



Comparison of Cryokinetics and Ultrasound Therapy in Treatment of acute supraspinatus Tendinitis

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ABSTRACT

The treatment of SST is mainly aimed at elevation of pain. Although non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are widely used to treat the pain with SST, the high incidence of side effects with NSAIDs can limit their use. To avoid or to reduce the side effects associated with NSAIDs, physical therapies such as Cryokinetics, ultrasound therapy, short wave diathermy, laser are frequently used. It has been cited that use of cryotherapy and US has been proven to control the pain and to prevent disability. This paper makes a comparison of cryokinetics and ultrasound therapy in treatment of acute supraspinatus tendinitis. The data of 60 patients were used and analysed with the statistical tool, one sample t test and revealed that the Cryokinetics is better for treatment of acute supraspinatus tendinitis.

Keywords: Cryokinetics, Ultrasound, Acute Supraspinatus Tendinitis.

I. INTRODUCTION

Supraspinatus tendinitis was proposed by NEER²² in 1972 as a clinical entity in which the rotator cuff was pathologically compressed against anterior structure of coraco-acromial arch, anterior third of the acromion, the coracoacromial ligament and acromioclavicular joint. Supraspinatus probably had the most written on it in regards to the impingement syndrome and related shoulder pathology. It can be affected by trauma but also undergoes chronic degenerative changes leading to tendinopathies and rupture. Supraspinatus tendinitis is a painful lesion of the supraspinatus tendon; here the pain is located over the lateral aspect of arm with well-defined trigger points on the muscle belly over the supraspinatus notch and at the insertion. A narrowing of the subacromial outlet by spur formation in coraco acromial ligament and the

under surface of the anterior third of acromion define the relative progression of the impingement syndrome². All of these factors results in increase in pressure on the rotator cuff, which can lead to chronic wearing and subsequent tearing of the rotator cuff tendon.

Supraspinatus, infraspinatus and the subscapularis muscle comprise the rotator cuff or musculotendinous cuff. These muscles are considered to be a part of the cuff because the inserting tendons of each muscle of the cuff blend with and reinforce the glenohumeral capsule, most importantly all these have action lines that significantly contribute to the dynamic stability of glenohumeral

joint.³ Supraspinatus canal connects supraspinatus fossa with subdeltoid region and is bounded posteriorly by spine of the scapula and the acromion, anteriorly by coracoid process and superiorly by coraco-acromial ligament. The SST canal forms a rigid and inextensible ring, if the muscle increases in size as a result of scar or an inflammatory process, it cannot glide through the canal without sticking and causing pain. When the rotator cuff is damaged, the degenerated and ruptured supraspinatus tendon no longer lies between the humeral head and the coraco-acromial arch. Direct contact between these two structures is responsible according to modern authors for the pain associated with abduction in the syndrome of rotator cuff rupture.⁴ Shoulder pain is the 3rd most common cause of musculoskeletal disorder after low back pain and cervical pain. The annual incidence is estimated at 10 cases per 1000 population, peaking at 25 cases per 1000 population in a age category of 42-46 years.²³⁻

²⁴ In cadaver studies, the incidence of full thickness tear varies from 18-26%. The incidence of partial thickness tear varies from 32-37% after age 40 years. In a study it is found that both males and females are equally affected with supraspinatus tendinitis.



Rotator cuff disease is more common after age of 40 years. Various studies have shown the medical and surgical interventions in treatment of SST. Medical interventions like Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), Subacromial corticosteroids and Bupivacaine suprascapular nerve block. Surgical interventions like Arthroscopic subacromioplasty, Electrothermal arthroscopic capsulorrhaphy, subacromial decompression and for secondary impingement the surgical treatment is stabilization procedure a Capsulorrhaphy is done.

METHOD:

For this study, 60 patients with SST of both sex were taken. Patients were randomly divided into group A and group B. Group A were retreated with cryokinetics for 30 minutes. Group B were treated with US therapy for 8 minutes. Both the groups were treated 5 times per week for three weeks. Patients were evaluated with VAS and 1 RM on day 1st, 15th day and end of third week. The values were compared to see which group has better improvement. The values are statistically analyzed to determine their effect in reducing pain and improving muscle strength.

STATISTICAL SOFTWARE:

The statistical software namely SPSS 22.0, Stata 8.0, MedCalc 9.0.1 and Systat 11.0 were used for the analysis of the data and Microsoft word and Excel have been used to generate graphs, tables etc.

METHODOLOGY:

Research Design -

It is a Comparative Evaluation Study.

Population-

Patients with acute supraspinatus tendinitis.

Sample Size-

60 patients with acute supraspinatus tendinitis, residing in Udaipur.

Sampling Method -

Random sampling method

Sampling Technique-

Samples are selected through random sampling by using chit method. First prepare 60 chits (30 in each group), place them in a box, shuffle and ask the patient to pick one chit. Whichever group selected by the patient, as found on the chit, is allocated to that patient. Do not replace these selected chits back into the box.

Source of Data -

All patients coming to **PACIFIC MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, PACIFIC COLLEGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY** with clinical diagnosis of supraspinatus tendinitis by an orthopaedician and who are fulfilling the inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Statistical software:

The statistical software namely SPSS 22.0, Stata 8.0, MedCalc 9.0.1 and Systat 11.0 were used for the analysis of the data and Microsoft word and Excel have been used to generate graphs, tables etc.

Inclusion Criteria-

1. Subjects with supraspinatus tendinitis who are under analgesics.
2. Age group: 30-50 yrs.

Exclusion Criteria has Adhesive capsulitis, Cervical disorders, Fibromyalgia, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Hemiplegia, Thoracic outlet syndrome, Cold hypersensitivity, haemoglobinuria, Anesthetic skin, Cardiac conditions and Cold urticaria

Materials Used includes Cold pack, Ultrasound machine, Ultrasonic gel, VAS, Cotton, Weight cuff and Cord.

Study Design: A Comparative evaluation study with 60 patients with acute Supraspinatus Tendinitis with 30 patients in Group A (CRYOKINETICS) and 30 patients in Group B (ULTRASOUND THERAPY) is undertaken to study the Effectiveness of Cryokinetics in comparison with the effectiveness of Ultrasound Therapy

II. DATA ANALYSIS

Table 1 presents gender wise comparison of the patients studied:

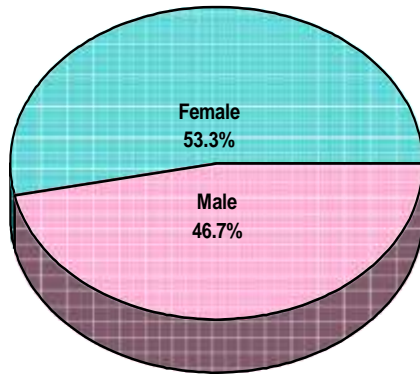
Table 1: Gender distribution of patients studied

Gender	Group A		Group B	
	No	%	No	%
Male	14	46.7	16	53.3

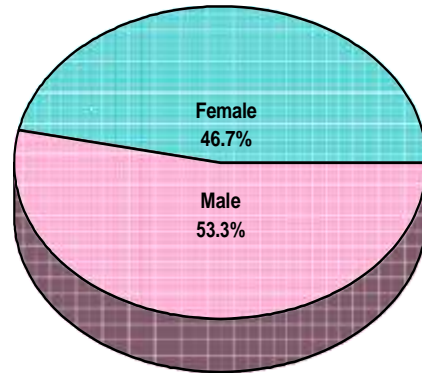


Female	16	53.3	14	46.7
Total	30	100.0	30	100.0

Samples are gender matched with $P=0.605$



Group A



Group B

Table 1 explains the gender distribution of patients in group A & B.

Group A has 14 number of males that is 46.7% & 16 number of females that is 53.3% group B has 16 number of males that is 53.3% and 14 number of females that is 46.7%. In this diagram sample gender is matched with $p=0.605$

Table 2: Comparison of VAS score between two groups of patients (n=30)

VAS	Day1	Day15	3 rd week	% change at 3 rd week
Group A				
Nopain	0	0	6(20.0%)	+20.0%
Mild Pain	0	15(50.0%)	24(80.0%)	+80.0%
Moderate pain	12(40.0%)	14(46.7%)	0	-40.0%
Severe pain	18(60.0%)	1(3.3%)	0	-60.0%
Group B				
Nopain	0	0	0	0.0
Mild Pain	0	3(10.0%)	12(40.0%)	+40.0%
Moderate pain	12(40.0%)	24(80.0%)	17(56.7%)	+16.7%
Severe pain	18(60.0%)	3(10.0%)	1(3.3%)	-56.7%

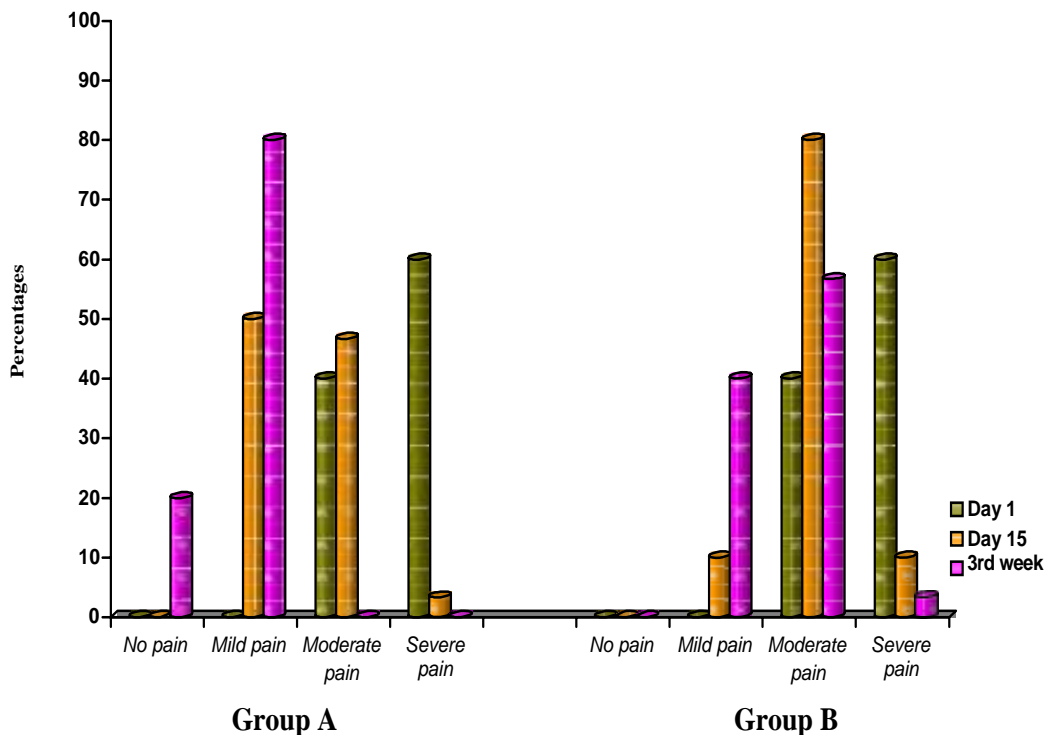


Table 2 shows the comparison of VAS between two groups of patients. In group A – on day 1st there were 12 patients with moderate pain which was measured by VAS & 18 patients with severe pain. On day 15th there were 15 patients with mild pain & 14 with moderate pain and 1 patient with severe pain. At the end of 3rd week there were 6 patients with no pain, 24 with mild pain

In group B – on day 1st there were 12 patients with moderate pain and 16 with severe pain. On day 15th there were 3 patients with mild pain and 24 patients with moderate pain and 3 patients with severe pain. At the end of 3rd week there were 12 patients with mild pain and 17 patients with moderate pain and 1 with severe pain.

Table 3: Comparison of VAS score in two groups of patients

VAS	Group A	Group B	P value
Day 1	6.90±1.58	6.70±1.51	0.619
Day 15	3.73±1.17	5.20±1.29	<0.001**
3 rd week	1.23±0.86	4.03±1.38	<0.001**

Table explains of VAS score in two groups of patients. On day 1 – group A had 6.90±1.58 and group B had 6.70±1.51, with a P value of 0.619. On day 15 group A had 3.73±1.17 and group B had 5.20±1.29 with a P value of <0.001. At the end of 3rd week group A had 1.23±0.86 and group B had 4.03±1.38 with a P value of <0.001.

Table 4: Comparison of repetitions maximum between two groups of patients

RM	Day 1	Day 15	3 rd week	% change at 3 rd week



GroupA				
Weak muscle	23(76.7%)	6(20.0%)	1(3.3%)	-73.4%
Mod.strength	7(23.3%)	24(80.0%)	22(73.3%)	+50.0%
Good	0	0	7(23.3%)	+23.3%
GroupB				
Weak muscle	20(66.7%)	14(46.7%)	9(30.0%)	-36.7%
Mod.strength	10(33.3%)	15(50.0%)	20(66.7%)	33.4%
Good	0	1(3.3%)	1(3.3%)	+3.3%

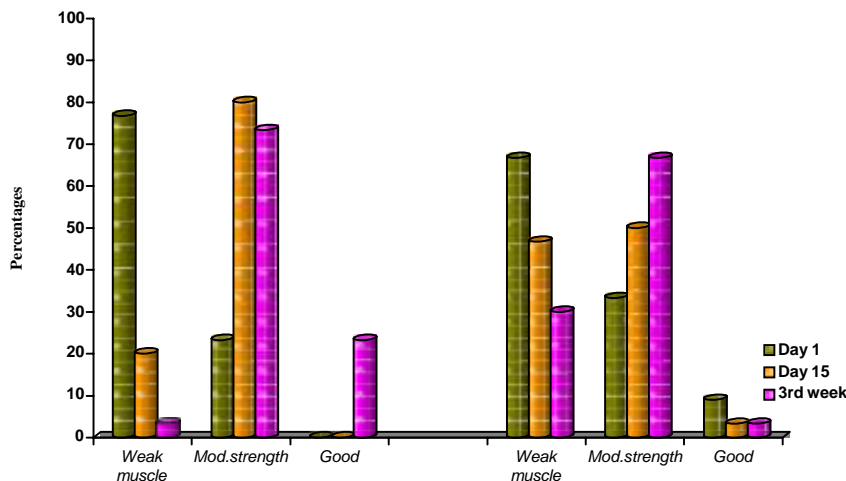


Table revealed Comparison of repetition maximum between two groups of patients. In group A on day 1 there were 23 patients with weak muscle and 7 with moderate strength. On day 15th there were 6 patients with weak muscle and 24 with moderate muscle strength. At the end of 3rd week there was only one patient with weak muscle, 22 patients with moderate strength and 7 with good muscle strength. In group B on day 1 there were 20 patients with weak muscle, 10 with moderate muscle strength. On day 15th there were 14 patients with weak muscle and 15 patients with moderate muscle strength and 1 with good muscle strength.

At the end of 3rd week there were 9 patients with weak muscle, 20 patients with moderate muscle strength and 1 patient with good muscle strength.

The differences in the same is measured with the one sample t test for the comparison of cryokinetics and ultrasound therapy in treatment of acute supraspinatus tendinitis

Table-5: Independent sample t test

Group Statistics					
	VAR00001	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Cryokinetics	Cryokinetics	9	10.0000	7.93725	2.64575
	Ultrasound	9	10.0000	10.14889	3.38296
Independent Samples Test					
		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means	
		F	Sig.	t	df Sig. (2-tailed)
Cryokinetics	Equal variances assumed	1.278	.275	2.000	16 0.000
	Equal variances not assumed			2.000	15.122 0.000



The results of the test revealed with the value of Sign for equal variance assumed column that the difference in the recovery of the patient is significant and the mean value of the both the methods Cryokinetics and Ultrasound is similar hence the judgement criteria is the Std. Deviation which revealed that the Cryokinetics is better for treatment of acute supraspinatus tendinitis.

III. DISCUSSION:

This study was undertaken to study the effectiveness of Cryokinetics in comparison with effectiveness of Ultrasound therapy. It is based upon the Rotator cuff injury that is one of the occupational health problems. It has on orthopedic ambulatory with high functional damage to its carrying. This study aimed to compare these two interventions in reducing pain and increasing muscle strength and enhancing functional performance in SST. It presented a comparative evaluation study with 60 patients with acute supraspinatus tendinitis was undertaken. 60 patients were divided into two groups, group A and group B. Each group consisting of 30 patients. Group A received Cryokinetics therapy and group B received ultrasound therapy. The group analysis results that Group A was treated with cryokinetics and group B was treated with US therapy. Group A has been shown more improvement than group B, which is proved statistically.

IV. CONCLUSION:

The conclusion of the paper revealed that the good improvement of VAS scale is seen in Group A patients. The good improvement of IRM is seen in Group A patients. The study concluded that Cryokinetics gives better response and is more effective than US in reducing pain and enhancing functional performance in SST patients. The good improvement of VAS and IRM is seen in the age group of 31-40 years.

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