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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Comparison of the Effect of High-Intensity Laser Therapy and Quadriceps Muscle Strengthening Exercises Using Biofeedback on Pain, Stiffness and Function of Patients with Knee Osteoarthritis: A Randomized Clinical Trial

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

More about open peer review: brieflands.com/knowledgebase/opr

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1 Original submission

4 comments · 30 Jan 2024 – 6 Feb 2024

Referee 1 Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 30 Jan 2024

Hi, my opinions are as follows:
1. Knee osteoarthritis should be added to the keywords.
2. In the abstract, the methods section is too poor.
3. The abstract section is too poor.
4. Why did you follow up for 1 month?
5. What scale did you use for stiffness assessment?
6. Table-2 should be revised again. The column "total " should be deleted.
7. How did you calculate WOMAC? The results are too high: 1691, 1560, ...
8. Table-2 and 3 should be revised again.
9. The results in the tables are not compatible with your results section.
Best regards

Referee 2 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 4 Feb 2024

Dear AE,
The manuscript is well-structured, with clear sections and logical flow. However, it could benefit from some minor revisions and the inclusion of more recent research to strengthen its foundation:
Including specific quantitative results in the abstract may give readers a more immediate understanding of the findings:
for example, the magnitude of pain reduction and improvement in function.
The main outcomes are presented clearly in tables, but the text should provide a brief interpretation of the results, including the magnitude of improvement in VAS and WOMAC scores.
The choice of outcome measures, including VAS and WOMAC, is appropriate for assessing pain, stiffness, and function. However, the section lacks information on the psychometric properties of these scales (e.g., reliability and validity).

Associate Editor

MAJOR REVISION 6 Feb 2024

Dear EIC,
The goal of this study is to evaluate and compare the impact of high-intensity laser therapy (HILT) and quadriceps muscle strengthening exercises with biofeedback on pain reduction and functional improvement in individuals with knee osteoarthritis (KOA).
The manuscript presents valuable research. But some revisions are needed. The authors should revise it based on the comments. Also, minor changes should be made to the abstract:

1- The study design should be mentioned in the first line of the methods section of the ABSTRACT.
2-A summary of the statistical analysis results should be mentioned in the results section of the ABSTRACT.

Editor-in-Chief MAJOR REVISION 6 Feb 2024

Dear Author,
Thank you for submitting the article. It needs some revision. Please revise it based on the reviewers' and AE's comments.

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Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear Maryam Sadat Rahimi,

Thanks for submitting your valuable manuscript to the journal. As a result of this, we would like to inform you that the review of your manuscript is finished, and based on the editorial decision, you need to do a "Major Revision" on your manuscript. Even though this manuscript has enough quality to enter the review process, it needs some significant (major) revisions in some points of view.

How to Submit Revision?

Below you may find those comments. Please read them and answer them one by one.

The corresponding author needs to prepare replies as below:

In a Word file, reply to all comments one by one (reply to reviewer)

In the Word file of your manuscript, reply and apply all comments as marked or highlighted lines/paragraphs.

Instruction: click here

Reviewers' Comments:

Reviewer 1:

Hi, my opinions are as follow:

1. Knee osteoarthritis should be added to keywords.
   Reply: it is added.
2. In abstract, method part is too poor.
   Reply: it is revised.

3. Abstract part is too poor.

Reply: it is revised.

4. Why did you follow for 1 month?

Reply: Currently, the patients are followed for one month and short-term, later in the next phase, they will be followed long-term

5. What was your scale for stiffness assessment?

For stiffness assessment, there is a section in WOMAC questionnaire to examine patients performance.

6. Table-2 should be revised again. Column "total " should be deleted.

Reply: It is revised.

7. How did you calculate WOMAC ? The results are too high, 1691, 1560 and ... .

8. Table-2 and 3 should be revised again.

Reply: It is revised.

9. The results in tables are not compatible with your results part.

Reply: It is revised.

Best regards

Reviewer 2:

Dear AE,

The manuscript is well-structured, with clear sections and logical flow. However, it could benefit from some minor revisions and the inclusion of more recent research to strengthen its foundation:

Including specific quantitative results in the abstract may give readers a more immediate understanding of the findings:

For example the magnitude of pain reduction and improvement in function,

Reply: it is revised as wanted.

The main outcomes are presented clearly in tables, but the text should provide a brief interpretation of the results, including the magnitude of improvement in VAS and WOMAC scores.

Reply: it is revised and added.

The choice of outcome measures, including VAS and WOMAC, is appropriate for assessing pain, stiffness, and function. However, the section lacks information on the psychometric properties of these scales (e.g., reliability and validity).

Reply: Currently, the patients are followed for one month and short-term, later in the next phase, they will be followed .

Associate Editor's Comments:

Associate Editor 1:

Dear EIC,

The goal of this study is to evaluate and compare the impact of high-intensity laser therapy (HILT) and quadriceps muscle strengthening exercises with biofeedback on pain reduction and functional improvement in individuals with knee osteoarthritis (KOA).

The manuscript is a valuable research. But some revisions are needed. Authors should revise it based on comments. Also minor changes should be done in abstract:

Reply:

It is revised.

1- Study design should be mentioned in first line of method section of ABSTRACT
Reply: it is added.

2-Summary of Statistical analysis results should be mention in result section of ABSTRACT.

Reply: it is added.

2 Revision 1

4 comments · 3 Nov 2024 – 9 Nov 2024

Referee 1 Reviewer — ACCEPT 3 Nov 2024

Hi, thanks for your invite. I read the reviewers' comments. All of them were addressed.
Best wishes

Referee 2 Reviewer — ACCEPT 9 Nov 2024

Dear AE,
Thank you for paying attention and responding to the reviewer's comments.

Associate Editor — ACCEPT 9 Nov 2024

Dear EIC,
I reviewed the manuscript again. The great effort in improving the manuscript is highly appreciated.
The authors have addressed all comments.
Thank you

Editor-in-Chief — ACCEPT 9 Nov 2024

Dear AUTHORS,
Your revisions have significantly improved the article, and it is now deemed acceptable for publication.
Congratulations on your hard work and dedication to enhancing the quality of your work.