). Multiple pairwise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was significant reduction of diastolic blood pressure at post-treatment in compare to pre-treatment (p-value=0.0001*) and this mean there was improvement of diastolic blood pressure in Group B and percent of change (improvement) was 13.19%.

2- Between groups: Considering the effect of the tested group (first independent variable) on diastolic blood pressure, multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that the mean values of the "pre" test between both groups showed no significant differences with (p=0.311). As well as, multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was no significant difference of the mean values of the "post" test between both groups with (p=0.847). In spite of there was no statistical significant difference between Group A and Group B. there was clinical difference and high percent of improvement in favor to Group B.
from January 2014 to December 2016, they were diagnosed with specialized physician as stage one essential hypertension, their age range from (30-40). They were randomly divided into two groups equal in numbers.

Medical treatment and aerobic interval Group (A) included 15 female patients, who underwent medical treatment with interval aerobic training program 3 sessions per week for a month, medical treatment and cupping therapy Group (B) included 15 female patient, who underwent medical treatment and one cupping therapy session at the beginning of the study month.

Effect of aerobic interval exercise and cupping therapy on stage: 1 essential hypertensive women patients were examined through this study on the following variable: Blood pressure measurements by Sephengomanometer apparatus. This variable was measured initially before starting the program (pre) and after the end of program (post) in two groups. The results of current study there was significant reduction of systolic blood pressure at post treatment in compare to pre-treatment (p-value=0.0001*) and this mean there was improvement of systolic blood pressure in Group A and percent of change (improvement) was 13.79%.

There was improvement of systolic blood pressure in Group B and percent of change (improvement) was 11.5%, multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was no significant difference of the mean values of the "post" test between both groups with (p=0.096). In spite of there was no statistical significant difference between Group A and Group B, there was clinical difference and high percent of improvement in favor to Group A. There was improvement of diastolic blood pressure in Group A and percent of change (improvement) was 11.96%. Multiple pair wise comparison tests (post hoc tests) revealed that there was significant reduction of diastolic blood pressure at post-treatment in compare to pre-treatment (p-value=0.0001*) and this mean there was improvement of diastolic blood pressure in Group B and percent of change (improvement) was 13.19%.

Discussion

This study was conducted to compare between the effects of interval aerobic exercise versus cupping therapy on stage: 1 essential hypertensive women. This study was conducted on Thirty women patients represented the sample of this study and all women suffered from stage I essential hypertension (140:160mmHg systole-90:100mmHg diastole) this study was conducted in outpatient internal medicine clinic in (Al-Safwa Clinic and Ain Shams Public Hospital in Ian Shams Region)
The results of this study came in accordance with Ingle et al., [5] who showed that the effectiveness of acupuncture therapy in glycosylated hemoglobin (HbA1C), lipid profile, Total Cholesterol (TC), serum triglyceride (TG), Low Density Lipoprotein (LDL), cholesterol, and BMI were significantly decreased from base line. The increased in the HDL-C were observed at the end of the study period. The results obtained were advantageous to the reversion of abnormal endocrine status and the metabolism of glucose and lipid at the same time achieving good therapeutic effect.

In agreement with the results of the current study Ahmad et al., [6] who found that HbA1C, triglyceride, cholesterol and lipoprotein with low density had a significant reduction and also a significant increase in lipoprotein rate with high density after treatment.

In agreement with the results of the current study Chirali [7] who said that cupping therapy is a physical treatment used by acupuncturists or other therapists that uses a plastic or glass cup to create suction to the skin over an acupuncture point or painful area.

In agreement with the results of the current study Shariat et al., [8] who said that cupping therapy may cause a reduction in various oxidative stress indexes.

In agreement with the results of current study Müzeyyen et al., [9]: Who said that cupping had therapeutic effects in rats with myocardial infarction and cardiac arrhythmias. The study investigates the possible useful effects of cupping therapy on cardiac rhythm in terms of Heart Rate Variability (HRV). Forty healthy participants were included. Classic wet cupping therapy was applied on five points of the back. Recording electrocardiography (to determine HRV) was applied 1 hour before and 1 hour after cupping therapy. All HRV parameters increased after cupping therapy compared with before cupping therapy in healthy persons. These results indicate for the first time in humans that cupping might be cardio protective. Cupping therapy restored sympathovagal imbalances by stimulating the peripheral nervous system. Wet Cupping Therapy Restores Sympathovagal Imbalances in Cardiac Rhythm.

The results of this study came in accordance with Ingle et al., [5] who reported that acupuncture points show significant effect on reduction of plasma glucose level, lipid profile and it also increases the level of high density lipoprotein at the same time.

The results of this study came in accordance with Aleyeidi et al., [10] who said that Wet-cupping therapy is effective for reducing systolic blood pressure in hypertensive patients for up to 4 weeks, without serious side effects. Wet-cupping should be considered as a complementary hypertension treatment, and further studies are needed.

In agreement with the results of the current study Niasari et al., [11] who said that Wet cupping may be an effective method of reducing LDL cholesterol in men and consequently may have a preventive effect against atherosclerosis. A 7% decrease in total cholesterol and 3% increase in HDL cholesterol may be clinically important.

In agreement with the results of the current study, Izharul and Danish, [12] who said that alternative traditional regimes have proved to be highly successful in lowering high blood pressure and also promoting good health and wellness among patients. Hypertension or high blood pressure is typically caused when the blood thickens and becomes heavier over time. However in few people also have a larger volume of blood circulating in their bodies that causes blood pressure levels to rise. Cupping therapy and steam bath are non-invasive form of treatment, and works to eliminate the root causes of high blood pressure and draw out the thick and stagnant blood so that pure, light blood can circulate more freely.

In agreement with the results of current study Burgomaster et al., [13] the major novel finding from 6 weeks of SIT elicited adaptations in selected markers of skeletal muscle CHO and lipid metabolism and metabolic control during exercise that were comparable to those elicited by ET, despite a much lower training volume and time commitment. By design, weekly training volume was ~90% lower in the SIT group (~225 versus ~2250kJ week⁻¹ for ET) and necessitated a training time-commitment that was only ~one-third of that of the ET group (~1.5 versus 4.5h). Most of the training time in the SIT group was spent in recovery between short, intense bursts of all out cycling and actual weekly exercise time was only ~10min, as compared to ~4.5h of continuous moderate-intensity cycling in the ET group.

The present results confirm and extend the recent findings of Gibala et al., [14] of similar increases in muscle oxidative capacity and volitional exercise performance after six sessions of SIT or ET over 2 weeks.

The results of this study came in accordance with Gibala et al., [14] of prolonged sessions of
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التمارين الهوائية متب打听 الجدة مقابل كاسات الهواء في مرضي ضغط الدم لدى السيدات

الخضوع من الرسالة: تم إجراء هذا البحث لإظهار مدى إستجابة ضغط الدم لمريضي ضغط الدم الأساسي الأولي المرتفع لبرنامج التمرين الرياضي الوظيفي والعلاج بالجامة.

الآساليب/أجريت هذه الدراسة على ثلاثين امرأة مريضة تمثلت عينة من هذه الدراسة وعانت جميع النساء من المرحلة الأولى من إرتفاع ضغط الدم الأساسي. أجريت هذه الدراسة في جمعية المريضات الخارجية في الطبيب الباطني في جمعية الصفوة ومستشفى عين شمس العام في منطقة شمس من يناير 2014 إلى ديسمبر 2016، وتم تشخيصهم ببطبط القلب مختصر كرحلة أولى من إرتفاع ضغط الدم الأساسي (من 90/140 إلى 110/160) ثم قياس ضغط الدم لكل مريض قبل وبعد شهر واحد عن طريق جهاز سيفنغيومتر وتم قياسهما عشوائيا إلى مجموعتين متساويتين في الأرقام.

• مجموعة A: 15 مريضة خضعت للعلاج الطبي بالتمارين الهوائية الفائقة ثلاث جلسات لمدة 10 دقائق في الجلسة ثلاث مرات في الأسبوع لمدة شهر.

• مجموعة B: 15 مريضة خضعت للعلاج بالجامة مرة واحدة شهريا لمدة عشرة دقائق.

النتائج: نتائج الدراسة الحالية كانت هناك انخفاض معنوي في ضغط الدم الإنتقائي بعد الدورة مقارنة مع معالجة وهذا يعني أن هناك تحسن في ضغط الدم الإنتقائي في المجموعة (A) ونسبة التغير (التحسين) كانت 11.79%. كان هناك تحسن في ضغط الدم الإنتقائي في المجموعة (B) ونسبة التغير (التحسين) كانت 11.5%. على الرغم من عدم وجود فرق ذات دلالة إحصائية بين المجموعة (A) و (B)، كان هناك فرق في النتائج العملية ونسبة عالية من التحسن لصالح المجموعة A. كان هناك تحسن في ضغط الدم الإنتقائي في المجموعة (A) ونسبة التغير (التحسين) كانت 11.97%. أن هناك انخفاضا معنوي في ضغط الدم الإنتساسي بعد المعالجة بالمقارنة مع معالجة وهذا يعني أن هناك تحسن في ضغط الدم الإنتساسي في المجموعة B ونسبة التغير (التحسين) كانت 11.19%.

على الرغم من عدم وجود فرق ذات دلالة إحصائية بين المجموعة (A) و (B)، كان هناك فرق من النتائج العملية ونسبة عالية من التحسن لصالح المجموعة (B). ومع ذلك، فإن التفاعل بين المتغيرين المستقلين (ضغط الدم الإنتقائي والإنتساسي) قبل وبعد المعالجة لم يكن كبيراً مما يشير إلى أن تأثير المجموعة الصغرى (المتغير المستقل الأول) على المتغيرات الجاذبة لم تتأثر بفترات القياس أي جملة الزمن (المتغير المستقل الثاني).

الاستنتاج: العلاج بكاسات الهواء أو التمارين الهوائية متب打听 الجدة له تأثير إيجابي ويمكن استخدام أي منها كوسيلة علاجية بديلة على مرضى ضغط الدم الأساسي الأولي المرتفع لدى السيدات.