

Abstract

Effect on Active Exercise Programs in Employees with Chronic Low Back Pain

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Objective: To examine the relative efficacy of three active exercise programs for work-related, chronic low back pain, and to observe to what extent the programs affected the mechanical stability of the lumbar region.

Methods: The subjects were 64 employees who were randomly divided into three groups to match the three active exercise programs which were performed 3 times a week for 6 months. All subjects were assessed with the same measurements at a pre-study examination, and then were reassessed at 2 weeks, 3 months and 6 months after the study.

Results: The pain intensity didn't show any significant difference among the three groups. However, the Oswestry Disability Index showed significant differences among the three groups at 6 months and the lumbar and thoracic exercise groups showed significant decreases compared to the general physiotherapy group ($p<0.05$). Maximal stretching with both hands in the overhead direction showed a significant difference among the three groups at 3 months and 6 months, and the thoracic exercise group at 6 months showed a significant increase in overhead stretching compared to the lumbar exercise and general physiotherapy groups ($p<0.05$). The lumbar region angle of inclination showed significant differences among the three groups at 2 weeks, 3 months and 6 months, with the thoracic exercise group being decreased significantly more than the lumbar exercise and general physiotherapy groups at 6 months ($p<0.05$).

Conclusions: Exercise aimed at increasing thoracic mobility has an effect on lumbar stability. Furthermore, it is far more effective for lumbar stabilization than general physiotherapy and deep muscle strengthening lumbar exercise.

Key Words: Lumbar instability, Lumbar exercise program

Andersson, 1989; Walsh, 1991; Skovron, 1994),
60~90% 20~30% 가
(Frymoyer, 1988; Svensson (Kelsey White, 1980;

Biering-Sorensen, 1984).

가 ,
가

(Molumphy , 1985).

가
(Borenstein, 2001). 가
가 ,

(low back pain)

(stabilization)

(Hemberg, 1992).

3

(Kankaanpaa , 1999; Manniche , 1993;
Denner, 1999; Panjabi , 1994).

가

? (Hazard, 1996).

(O'sullivan , 1997).

60% 가

(Erdil , 1997).

2%가

25%

가

(Chaffin 가

, 1978; Frymoyer Baril, 1991).

가

2002

1167 27.9%

660

가

15.6%

. 2003

2,906 37.6%

가

, 1626 21% (, 2003).

(kyphosis) 가 (Fon , 1980; Singer
Giles, 1990),

가

가

(facet joint)

(mechanical)

가

(instability) 가

(Edmondston Singer, 1997; Panjabi, 1992).

(Nachemson,

3

1985).

가

가

(

(Moore , 1997).

)

가

가 ,

1.

(Grant, 2002).

2004 3 1 8 31

G (Fig. 1).
) 3 (2)
 64 1
 가 가 (Intertrack 6200, Taeha, Korea) 10
 가 가 (SafeUSA, USA) 5 ?
 30 4가 (Hip Raiser, Abdominal Trainer, Pulley, Dips) (Lojer, Finland) 60% 1가
 2. 10 4가
 1) 1 5
 3 , 6 5 가
 (hip flexor)
 (hamstring) 10
 (Thue, 1997; Evjenth Hamberg, 1989)(Fig. 2).
 (1) 30 (Enraf, (3)
 Netherland) , 가
 McKenzie(1992) 30 가 가

1. Modalities



Hot pack

Ultrasound

TENS

Traction

2. Lumber extension exercise



Fig. 1. General physiotherapy groups using by modalities and McKenzie's exercise

가 30 (Back Exerciser, Abdominal Trainer, Pulley) (Lojer, Finland) 10, 5, 3 (Thue, 1997; Evjenth Hamberg, 1989) (Fig. 3).

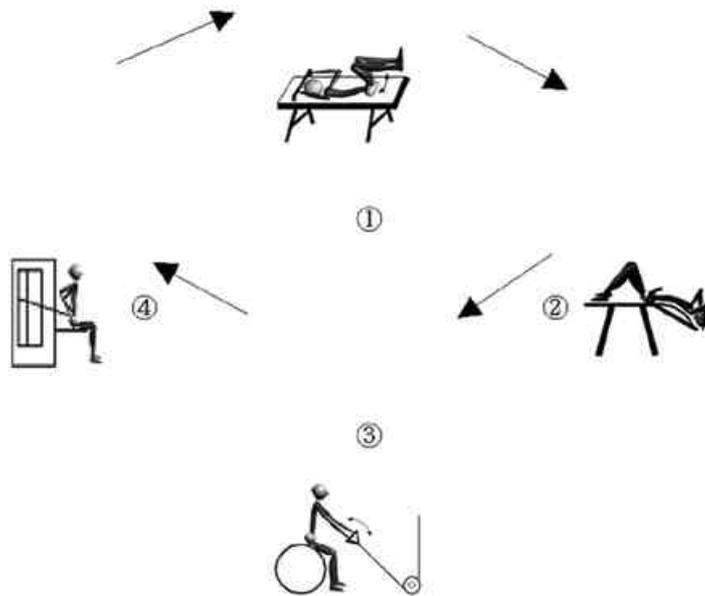
Safety and Health, NIOSH) (NIOSH, 1993) (, 2004)

(1) VAS(visual analog scale) 가 (Brodie, 1990). VAS 가 0 10 가 가 (National Institute for Occupational

1. Warming up



2. Exercise using training device



3. Cool down



Fig. 2. Lumbar stabilization exercise

Exercise using training device: Using 4 different training(Lojer, Finland) devices, intensity is 60% of the maximum strength, 10 repetitions, 5 series, breaks 3 minute, speed slowly.

3 가 , 3 가
 가 , 가
 가 가 , 가
 가 (, 2004).
 가
 (Kaltenborn, 1999).
 가 가

3.
 (Analysis of Variance with Repeated Measures) (Bonferroni's method)

(4) (stability)

(One-way Analysis of Variance) (Tukeys method) . p-Value가 0.05

SAS 9.0 for Windows

90° (center of gravity line) (top) , 3m

(Fig. 4).

1.
 64 , 22
 (GPG), 21
 (LEG), 21 (TEG)

가 (Table 1).
 9 (40.9%) , 11
 (52.4%) , 14 (66.7%)
 42.1

가 ICC(Intra Classic Correlation Coefficiency) 20 (Goniometer)

38.2 가



가
 2.
 (Table 2).
 (GPG) 6.4 , (LEG)
 6.4 , (TEG) 5.8 ,
 가 가
 가

Fig. 4. Measurement of lumbar region angle of inclination
 Center of gravity line, Linear line from hip joint through shoulder top Lumbar region inclination angle

3. (p<0.05). Bonferroni 3
 4 (, 2 , 2 가
 3 , 6) (p<0.05), 6 , 2 ,
 (VAS), Oswestry (ODI), 3 가 (p<0.05).
 (MSBH), (LRA) Bonferroni
 가 (p<.0001). 2 3
 Bonferroni 2 , 3 (p<0.05), 6 2
 , 6 (p<0.05). Oswestry Bonferroni (p<0.05).
 2 4.
 (p<0.05), 3 6
 2 (GPG) (VAS)

Table 1. The general characteristics of the study subjects

Mean ± S.D.

Characteristic	GPG (n=22)	LEG (n=21)	TEG (n=21)	p value*
Sex, N(%)				0.2382
Female	9 (40.91)	11 (52.38)	14 (66.67)	
Male	13 (59.09)	10 (47.62)	7 (33.33)	
Age(yr)	42.09 ± 13.76	43.05 ± 13.93	38.24 ± 11.46	0.4562 [†]
Marital status, N(%)				0.3718
Married	17 (77.27)	14 (66.67)	12 (57.14)	
Not married	5 (22.73)	7 (33.33)	9 (42.86)	
Smoking status, N(%)				0.0546
Current smoker	7 (31.82)	3 (14.29)	1 (4.76)	
Ex-smoker	3 (13.64)	0	2 (9.52)	
Nonsmoker	12 (54.55)	18 (85.71)	18 (85.71)	
Education , N(%)				0.2636
College	12 (54.55)	10 (47.62)	17 (80.95)	
High school	6 (27.27)	6 (28.57)	1 (4.76)	
Middle school	4 (18.18)	4 (19.05)	2 (9.52)	
Elementary school	0 (0.00)	1 (4.76)	1 (4.76)	
Type of work, N(%)				0.7789
Office working	8 (36.4)	10 (47.6)	7 (33.3)	
Light manual handling	11 (50.0)	8 (38.1)	9 (42.9)	
Heavy manual handling	3 (13.6)	3 (14.3)	5 (23.8)	
Work status, N(%)				0.9689
Regular job				
(full time)	10 (45.5)	8 (38.1)	8 (38.1)	
Irregular job [‡]				
(full time)	9 (40.9)	10 (47.6)	9 (42.9)	
Irregular job				
(part time)	3 (13.6)	3 (14.3)	4 (19.0)	

* calculated by Chi-squared test.

† calculated by one-way ANOVA.

‡ including temporary worker, contingent worker, non-standard worker

GPG, general physiotherapy group; LEG, lumbar exercise group; TEG, thoracic exercise group.

가 (p=0.0001), 2, 3 (p<0.05). Oswestry 가 (p<0.0001), Bonferroni 가 (p<0.05). Oswestry (ODI) 가 (p<0.0001), Bonferroni 가 (p<0.05), 2, 3 (p<0.05), 6, 3 가 (p<0.05). (MSBH) 가 (p<0.0001), Bonferroni 가 (p<0.05), 2, 3, 6 (p<0.05). (LRA) 가 (p<0.0001), Bonferroni 가 (p<0.05), 2, 3, 6 (p<0.05). Oswestry 가 (p<0.0001), Bonferroni 가 (p<0.05), 2, 3, 6 (p<0.05). (VAS) 가 . Oswestry 가 (ODI) , 2, 3 (p=0.170), Tukey 가 (LEG) (TEG) 가 (p=0.0188), Bonferroi 가 (p<0.05). (GPG) (TEG)

Table 2. Characteristics of subjects with chronic low back pain Mean ± S.D.

Variable	GPG (n=22)	LEG (n=21)	TEG (n=21)	p value*
LBP duration (yr)	6.41 ± 3.53	6.43 ± 4.02	5.81 ± 3.27	0.8190 [†]
Symptom area, N (%)				0.5073
Low back	6 (27.3)	6 (28.6)	10 (47.6)	
Low back & low extremity	11 (50.0)	8 (38.1)	7 (33.3)	
Low back & low extremity and muscle weakness paraesthesia	5 (22.7)	7 (33.3)	4 (19.1)	
Pain frequency, N (%)				0.2074
Pain-free	1 (4.6)	1 (4.8)	1 (4.8)	
Sporadic	12 (54.6)	16 (76.2)	14 (66.7)	
Often	1 (4.6)	2 (9.5)	4 (19.1)	
Continuous	8 (36.4)	2 (9.5)	2 (9.5)	

* calculated by Chi-squared test.

† calculated by one-way ANOVA.

GPG, general physiotherapy group; LEG, lumbar exercise group; TEG, thoracic exercise group.

(MSBH) Tukey
 가
 가 (p<0.05)(Table 4).
 가
 가 (p<0.05).
 가 (p=0.0079), Tukey
 가 (p<0.05). (Van Tulder, 1997).
 (LRA)
 가 가 (p=0.0208), Tukey
 가 가 (p<0.05).
 가 (p=0.0027), Tukey
 가 가 (p<0.05).
 가 (p=0.0011),

Table 3. Change of variables at each interval of time-measurement points for the whole group Mean ± S.D.

Variable	Global (n=64)	F	p-value*
VAS		17.19	<.0001
Before	5.13 ± 1.83		
After 2 weeks	4.16 ± 1.78 [†]		
After 3 months	4.01 ± 1.82 [†]		
After 6 months	4.01 ± 1.77 [†]		
ODI		28.18	<.0001
Before	40.76 ± 10.86		
After 2 weeks	36.20 ± 10.14 [†]		
After 3 months	33.67 ± 10.97 ^{†‡}		
After 6 months	33.36 ± 10.46 ^{†‡}		
MSBH		19.06	<.0001
Before	205.00 ± 10.53		
After 2 weeks	204.93 ± 9.92		
After 3 months	206.55 ± 10.69 ^{†‡}		
After 6 months	207.17 ± 10.45 ^{†‡§}		
LRA		13.57	<.0001
Before	7.66 ± 2.63		
After 2 weeks	7.06 ± 2.50 [†]		
After 3 months	6.52 ± 2.40 [†]		
After 6 months	6.16 ± 2.32 ^{†‡}		

* calculated by repeated measures ANOVA and multiple comparisons(Bonferroni's method).

[†] Significantly(p<0.05) different from 0week.

[‡] Significantly(p<0.05) different from 2weeks.

[§] Significantly(p<0.05) different from 3months.

GPG, general physiotherapy group; LEG, lumbar exercise group; TEG, thoracic exercise group; VAS, visual analog scale; ODI, oswestry disability index; MSBH, maximal stretching with both hands in the overhead direction; LRA, lumbar region angle of inclination.

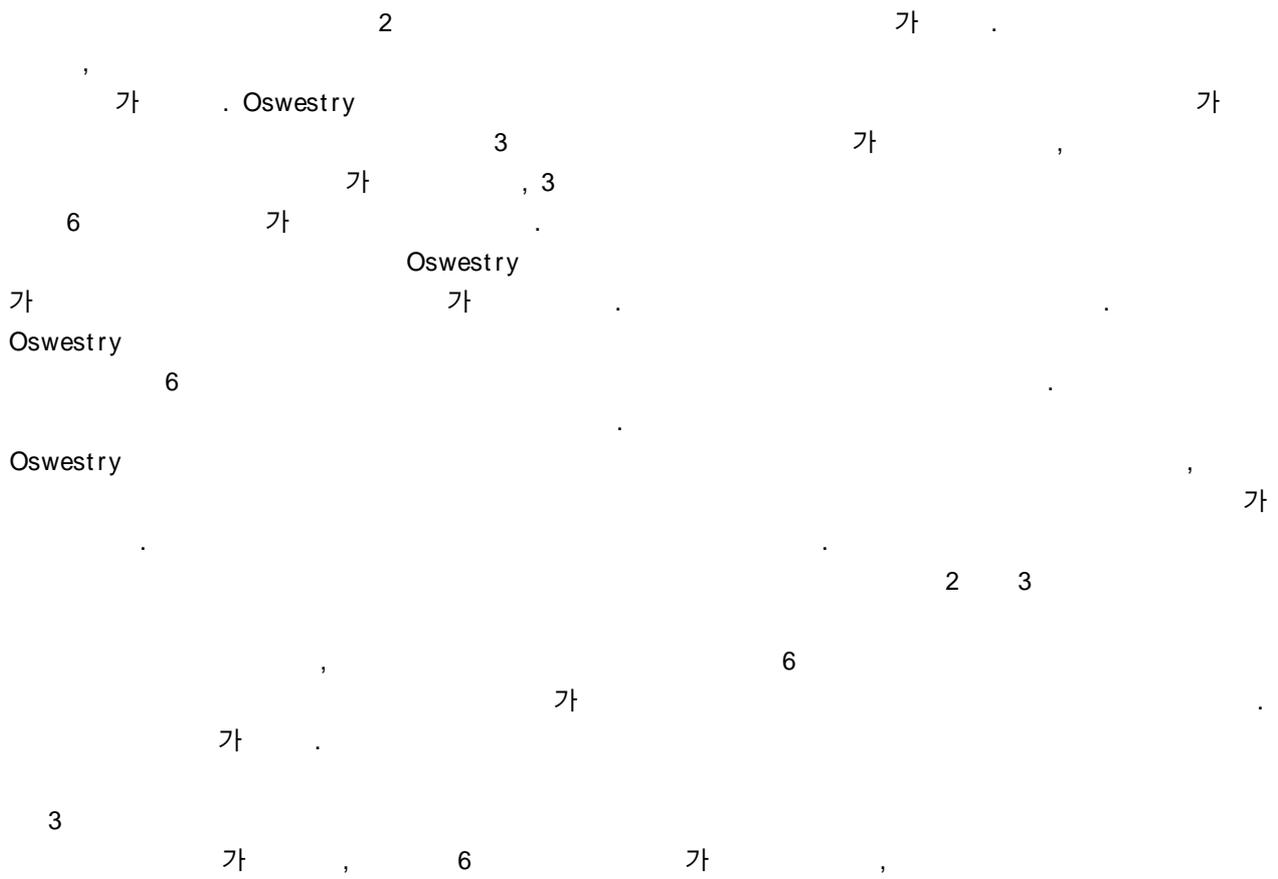


Table 4. Change of variables at intervals of time-measurement points for each group Mean ± S.D.

Group	0 week	2 weeks	3 months	6 months	p value*
GPG					
VAS	5.07 ± 2.08	4.36 ± 1.92 [†]	4.00 ± 1.81 [†]	4.14 ± 1.52 [†]	0.0001
ODI	39.55 ± 12.92	36.67 ± 13.17 [†]	35.61 ± 13.11 [†]	38.41 ± 10.63 [§]	<.0001
MSBH	205.07 ± 10.26	202.64 ± 9.36 [†]	203.43 ± 10.14 [†]	203.70 ± 9.49 [†]	<.0001
LRA	7.95 ± 2.75	8.09 ± 2.18	7.68 ± 2.21	7.23 ± 2.54	0.1876
LEG					
VAS	5.45 ± 1.56	4.38 ± 1.60 [†]	4.24 ± 1.99 [†]	4.12 ± 1.99 [†]	0.0005
ODI	42.86 ± 9.53	36.67 ± 9.60 [†]	35.48 ± 9.86 [†]	31.11 ± 9.31 ^{†‡§}	<.0001
MSBH	204.67 ± 12.25	204.52 ± 11.23	205.24 ± 11.82	205.19 ± 11.00	0.1195
LRA	7.81 ± 2.93	7.05 ± 2.73	6.57 ± 2.06	6.43 ± 1.91 [†]	0.0126
TEG					
VAS	4.86 ± 1.85	3.74 ± 1.80 [†]	3.79 ± 1.73	3.76 ± 1.85	0.0188
ODI	39.92 ± 9.91	35.24 ± 6.94 [†]	29.84 ± 8.85 ^{†‡}	30.32 ± 9.80 ^{†‡}	<.0001
MSBH	205.27 ± 9.40	207.74 ± 8.82 [†]	211.12 ± 8.81 ^{†‡}	212.79 ± 8.84 ^{†‡§}	<.0001
LRA	7.19 ± 2.20	6.00 ± 2.17 [†]	5.48 ± 2.58 [†]	4.76 ± 1.76 ^{†‡}	<.0001

* calculated by repeated measures ANOVA and multiple comparisons(Bonferroni ' s method).

[†] Significantly(p<0.05) different from 0week.

[‡] Significantly(p<0.05) different from 2weeks.

[§]Significantly(p<0.05) different from 3months.

GPG, general physiotherapy group; LEG, lumbar exercise group; TEG, thoracic exercise group; VAS, visual analog scale; ODI, Oswestry disability index; MSBH, maximal stretching with both hands in the overhead direction; LRA, lumbar region angle of inclination.

가 Sullivan (1997) 44
10

가 30

가 가 가 가 가
Mannion (2001) 148

(O'Sullivan, 1997).

3

(Timothy Greenman, 1996), 가 가 가 가
(center of Force) 가가
(Nies Sinnot, 1991). 가

가

(Luoto, 1998). O' 가

Table 5. Comparative study on variables differences among the three groups over the time-measurement points Mean ± S.D.

Variable	GPG (n=22)	LEG (n=21)	TEG (n=21)	p value*
VAS				
Before	5.07 ± 2.08	5.45 ± 1.56	4.86 ± 1.85	0.5728
After 2 weeks	4.36 ± 1.91	4.38 ± 1.60	3.74 ± 1.80	0.4129
After 3 months	4.00 ± 1.81	4.24 ± 1.99	3.79 ± 1.73	0.7302
After 6 months	4.14 ± 1.52	4.12 ± 1.99	3.76 ± 1.85	0.7463
ODI				
Before	39.55 ± 12.92	42.86 ± 9.53	39.92 ± 9.91	0.5606
After 2 weeks	36.67 ± 13.17	36.67 ± 9.60	35.24 ± 6.94	0.8730
After 3 months	35.61 ± 13.11	35.48 ± 9.86	29.84 ± 8.85	0.1491
After 6 months	38.41 ± 10.63	31.11 ± 9.31 [†]	30.32 ± 9.80 [†]	0.0170
MSBH				
Before	205.07 ± 10.26	204.67 ± 12.25	205.27 ± 9.40	0.9830
After 2 weeks	202.64 ± 9.36	204.52 ± 11.23	207.74 ± 8.82	0.2384
After 3 months	203.43 ± 10.14	205.24 ± 11.82	211.12 ± 8.81 [†]	0.0466
After 6 months	203.70 ± 9.49	205.19 ± 11.00	212.79 ± 8.84 ^{†‡}	0.0079
LRA				
Before	7.95 ± 2.75	7.81 ± 2.93	7.19 ± 2.20	0.6090
After 2 weeks	8.09 ± 2.18	7.05 ± 2.73	6.00 ± 2.17 [†]	0.0208
After 3 months	7.68 ± 2.21	6.57 ± 2.06	5.48 ± 2.58 [†]	0.0027
After 6 months	7.23 ± 2.54	6.43 ± 1.91	4.76 ± 1.76 ^{†‡}	0.0011

* calculated by One-way ANOVA and multiple comparisons(Tukey's method).

[†] Significantly(p<0.05) different from general physiotherapy group.

[‡] Significantly(p<0.05) different from lumbar exercise group.

GPG, general physiotherapy group; LEG, lumbar exercise group; TEG, thoracic exercise group; VAS, visual analog scale; ODI, Oswestry disability index; MSBH, maximal stretching with both hands in the overhead direction; LRA, lumbar region angle of inclination angle.

(Janda, 1986; Voss, 1985). Moore (1997) (hypomobility)가

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