

**INDEPENDENT PHYSIOTHERAPY PRACTICE: CLINICAL
EVALUATION AND SYSTEMATIC ILLNESS SERIES: 1**

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ABSTRACT

Independent clinical physiotherapy practice demands clinical evaluation, decision making, reference with reasoning. 48 year old female with hba_{1c} at 13% and hypertension on medication with left supra spiratus tendinitis was on evaluation and treatment found to be hemodynamically unstable with poor exercise tolerance was referred to physician for medical management. Reasoning of why physiotherapy was deferred and medical advice was sought, were was discussed with evidence in this original research presentation, this will pave the importance of practical application of various allied, clinical subjects learned by physiotherapist and due referral to physicians advice.

H/O

Subject of 48 year old female was treated for HT. With T. amlong for 5 years T. glycephase for DM (Diabetic Mellitus), for 10 years and was treated with a course of physiotherapy in Govt general hospital in Chennai for left shoulder pain, with a course of NSAID and left shoulder X- ray revealing supa spinatus tendinitis, the C/O subject complaining of pain and inability to use left shoulder for her daily routines.

O/e

- Mesomorph, menstruating irregularly, mother of two adults, illiterate, home maker under stress for socio economic and family influence.
- Atrophy of left deltoid, hard and heavy left arm.
- Tender +++ over anterior, lateral shoulder (Left).
- Restricted shoulder abduction, lateral rotation and extension (Left).

- Trapezitis (Left), obliterated cervical lordosis along with moderate cervical spine movement restricted.
- Moderate left hand grip compared with right.
- Ambulant unaided.

Need for this Presentation

- With posterior anterior glide to shoulder and minor passive stretching of left shoulder as the subject developed dyspnoea, palpitation on mild exertion the author has referred the subject for further medical advice from a physician, where hba_{1c} was at 13%, Vitamin D3- 11ng, B.P at 134/95 mm/ng as on 10.09.2019.

Aims & Objective of this clinical research was when should we refer to physician and scientific reasoning to defer physiotherapy when subjects hemodynamic is unstable:

Clinical Prognosis

This subject with uncontrolled glycemic control was referred and getting treated by physician, the author is waiting the subjects hemodynamic to be stable under her muscle skeletal compliants with due physiotherapy means.

Scientific reasoning / Discussion

a. Why this subject was referred to the physician and deferred physiotherapy at this stage?

b. hba_{1c} at 13% leads to what complications?

- hba_{1c} test which is the percentage of glycated hemoglobin is recommended to measure the incidence or prevalence of diabetes (Reinaver 2002). Also the efficacy of hba_{1c} in detection of diabetes, it is an important marker to assess the micro vascular complications and plasma glucose (Kilpatrick et al 2007). The relationship between hba_{1c} and blood glucose denoting a straight trend as recorded by researches (Mohammadi et al 2001).
- hba_{1c} is an accurate marker of micro and macro vascular complications (Ghazanfari et al 2010).
- Glycemic control is essential in diabetes management (Middleton et al 2003) as lower levels of blood glucose leads to decreased rates of morbidity, mortality (Bevan et al 2006). Many RCT, and epidemiological studies have shown glycemic control is related to

reduced rates of retinopathy, nephropathy, neuropathy and CVD (ADA 2009) also prevention of organ damage (Khatab et al 2008).

- A high proportion of patients remain poorly controlled (Karler et al 2005) and a variety of factors including age, sex, education, smoking, BMI, type of medication, marital status duration of diabetes can influence glycemic control (Wallace et al 2000).
- Among 103 diabetic Iranian subjects with mean age of 46 years, 56% had their hba_{1c} above 7.5% (Poor Glycemic Control) (Ghazarfari et al 2010).
- Also poor glycemic control is associated with worse cardiac and peripheral dysfunction (Demir et al 2001), inverse correlation with work capacity, (Blair et al 1996) maximum O₂ uptake (Vanninen et al 1992) and exercise duration (Bacon et al 2002).
- **As referred from the above research evidences that uncontrolled / poor glycemic control as shown in this subjects hba_{1c} at 13%, can lead to mortality, organ damage, hence timely reference of the subject for the medical management is vital, an yellow line for independent physio practice.**

c. Low Vitamin D can a physiotherapist work on at this stage?

- Low vitamin D₃ can have multi directional effects on CVD risks, post-menopausal, diabetes, immune disorders, cancer, increased mortality, bone mineral density and QOL (Matyjasze et al 2015).
- **Low vitamin D₃ is associated with so many conditions influencing physical and mental well-being, this again as it is important for musculoskeletal metabolism, hence proper medication by physician, where again physios practical knowledge on biochemistry and its impact on physical function is stressed.**

d. Why abnormal systemic illness, hemodynamic stability is important for physical therapists

- Hemodynamic changes during continuous exercises were important during steady state after initial 3 or 4 minutes (Sawton and Burkart et al 1967). Exercises therapy improves exercise capacity and resting hemodynamic (Mackenzie et al 2017), where as exercises can have abnormal hemodynamic responses among COPD subjects as revealed by a norwegian study (Hilde et al 2013).
- Continues non-invasive measurement of hemodynamic (Cardiac) response to sub maximal exercises is attenuated significantly in diabetic individuals as evidence of

impaired cardiac reserve and peripheral vascular response with hba_{1c} above 8 (Joshi et al 2010) in a study among 127 subjects.

- **It is evident that uncontrolled systematic illness if treated with physiotherapeutic means can be more facilitating negative prognosis.**
- e. **Does orthopaedic ailments with diagnosis, evaluation needs comprehensive management?**
- **As shown in this presentation with evidenced literature a knowledge of systematic illness, biochemistry, proper medication by physician are vital prior to treating an orthopedic subject**

CONCLUSION

Adhering to basic evaluation, knowing the details of clinical investigations and their impact on physical exercises, developing the practice of cross reference to promote inter professional relationships ensures best quality of medical service and particularly enhance independent physiotherapy practice is the major purpose of this clinical research presentation.

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