



“A study to assess the effectiveness of isometric Exercises on Pain Among Patients Diagnosed With osteoarthritis at selected Hospital At Vadnagar Gujarat

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ABSTRACT

A study to Assess the Effectiveness of Isometric exercises on pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in selected hospital, Vadnagar, Gujarat. It was conducted for partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree Of Master of Science in Nursing, under The Hemachandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan, Gujarat,

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the pre test and post test level of pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in both experimental and control group .
2. To evaluate the effectiveness of isometric exercises on pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in experimental and control group.
3. To find out the association between post test level of pain in experimental group and their selected demographic variables.
4. To find out the association between post test level of pain in control group and their selected demographic variables

HYPOTHESES

- ❖ **H1:** There will be significant difference between the pretest and post test level of pain in the experimental group
- ❖ **H2 :** There will significant difference between the post test level of pain between the experimental and control group.
- ❖ **H3:** There will be significant association between post test level of pain in experimental group and their selected demographic variables.

- ❖ **H4:** There will be significant association between post test level of pain in control group and their selected demographic variables

The study made use of the Quantitative approach, Quasi-experimental pretest and post test control group by the researcher. The Convenient sampling technique was used to select 60 samples. Out of 60 samples, 30 samples were randomly assigned in to experimental group and 30 samples were in to control group. Demonstration and re- demonstration of isometric exercises was done to the samples in experimental group. Visual Analogue Pain Scale, was used to assess the level of pain among newly diagnosed patients with osteoarthritis before and after intervention. The data was collected, organized and analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 16(53.35%) are at the age between 60-65 years and in control group 25(83.3%) patients are at the age between 60-65 years .
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 24(80%) are females and in control group 24(80%) patients are females.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 17(56.7%) are collegiate and in control group 12(40%) patients are collegiate .



- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 28(93%) are employed, 2 (6.6%) are unemployed and in control group 21(70%) patients are employed.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 22(73.3%) are earning 10,001- 15,001 and in control group 20(66.7%) patients are earning 10,001-15,000 .
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 11(36.7%) are suffering from illness for 8 months and in control group 15(50%) patients are suffering from illness for 2 months.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 21(70%) have bilateral knee joint pain and in control group 17(56.7%) patients have bilateral knee joint pain .
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 25(83.3%) have joint pain during activities and in control group 17(56.7%) patients have joint pain during activities.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 25(83.3%) have no treatment and in control group 25(83%) patients have no treatment. In experimental group during pretest 9 (30%) samples have moderate pain, 21(70%) samples have severe pain. During post test 24(80%) samples have mild pain , 6(20%) samples have moderate pain .
- ❖ The pretest mean score of pain in experimental group is 6.7 [SD 0.59] and the post test mean score is 2.53 [SD 0.82], (t value 26.104) . The study findings revealed that, in experimental group the post test mean score of pain and is lower than the pre test mean score of pain .
- ❖ The post test mean score of pain in Experimental group is 2.53 [SD 0.82] (t value 20.18). The post test mean score of pain in control group is 6.93 [SD 0.87] (t value 20.18). The study findings revealed that the post test mean score of pain in experimental group who received isometric exercises is lower than the control group.
- ❖ The study findings revealed that there is no significant association between post test level of pain in experimental group and control group with their selected demographic variables such as age ,sex, education, occupation ,family income, duration of illness ,perception of knee pain, frequency of knee pain and any treatment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made based on the findings of the study:

- ❖ A similar study can be done with large samples.
- ❖ A similar study can be done to assess the quality of life among patients with osteoarthritis.
- ❖ A comparative study can be done to assess the effects of isometric quadriceps exercise and isometric quadriceps exercise along with ultrasound in patients with osteoarthritis of knee.
- ❖ A similar study can be conducted with post test after one month, six month and one year interval to evaluate the practice of samples.
- ❖ Mass media can be used to popularize the importance of exercises among patients with osteoarthritis.

CONCLUSION

Osteoarthritis is a progressive degenerative disease that affects the joint cartilage, subchondral bone, synovial and joint capsule .pain is the dominant symptom of osteoarthritis .pain along with the joint stiffness, instability, swelling and muscle weakness leads to physical and physiological disability and impaired quality of life .Nurse is a key person for providing care to patients .As for this research is concerned, the intervention study proved that there is a significant reduction of pain among patients with osteoarthritis. The following conclusions are drawn from the findings of study .The result of this study reveals that the effectiveness of isometric exercises can help to reduce the pain . Thus the practice of isometric exercises in physical therapy for patients with osteoarthritis should be encouraged to individual and society ,through programme and mass media or health education program to lead a healthy life. The isometric exercises form the effective non pharmacological intervention to reduce pain and improve functional mobility among osteoarthritis patients and also it is proved to be the best non invasive with no side effects are reported. The findings of this study agree with the findings of previous clinical study, regarding isometric exercises technique

I. INTRODUCTION

Arthritis, Go On; Get Out 'uh Here; we've, Got the victory

-Deborah Young

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Arthritis is an umbrella term that refers to over 100 different diseases that cause joint inflammation. The condition includes pain, decreased range of



motion, loss of muscle strength, impaired ambulation, muscle atrophy, de-conditioning, and synovial thickening (hardening of the fluid surrounding a joint) The two most prevalent types of identified arthritis are rheumatoid arthritis, and osteoarthritis.. Osteoarthritis (OA) is a progressive degenerative disease that affects the joint cartilage, sub chondral bone, synovial and joint capsule. The knees followed by hips, are the most commonly affected weight bearing joints. It has a multifactorial aetiology and affects around 60% of individuals aged over 50 years. Osteoarthritis affects 9% of men and 18% of women over 65 years old and is responsible for high levels of absenteeism and retirement due to disability (Davis et al).

Americans 65 years of age or older represent an expanding proportion of the United States population and their numbers will increase rapidly as the baby-boom generation ages. Although the majority of older people in the U.S are healthy and physically active, others suffer with chronic illnesses and require some assistance (family, friends and public support systems) to manage their everyday lives. Approximately one quarter of all patients seen by primary care physicians present with musculoskeletal conditions and among those age 65 years and older, the most prevalent articular disease is osteoarthritis.

Addressing the health needs of this rapidly expanding population is a national priority.

In 2007, 7.8% of Australians had osteoarthritis and this is projected to increase to 11% by 2050 due to population ageing and rising obesity rates.

Osteoarthritis is a major cause of chronic pain and disability in the older population.

The etiology of osteoarthritis is related to repetitive mechanical loads and age. Recent studies have separated the etiological factors into three main sub-groups: sex, anatomy, and body mass. Some factors such as age, gender, and inheritance are immutable, but others are modifiable. Obesity

, weakness

, joint laxity and altered biomechanics are some risk factors

potentially amenable to non-pharmacological measures.

Gender also influences the prevalence and incidence of osteoarthritis. Isolated hand and knee osteoarthritis are common in women, whereas the incidence of hip disease is more in men.

Prospective

, longitudinal studies have examined the relationship between body weight and osteoarthritis. Data from

Framingham knee osteoarthritis Study, that followed 1,420 persons for more than 30 years indicate that overweight men and women are high risk in developing symptomatic and radiographic osteoarthritis than those less obese.

Felson and colleagues also reported that the weight reduction reduces pain,

further supporting the relationship between obesity and osteoarthritis. **Slemenda** and colleagues reported that the reduced strength relative to body weight may play a role in development of osteoarthritis. These data suggest that interventions designed to strengthen the muscle and reduce total body fat may be effective methods for reducing pain and improving function in patients with osteoarthritis.

Evidence from various cross-sectional and longitudinal studies suggested that major trauma to the joint increases the risk for developing osteoarthritis.

The clinical manifestations of osteoarthritis are joint pain, stiffness, decreased range of joint movement, muscle weakness of the quadriceps, and alterations in proprioception. **Slemenda and colleagues** examined the relationship between muscle strength and knee osteoarthritis in the

population of randomly selected community dwelling older adults age 65

years and older. They reported that in those with the history of knee pain isolated quadriceps muscle weakness was

strongly associated with radiographic osteoarthritis. **Pai and colleagues** showed that the knee



proprioception was significantly diminished in older adults with osteoarthritis when compared with their counterparts without osteoarthritis.

In osteoarthritis decreased strength in the muscle groups involving the joints is significant because it causes progressive loss of function. These symptoms significantly restrict the individual's ability to get up from a chair, walk, or climb stairs. Walking with a limp, poor alignment of the limb, and instabilities can also be observed in individuals with osteoarthritis. During movements, crepitation can be heard because of arthritis of the irregular joint surfaces.

Pain is the dominant symptom of osteoarthritis. Pain along with the joint stiffness, instability, swelling and muscle weakness lead to physical and physiological disability and impaired quality of life. Osteoarthritis often affects one of the three compartments of the knee: the patella femoral joint or the medial or lateral joint compartment. Osteoarthritis of the knee can be classified according to the Kellgren-Lawrence scale, which consists of five degrees of OA: 0=no OA, 1=doubtful, 2=minimal, 3=moderate and 4=severe. The treatment of osteoarthritis should be multidisciplinary and aim for functional, mechanical and clinical improvement. The treatment options may be non-pharmacological, pharmacological or surgical. Total hip or knee joint replacement is common for advanced disease. Medications such as analgesics and non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs should not be used alone as the primary therapy but instead used in conjunction with non pharmacological measures. These include education about the joint protection, weight loss counseling for obese patients, development of pain coping skill, enhancement of social support, application of heat and cold to painful joints, exercises that strengthen muscle and the use of cane or a walker. Clinical guidelines advocate exercise program given their ease of application, small number of potential adverse effects and low costs aimed at alleviating pain and

improving overall physical fitness is especially important, because the primary concern for many osteoarthritis patients is maintenance of functional independence. A **systematic review** has shown that exercise reduces pain and improves function in patients with osteoarthritis of the knee. One of the most common forms of achieving this functional improvement is by following a program of daily exercises.

Physiotherapy is a non-pharmacological

intervention for osteoarthritis of the knee that is recommended by the **American College of Rheumatology and the European League against Rheumatism**. The basic component for any physical activity program are exercises to improve flexibility, muscle strength and endurance and the main goals of exercises in this patient group are to reduce pain, improve physical function and optimize participation in social, domestic, occupational and recreational pursuits. Regular exercises can improve physiological improvements associated with osteoarthritis including muscle strength, joint range of motion, proprioception and balance.

A **placebo-controlled study by Deyle et al** showed that patients with knee osteoarthritis experienced significant improvements in clinical status as well as pain, stiffness, and function (walking distance) when submitted to exercises combined with manual therapy.

Manual therapy differs depending upon the type of muscle contraction: -static or dynamic. Dynamic contractions are further classified into isotonic and isokinetic.

Isokinetic muscle contractions are performed on sophisticated machines that apply variable resistance throughout the range of motion. An isotonic muscle contraction is characterized by variable joint speed exerted against a constant resistance (i.e. free weight bench press activities). **Strength**, an important factor in the performance of daily activity and also it is an important part of a comprehensive rehabilitation program for patients with osteoarthritis. The aging process, burden of chronic disease, malnutrition and inactivity due to osteoarthritis pain all contribute to reduced muscle mass (sarcopenia) and weakness.

The main objective of strength training programs are to increase the strength of muscle that support affected joints. **Thus the static isometric contractions** does not change the length of muscle or move a joint instead strength the muscle that support the affected joints and alleviate pain, improves physical mobility are recommended for osteoarthritis patients.

It was suggested with the evidence that the guidance of the medical team member guarantees that the physical exercises are being practiced correctly. Unfortunately, there is a high demand in large public health services, and it is often impossible to meet the needs of everyone, particularly those who have difficulty traveling to the training center. The physical exercises, however, can be



done both in the clinic and in home-based exercising programs, provided that the patient returns for some supervised visits. The utility of home-based exercise was clearly shown by another study performed by **Deyle's research** staff, which compared a group of osteoarthritis patients submitted to exercises, individualized manual therapy, and a home-based exercise program for four weeks with a group of osteoarthritis patients receiving the same home exercise program and a clinic visit 2 weeks later. Both groups demonstrated a significant clinical improvement compared to baseline. Initially, the clinic-based patients showed a greater level of improvement, but the results of both groups were equally beneficial one year later. In addition, **Thomas et al.** showed that home-based exercise for two years could result in significant control of knee pain. The home-based isometric exercises on pain and function of osteoarthritis patients are the mainstay of this study.

1.2 NEED FOR THE STUDY

Osteoarthritis is one of the oldest and most common forms of arthritis known as the “**wear and tear**” kind of arthritis. Osteoarthritis is a chronic joint disorder in which there is progressive softening and disintegration of articular cartilage accompanied by new growth of cartilage and bone at the joint margin (osteophytes) and capsular fibrosis. Osteoarthritis is more common in older people, can develop it usually as the result of a joint injury, a joint malformation, or a genetic defect in joint cartilage. Both men and women have the disease. Before age 45, it equalizes in both men and women. At the age of 45 it is more common in women. It is also more likely to occur in people who are overweight and those with jobs that stress particular joints.

Osteoarthritis is the most prevalent form of arthritis in the **United States**, affecting more than 70% of adults between 55 and 78 years of age. Women are affected more than men. Hip osteoarthritis is more common in Western populations, suggesting that race and environmental factors might also be important. The incidence of symptomatic knee osteoarthritis is 1% per year, with a radiographic incidence of 2% per year. The rate of radiographic progression has been estimated at about 4% per year.

The incidence and prevalence of osteoarthritis at different anatomic regions vary depending on whether this condition is defined by clinical symptoms, radiological finding or a combination of the two.

Although all peripheral joints may be affected, osteoarthritis of the knee has been the focus of many epidemiological studies.

Age is the most consistent risk factor for both radiographic and symptomatic osteoarthritis at all articular sites. The prevalence of osteoarthritis increases after the age of 40 in women and 50 in men. Osteoarthritis affects about 50% of person age 65 and older and this prevalence increases to 85% in the group age 75 and older.

Global scenario- osteoarthritis is one of the most frequent causes of physical disability among adults.

More than 40 million people in united states have the disease. By 2030 an estimated 20 percent of Americans

about 70 million will have passed their 65th birthday and will be at the risk of developing osteoarthritis. In **Asia** the affected rural population shows 13.7% compared with urban population which shows 6%. In **china** the men prevalence rate is 2.9(95%) and the women prevalence rate is 1.6(93%) In western countries the prevalence rate of symptomatic osteoarthritis is 1% per year whereas the prevalence of radiographic osteoarthritis is 2%. It is now increased to 4% per year.

Indian scenario- the prevalence rate in 2013 is 1% among people aged 25 to 34 years, 19.2% aged over 45 and 43.7% aged over 80.” **The Dutch Institute Of The Public Health:** the prevalence rate among men of 55 years and above is 15.6% and among women it is 30.5%. The incidence is higher in women than men. In **Tamilnadu** those 2 in 10 women and 1 in 20 men experiencing osteoarthritis. As of 2010 total number of patients with osteoarthritis as primary diagnosis is 118,700. In **Chennai** (2004-2005) the prevalence rate among men is 5.8% and in women 4.1%. The prevalence rate is increasing 1.5% each year.

The article published in **Times of India** “Osteoarthritis is India's No. 1 ailment” has ranked osteoarthritis as number one comparing with diabetes mellitus and hypertension. The high incidence of osteoarthritis in India is the result of its prevalence among women who fall victim to it. Menopausal women are especially prone to it. The disease is however, not restricted to women,



although diabetes and hypertension remain the most prevalent ailments among men.

Most successful treatment programs involve a combination of treatments tailored to the patient needs, lifestyle and health. Most programs include ways to manage pain and improve function. These involve exercise, weight control, rest and relief from stress on joints, pain relief techniques, medication, and surgery, complementary and alternative therapies. Research shows that exercise is one of the best treatments for osteoarthritis. Exercise is also inexpensive and one of the non pharmacological therapy. is often required, For patient with knee osteoarthritis, twice daily set of supine 10 second isometric, quadriceps contractions can improve strength, reduce pain and reduce the risk of falling. This exercise is said to be well tolerated by moderately severe knee pain.

Various studies revealed that isometric exercise can be effective in reducing pain and improving functional ability of clients with osteoarthritis. **Ende et al** (1996 and 2000) showed that short term intense exercise program consisting of dynamic and isometric strengthening and tricycling could improve muscle strength without deleterious effect on disease activity. However the authors recommended continued long term studies to note the effect on disease progression and functional ability.

Handa (2005) had conducted a study to determine the effectiveness of muscle strengthening exercises for quadriceps and hamstring muscles are started in gradual manner. The findings show that initially isometric muscle setting exercises which are of low intensity helps in promoting relaxations, increase circulation, decrease pain and spasm. Later resisted isometric exercises at different angles are given to increase the muscle strength. Hence the researcher felt the importance of these exercise in a view to meet the needs of clients suffering from osteoarthritis and thus improve their functional outcome.

1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to Assess the Effectiveness of Isometric exercises on pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in selected hospital, Vadnagar, Gujarat.

1.4 OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the pre test and post test level of pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in both experimental and control group .

2. To evaluate the effectiveness of isometric exercises

3. To find out the association between post test level of pain in experimental group and their selected demographic variables.

4. To find out the association between post test level of pain in control group and their selected demographic variables

1.5 HYPOTHESES

❖ **H1:** There will be significant difference between the pre test and post test level of pain in the experimental group

❖ **H2:** There will significant difference between the post test level of pain between the experimental and control group.

❖ **H3:** There will be significant association between post test level of pain in experimental group and their selected demographic variables.

❖ **H4:** There will be significant association between post test level of pain in control group and their selected demographic variables

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:

1. **EFFECTIVENESS:** Effectiveness is the extent to which an activity fulfils its intended purpose or function. In this study it refers to expected outcome towards reduction of pain and functional disability among patients with osteoarthritis after exposure to isometric exercises as elicited through differences between pretest and post test score.

2. ISOMETRIC EXERCISES:

It is a form of exercises involving the static contraction of muscle without any visible movement in the angle of knee joints. In this study the isometric exercises are: straight leg raising, adduction isometric, ball squeezing, quad sets, isometric hamstring sets, long arc quads, short arc quads standing toe and heel raising, isometric thigh muscle strengthening. 10 repetitions of each exercises are recommended three times for a day

3. PATIENTS DIAGNOSED

OSTEOARTHRITIS: In this study it refers to individual who are diagnosed to have osteoarthritis less than one year by orthopedic consultant and who is admitted in the in patient department as well attending out patient department of selected hospital, Vadnagar

4. **PAIN:** Pain is an unpleasant sensory or



emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage. In this study it refers to perception of pain by newly diagnosed patients with osteoarthritis which is measured by visual analogue pain scale.

1.4 ASSUMPTION:

- ❖ Osteoarthritis may be common among elderly.
- ❖ Patients who are diagnosed with osteoarthritis more than one or two years may already be practicing knee strengthening program.
- ❖ Osteoarthritis patient experiences joint pain, stiffness, difficulty in performance of physical activity.
- ❖ Isometric exercises will reduce the joint pain, stiffness and difficulty in performing physical activities among newly diagnosed patients with osteoarthritis.
- ❖ Selected demographic variables will influence the pain and functional disability.

1.5 DELIMITATIONS

- ❖ Study was limited to the period of 4 weeks.
- ❖ Study was limited to 60 samples.

1.6 PROJECTED OUTCOME

- ❖ This study may help to know about the effectiveness of isometric exercises on reduction of pain among the patients with osteoarthritis and to provide the guidelines for the nurses to practice isometric exercises as a routine therapy in reducing the symptoms of osteoarthritis.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

Conceptual framework is a theoretical approach to the study of the problem that is scientifically based and emphasizes the selection, arrangement and classification of its concept. The conceptual framework states functional relationships between events and is not limited to statistical relationships.

The study is intended to evaluate the effectiveness of isometric exercises on the level of pain among the patients with osteoarthritis. The present study is based on general system theory which was introduced by Ludwig Von Bertalanffy (1968) with input, throughput, output and feedback.

According to system's theory, a system is a group

of elements that interact with one another in order to achieve the goal. An individual is a system because he/she receives input from the environment. This input when processed provides an output. This system is cyclical in nature and continues to be so, as long as the input, throughput, output and feedback keep interacting. If there are changes in any of the parts, there will be changes in all parts. Feedback from within the systems or from the environment provides information, which helps the system to determine whether it meets its goal. In the present study these concepts can be explained as follows:

Input

The input consists of information, material or energy that enters the system. These inputs include Age, Gender, Occupation, Education, Family income, duration of illness, perception of pain and treatment.



Throughput

It refers to the action needed to accomplish the derived task to achieve the desired output, i.e. effectiveness of Isometric exercises on the level of pain among the patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis.

1. Demonstration and re-demonstration of isometric exercises
2. Assessment of level of pain using Numerical Pain Rating Scale..

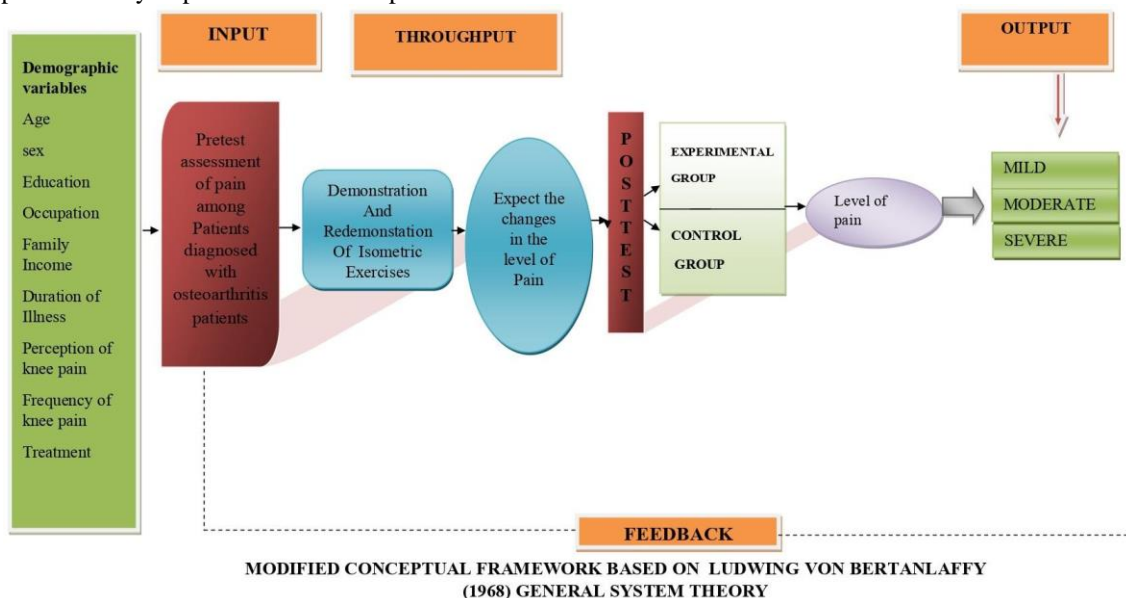
Output

Output is the improved responses of the osteoarthritis patients in the context of pain. In the present study, output is the reduced pain level.

This system achieved through a comparison between mean pre-test and post-test level of pain scores of the samples.

Feedback

It is a process by which information is received at each stage of the system output and its redirection to input. Accordingly, the reduced pain is the feedback obtained after the successful implementation of isometric exercises. If the level of pain among samples falls under the category of severe level, it is stated that the throughput (process) has to be repeated till the desired result.



II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Review of literature helps to develop a strong knowledge base to carry out research in educational, clinical practice setting and for further development of knowledge in nursing science (Polit, 2008)

The review of literature was done in order to broaden the understanding and to create an insight regarding selected areas of the study. It helps in selecting the appropriate methodology, developing tool and analyzing the data. Conducting the review of literature is a challenging and enlightening experience.

2.1 SECTION OF LITERATURE REVIEW

A) Studies related to osteoarthritis

B) Studies related to isometric exercises reducing pain among patients with osteoarthritis.

Section -A: Studies related to osteoarthritis

A prospective study was conducted in University of Punjab to determine the average age group for Osteoarthritis. In this study participants were 200 patients attending an orthopaedic outpatient department of the Punjab university health centre. Demographic analysis of this study revealed that, out of 200 patients 84% of patients were in the age group of 40-70 years with the complaints of knee joint pain⁴.

Another study was conducted to support the claim that prevalence of osteoarthritis rises with



age. In their study of the relationship between age and osteoarthritis, in which they evaluated three different age groups consisting of those less than 45 years old, 45 to 64 years old, and older than 65, they found 2%, 30%, and 68% of women with osteoarthritis according to their respective age groups and 3%, 24.5%, and 58% respectively for men with osteoarthritis. Nearly 100% of the subjects over the age of 65 in their study showed at least minimal radiographic signs of the occurrence of osteoarthritis in the hands, feet, spine, knees, or hips, revealing a direct relationship between age and osteoarthritis.

University of North Carolina conducted a study to determine the gender difference for getting Osteoarthritis. In this study the participants included were 3,200 citizens of North America. Anyone who was over the age of 50 years was eligible to join the study, whether they had arthritis or not. The conclusion revealed that, among 3,200 citizens, 74% of the participants had Osteoarthritis, of which 47% percentage were women and remaining were men.

A study was conducted to determine the incidence of radiographic knee osteoarthritis (OA) and symptomatic OA (symptoms plus radiographic OA), as well as the rate of progression of preexisting radiographic OA in a population-based sample of elderly persons. Framingham Osteoarthritis Study subjects who had knee radiographs and had answered questions about knee symptoms in 1983–1985 were reexamined in 1992–1993 (mean 8.1-year interval) using the same protocol. Subjects were defined as having new (incident) radiographic OA if they developed grade above 2 OA (at least definite osteophytes or definite joint space narrowing). New symptomatic OA was present if subjects developed a combination of knee symptoms and grade above 2 OA. Progressive OA was diagnosed when radiographs showing grade 2 disease at baseline showed grade ≤ 3 disease on follow up. Of 1,438 participants in the original study, 387 (26.9%) died prior to follow up. Of the 1,051 surviving subjects, 869 (82.7%) participated in the follow up study (mean \pm SD age 70.8 ± 5.0 at baseline). Rates of incident disease were 1.7 times higher in women than in men (95% confidence interval [CI] 1.0–2.7), and progressive disease occurred slightly more often in women (relative risk = 1.4; 95% CI 0.8–2.5) but rates did not vary by age in this sample. Among women, approximately 2% per year developed incident radiographic disease, 1% per year

developed symptomatic knee OA, and about 4% per year experienced progressive knee OA. In elderly persons, the new onset of knee OA is frequent and is more common in women than men. However, among the elderly, age may not affect new disease occurrence or progression.

Altman et al. (2006) described the criteria for classification of osteoarthritis of the knee. For the purpose of classification, it is described as primary (idiopathic) or secondary (if related to a known medical condition) osteoarthritis. Clinical criteria for classification of idiopathic osteoarthritis of the knee were developed through a multicentre study group. It is divided into three categories: clinical examination, clinical examination and laboratory tests and clinical examination and

radiographic features. Knee pain, stiffness, crepitus, tenderness and bony enlargement were included in clinical examination. Changes are also seen in the biochemical parameters. ESR < 40 mm/hr and Rheumatoid factor $< 1 : 40$ are included in laboratory examination for classification. Presence of osteophytes, reduction of joint spaces and destruction of articular cartilage are seen in radiological examination.

Howell (2006) studied the development of new technologies in the fields of cellular and molecular biology which is contributing significantly to the understanding of the disease processes involved in the development and progression of osteoarthritis. In particular, the relationships between enzymes degradative pathways are becoming increasingly clear. It was found that two prominent metalloenzymes and the specific tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase have been studied in humans and animal models. Results indicate that such enzyme pathways may play a significant role in the degenerative tissue changes that are observed in osteoarthritis

Davis et al. (2010) conducted study on The importance of systemic and metabolic factors in the association of obesity with radiographic knee osteoarthritis was examined in 3,905 adults for United States National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. Obesity was associated with both bilateral and unilateral osteoarthritis, but more strongly with bilateral osteoarthritis. Obesity was also associated with both symptomatic and non symptomatic knee osteoarthritis.

Hart et al. (2005) studied the association of metabolic risk factors and knee osteoarthritis in women. One thousand three women aged 45–64 years were included in the study. Blood pressure, fasting blood glucose, serum cholesterol, serum



triglycerides, serum high density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-c) and uric acid levels were measured. These variables were significantly associated with raised blood glucose and moderately with raised serum cholesterol. Serum uric acid was non-significantly increased. No association was found with raised serum triglyceride or serum high density lipoprotein cholesterol levels or with current systolic blood pressure. These data suggest that hypercholesterolemia and blood glucose are associated with both unilateral and bilateral knee osteoarthritis independent of obesity and support the concept that osteoarthritis has an important systemic and metabolic component in its etiology.

Sturmer et al. (2008) studied the association between serum cholesterol and osteoarthritis. A total of 809 patients with knee or hip osteoarthritis were studied. Radiographs of the joints as well as blood samples for serum cholesterol were obtained. According to the presence or absence of radiographic features in osteoarthritis, participants were categorized as having bilateral or unilateral osteoarthritis. 85% of participants with radiographs had bilateral osteoarthritis and 26% had generalized osteoarthritis. Hypercholesterolemia was independently associated with generalized osteoarthritis. This association was almost exclusively due to participants with knee osteoarthritis.

Shakoor and Loeser (2004) conducted a study on the symptoms, evaluation and management of a woman with osteoarthritis who were described. Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis worldwide and it is a major cause of disability in the elderly. Although there are several aging-related changes in the musculoskeletal system that may contribute to the pathogenesis of this disease, research suggests that osteoarthritis is not merely an inevitable result of aging. Osteoarthritis is most likely a multifactorial process whereby non aging related factors also contribute to the onset, progression and symptomatology of the disease. Specifically both biochemical factors, including physiological properties of cartilage and bone and biomechanical factors such as muscle strength, proprioception and joint loading have been implicated in the pathogenesis of osteoarthritis. New non pharmacological treatment options are focusing on how to improve symptoms and prevent progression of the disease through mechanical interventions.

Sun et al. (2000) studied the association between

uric acid and patterns of osteoarthritis. Patterns of osteoarthritis were studied in 809 patients with hip or knee osteoarthritis. Patients with osteoarthritis were categorized as having bilateral or generalized osteoarthritis according to the presence of radiographic features. Odds ratios (OR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI) for serum uric acid and osteoarthritis patterns were estimated with multivariable logistic regression. A positive association between serum uric acid and generalized osteoarthritis was observed. The results suggest a possible role of elevated serum uric acid in the multifactorial etiology of generalized osteoarthritis.

Section –B: Studies related to isometric exercises reducing pain among patients with osteoarthritis

Ray Marks (2005) conducted a study to assess the effect of quadriceps exercise for osteoarthritis of knee. The study compared the short term (six weeks) versus a long term (13 months) quadriceps strength training regimen for osteoarthritis of knee. The results indicated that the isometric exercises were associated with a 40% increase in maximal isometric torque at six weeks, a 10% torque decline with detraining, with an additional torque increase of 30% after 13 months of further training.

Center for Health, Exercise, and Sports Medicine, School of Physiotherapy, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia conducted a study to examine whether the effects of 12 weeks of quadriceps strengthening on the knee adduction moment, pain, and function in people with medial knee osteoarthritis (OA) differ in those with and without varus mal alignment. A single-blind, randomized controlled trial of 107 community volunteers with medial knee OA was conducted. 3-dimensional gait analysis, Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index scores (measuring pain and physical function), step test score, stair climb test score, and maximum quadriceps isometric strength was assessed. The study concluded that Quadriceps strengthening did not have any significant effect on the knee adduction moment in participants either more varus or more neutral alignment. The benefits of quadriceps strengthening on pain were more evident in those with more neutral alignment.

Baker, et al (2009) conducted a study to assess the efficacy of home based progressive strength training in older adults with knee osteoarthritis: a randomized controlled trial. Forty-six community



dwelling patients, aged 55 years or older with knee pain and radiographic evidence of knee OA, were randomized to a 4 month home based progressive strength training program or a nutrition education program (attention control). The primary outcome was the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis (WOMAC) index pain and physical function subscales. Secondary outcomes included clinical knee examination, muscle strength, physical performance measures, and questionnaire to measure quality of life variables. The study concluded that High intensity home based strength training can produce substantial improvements in strength, pain, physical function and quality of life in patients with knee OA. **Sheila C O'Reilly et al (2009)**, conducted a study to assess the effect of a home based exercise programme, designed to improve quadriceps strength, on knee pain and disability. 191 men and women with knee pain aged 40-80 were recruited from the community and randomized to exercise (n=113) or no intervention (n=78). The exercise group performed strengthening exercises daily for six months. The primary outcome measure was change in knee pain (Western Ontario McMaster Osteoarthritis index (WOMAC)). Secondary measures included visual analogue scales (VAS) for pain on stairs and walking and WOMAC physical function scores. WOMAC pain score reduced by 22.5% in the exercise group and by 6.2% in the control group. VAS scores for pain also reduced in the exercise group compared with the control group ($p < 0.05$). Physical function scores reduced by 17.4% in the exercise group and were unchanged in controls ($p < 0.05$). The study concluded that a simple programme of home quadriceps exercises can significantly improve self reported knee pain and function.

A subsequent 12-week study investigated the effects of functional mobility (measured by using 3D motion analysis during gait) on pain and function in individuals with knee osteoarthritis. Measures of knee varus/ valgus laxity were assessed as well as isometric quadriceps and hamstring torque measures. The Western Ontario and McMaster Osteoarthritis Index (WOMAC), which is a 24- question self - assessment questionnaire regarding pain, stiffness and function was used. Performance measures included the step test, stair climb test and walking speed. Quadriceps exercises were performed over a 12-week period, which consisted of heated knee extension, short arc quads, straight leg raises and isometric knee flexion exercises with ankle

weights. In this study, the severity of the disease was significantly associated with the degree of mal-alignment. Both the groups with neutral and mal-aligned knees had an increase in quadriceps strength and functional measures.

A study was conducted to assess efficacy of an exercise program for elderly people with knee pain conducted via video conferencing. Twenty-two community-dwelling subjects aged 60 years or above with knee pain were recruited from two community centres in Hong Kong. A 12-week exercise program, including strengthening and balance training, was given via video conferencing to subjects at both centres, in conjunction with a home-based exercise program. The outcome measures included the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index (WOMAC), quadriceps muscle strength, Berg's Balance Scale (BBS) and subjects' degree of acceptance of videoconferencing. Twenty subjects completed the 12-week program, and significant improvements occurred in all domains of the WOMAC score ($P < 0.003$). There was a 44% and a 13% increase in quadriceps muscle strength ($P < 0.001$) and BBS ($P < 0.001$), respectively. Over 80% of the elderly subjects who joined the program agreed or strongly agreed about all aspects of using videoconferencing. Most of them felt that the system was user-friendly and convenient. Videoconferencing appears to be a useful method of delivering a resistance-training program for community-dwelling elderly persons with knee pain.

Chamberlain et al (2002) practiced the patients with osteoarthritis of knees with the two simple exercises with graduated weights. Patients were randomly divided into those receiving treatment at hospital and those doing exercises at home. Both groups showed decrease pain and increase function, maximum weight lift and endurance at the end of four weeks. The subjects which continued daily exercises restrained benefits, whereas those which cease exercising experienced more pain. It was concluded that if the regimen were routinely used, there would be great practical benefits for patients and physiotherapist.

Marziye Taleb Najafabadi et al (2008) conducted a study to compare the effect of isometric and Pilates exercise on pain and physical and mental aspects of quality of life in women 40 to 65 years with knee osteoarthritis. 40 female patients with knee osteoarthritis were selected randomly and divided into two groups. Pilates exercise, (n=20, mean age $54/8 \pm 7/1$ years, height $159/8 \pm 6/4$ cm and weight



67/1 ± 14/7 kg) and isometric exercise (n=20, mean age 56± 5/2 years, height 161/25 ± 7/5 cm weight 70/15 ± 9/7 kg) were used . Before beginning an exercise, the pain visual analogue scales (vas) were used. For physical and mental aspects of quality of life questionnaire SF36 was used. Both exercises groups were executed for 8 weeks, 3 times per week and each session 1 hour. After 8 weeks training, both groups were assessed . Statistical analysis using analysis of covariance, significant at $P < 0/05$ was performed. The results showed

that in both Pilates and isometric group's decreased pain and as well as improving the physical and mental aspects of quality of life.

Carvalho NA et al

(2005) conducted study to assess the efficiency of a guidance manual for patients with osteoarthritis of the knee in relation to pain, range of movement, muscle strength and function, active goniometry, manual strength test and function. Thirty-eight adults with osteoarthritis of the knee (≥ 45 years old) who were referred to the physiotherapy service at the university hospital were studied. Patients received guidance for the practice of specific physical exercises and a manual with instructions on how to perform the exercises at home. They were evaluated for pain, range of movement, muscle strength and function. These evaluations were performed before they received the manual and three months later. The program was effective for improving muscle strength, controlling pain, maintaining range of movement of the knee joint, and reducing functional incapacity. Even when performed at home without constant supervision, the use of the printed manual for orientation makes the exercises for osteoarthritis of the knee beneficial.

A Single Case Study was conducted on Quadriceps Exercises for Osteo-arthritis of the Knee. Comparing Short term *versus* Long-term Training Effects compared the strengthening effect of a short-term (six-week) *versus* a long-term (13-month) quadriceps strength training regimen for one 58-year-old woman diagnosed as having osteoarthritis of the knee who was not receiving any other form of intervention. The strengthening regimen was initially carried out three times a week for six weeks under supervision using a standardized protocol of six bi-lateral maximal isometric quadriceps contractions at an angle of 60°. After a six-week detraining period, the same exercises were carried out in a similar manner at home for a further 13 months. The results indicated that the isometric exercises were associated with a 40% increase in maximal isometric quadriceps torque at six weeks, a 10% torque decline with detraining, with an additional torque increase of 30% after 13 months of further training.

Md. A. Shakoore et al (2006) conducted study on Effects of isometric quadriceps muscle strengthening exercise on chronic osteoarthritis of the knee. A total of 64 patients of osteoarthritis of the knee joints were studied to observe the effects of isometric quadriceps muscle strengthening exercise plus non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) on osteoarthritis of knee



ejoints. Another 75 patients were treated with NSAIDs as control. They were assessed by visual analogue scale, OMAC scale and range of motion of the knee joints and followed-up weekly for six weeks. Improvement was found in both groups ($p=0.001$) after treatment. In comparison, more improvement was found in the exercise group after four weeks ($p=0.009$). Then improvement was gradually increased day by day and finally there was highly significant improvement ($p=0.001$). This study suggests that isometric quadriceps muscle strengthening exercise has its beneficial role to reduce symptoms in osteoarthritis knee.

Mark (2008) conducted a study to describe the effect of strengthening the quadriceps of an effused osteoarthritis knee joint of a 53-year-old man. Isometric quadriceps torque and pain were recorded before and after the exercise intervention. The exercises were carried out three times per week for a six-week period with the subject seated on an exercise chair. Following training, quadriceps torque increased, clinical status improved and pain with walking decreased.

Chaipingo and Karoonsupcharoon (2009) conducted a study on simple home based standing balance training and isometric knee extension exercises for four weeks would improve functional ability and knee muscle strength of patients with knee osteoarthritis. Standing balance and mini squat exercises performed 30 times per day on one side, five days per week for 4 weeks and isometric knee extension exercises performed 10 repetitions per set, 3 sets per day, 5 days per week for 4 weeks between the age group of 50-80 years. The result shows that there is a significant improvement in the functional ability and knee muscle strength of patients with knee osteoarthritis in both.

Deyle et al (2005) conducted a study to investigate both subjective and objective measurements of the effectiveness of treatment for osteoarthritis of the knee. Clinically and statistically significant improvements in six min walk distance and Western Ontario MacMaster University osteoarthritis index (WOMAC) score at 4 weeks and 8 weeks were seen in the treatment group. The study concluded that a combination of manual physical therapy and supervised exercise yielded functional benefits

for patients with osteoarthritis. **Pietrosimone et al (2009)**, conducted a study to examine the association between quadriceps strength and self-reported physical activity in patients with radiographically confirmed knee OA. Secondly, the authors sought to determine if there were differences in quadriceps strength between knee OA patients with low physical activity (LPA) and knee OA patients with higher physical activity (HPA). A tertiary aim of this study was to examine the effect of gender on physical activity and quadriceps strength in patients with knee OA. Thirty-six patients with radiographically diagnosed tibiofemoral knee OA participated (15 males, 21 females; age = 59.9 ± 11.6 yrs; height = 171.2 ± 9.2 cm; mass = 84.3 ± 18.9 kg; body mass index (BMI) = 28.9 ± 6.9 ; Godin Leisure-Time

questionnaire score = 32.5 ± 2.5). Maximal isometric knee extensor strength was assessed with an isokinetic dynamometer in 70° of knee flexion. Knee extensor torque values were normalized to body mass ($\text{Nm} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1}$). Physical activity was evaluated using the Godin Leisure-Time questionnaire. A Godin-Leisure time score of 32.5, which was the mean score in the current dataset, was what was used to categorize subjects into LPA and HPA subgroup: Higher levels of quadriceps strength correlate with higher physical activity in knee OA patients. The association between higher strength and increased physical activity is stronger in the HPA subgroup compared to the entire sample. Additionally, the HPA subgroup demonstrated greater quadriceps strength compared to the LPA subgroup.

Anwer S, Alghadir A (2013) conducted a study on the effect of isometric quadriceps exercise on muscle strength, pain, and function in patients with knee osteoarthritis: a randomized controlled study. The study investigated the effects. Outpatients ($N=42$, 21 per group; age range 40-65 years; 13 men and 29 women) with osteoarthritis of the knee participated in the study. The experimental group performed isometric exercises including isometric quadriceps, straight leg raising, and isometric hip adduction exercise 5 days a week for 5 weeks, whereas the control group did not perform any exercise program. The outcome measures or dependent variables selected for this study were pain intensity, isometric quadriceps strength, and knee function. These variables were measured using the Numerical Rating Scale (NRS), stre



length gauged device, and reduced WOMAC index, respectively. All the measurements were taken at baseline (week 0) and at the end of the trial at week 5. In between-group comparisons, the maximum isometric quadriceps strength, reduction in pain intensity, and improvement in function in the isometric exercise group at the end of the 5th week were significantly greater than those of the control group ($p < 0.05$). The result was five-week isometric quadriceps exercise program showed beneficial effects on quadriceps muscle strength, pain, and functional disability in patients with osteoarthritis of the knee. **Hafez AR, et al (2014)** conducted a study "To assess the effect of hamstring and quadriceps strengthening exercises on pain intensity, gait velocity, maximum isometric strength, and activities of daily living of patients with knee osteoarthritis (OA)". A total of 20 patients with knee OA, 50 to 65 years of age (57.65 ± 4.78 years), received hot packs, strengthening exercises for the quadriceps and the hamstring muscles and stretching exercises for hamstring muscles. Outcome measures included: the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities OA index questionnaire (WOMAC) scores for assessing health status and health outcomes of knee OA; self-reported pain intensity scores, measured using a visual analogue scale; the 50 ft walk test (a measure of gait velocity and function); and handheld dynamometry (a tool used to measure maximum isometric strength of knee extension and flexion). There was a significant difference between pre- and post-intervention measures of pain intensity, 50 ft walk times, hamstring strength, WOMAC measures and quadriceps strength. Strengthening the hamstring muscles in addition to strengthening the quadriceps muscles proved to be beneficial for perceived knee pain, range of motion, and decreasing the limitation of functional performance of patients with knee OA.

Juhl C et al (2013) conducted a study on Impact of exercise type and dose on pain and disability in knee osteoarthritis: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials were performed. Forty-eight trials were included. Similar effects in reducing pain were found for aerobic, resistance, and performance exercise (SMD 0.67, 0.62, and 0.48, respectively; $P = 0.733$). These single-type exercise programs were more efficacious than programs that included different exercise types (SMD 0.61 versus 0.16; $P < 0.001$). The effect of aerobic exercise on pain relief increased

with an increased number of supervised sessions (slope 0.022 [95% confidence interval 0.002, 0.043]). More pain reduction occurred with quadriceps-specific exercise than with lower limb exercise (SMD 0.85 versus 0.39; $P = 0.005$) and when supervised exercise was performed at least 3 times a week (SMD 0.68 versus 0.41; $P = 0.017$). No impact of intensity, duration of individual sessions, or patient characteristics was found. For best results, the program should be supervised and carried out 3 times a week. Such programs have a similar effect regardless of patient characteristics, including radiographic severity and baseline pain. **Ettinger et al. (2007)** determined the effects of structured exercise programmes on self-reported disability in older adults with knee osteoarthritis. A total of 439 community dwelling adults, aged 60 years or older with radiographically evident knee osteoarthritis and self-reported physical disability were included in the study. A total of 365 (85%) participants completed the trial. Overall compliance with the exercise prescription was 68% in the aerobic training group and 70% in the resistance training group. Older disabled persons with osteoarthritis of the knee had modest improvements in measures of disability, physical performance and pain from participating in either an aerobic or a resistance exercise programme. These data suggest that exercises should be prescribed as part of the treatment for knee osteoarthritis.

Miyaguchi et al. (2003) analyzed the biochemical changes in the joint fluid and pain relief resulting from isometric quadriceps exercise in patients with osteoarthritis of the knee. Nineteen patients of osteoarthritis knee with joint effusion were included. The patients performed isometric quadriceps exercise for 3 months. Isometric muscle torque, pain (as measured using visual analogue scale) and biochemical markers in joint fluid were evaluated before and after the exercise. Pain score decreased, isometric muscle torque increased and the molecular weight of hyaluron increased. Also, the concentration of chondroitin sulfate in joint fluid decreased. Isometric quadriceps exercise resulted in significant changes in joint fluid biochemical parameters, and these changes may explain the ameliorative effect of muscle exercise for osteoarthritis of the knee.

Deyle et al. (2000) evaluated the effectiveness of physical therapy for osteoarthritis of the knee. 83 patients with osteoarthritis of the knee were randomly assigned to receive treatment or placebo. The treatment group received manual therapy applied to the knee



as well as to the lumbar spine, hip and ankle as required, and performed a standardized knee exercise programme in the clinic and at home. The placebo group had sub therapeutic ultrasound to the knee at an intensity of 0.1 W/cm² with a 10% pulsed mode. Both groups were treated at the clinic twice weekly for 4 weeks. Distance walked in 6 minutes and sum of the function, pain and stiffness sub scores of WOMAC index were measured at 4 weeks, 8 weeks and 1 year. Clinically and statistically significant improvements in 6-minute walk distance and WOMAC score at 4 weeks and 8 weeks were seen in the treatment group but not in the placebo group. They concluded that a combination of manual physical therapy and supervised exercise yields functional benefits for patients with osteoarthritis of the knee and may delay or prevent the need for surgical intervention.

Huang et al. (2003) investigated the therapeutic effects of different muscle-strengthening exercises on the functional status of patients with knee osteoarthritis. Patients with bilateral knee osteoarthritis were divided into 4 groups. The patients in group I received isokinetic muscle-strengthening exercise, patients in group II received isotonic muscle-strengthening exercise, group III received isometric muscle-strengthening exercise and group IV acted as controls. Isotonic exercise is suggested for initial strengthening in patients with osteoarthritis with exercise knee pain and isokinetic exercise is suggested for improving joint stability or walking endurance at a later.

Toppet et al. (2002) compared 16 weeks of isometric versus dynamic resistance training versus a control on knee pain and functioning among patients with knee osteoarthritis. A total of 102 volunteer subjects with osteoarthritis of the knee randomized to isometric and dynamic resistance training groups or a control were taken. The patients were given strength exercises for the legs, 3 times weekly for 16 weeks. Dynamic or isometric resistance training improves functional ability and reduces knee joint pain of patients with knee osteoarthritis.

Rogindet et al. (2008) investigated physical function in patients with severe osteoarthritis of knees during and after a general physical training programme. 12 patients received training in groups of 6, twice a week for 3 months. Training focused on general fitness, balance, coordination, stretching and lower extremity muscle strength. From baseline to 6 months, isometric

quadriceps strength improved 20% in the least affected leg, isometric strength improved 21%. General physical training appears to be beneficial in patients with osteoarthritis of the knee. As shown by the high compliance and low dropout frequency, such a programme is feasible even in patients with severe osteoarthritis of the knee.

Sharma et al. (2003) studied quadriceps muscle strengthening as a common goal in the management of knee osteoarthritis. In healthy knees, strength protects against new osteoarthritis. In arthritic knees, greater strength may protect joints and thereby delay osteoarthritis progression. Quadriceps strength, knee laxity and alignment, and osteoarthritis progression was studied. Subset-specific approaches beyond strengthening exercises should be developed to enhance joint-protective muscle activity.

Thomas et al. (2002) was to determine whether a home based exercise programme can improve outcomes in patients with knee pain. 786 men and women aged ≥ 45 years with self reported knee pain were included in the study. Participants were randomized to four groups to receive exercise therapy, monthly telephone contact, exercise therapy plus telephone contact or no intervention. At 24 months, highly significant reductions in knee pain were apparent for the pooled exercise groups compared with the non exercise groups. Regular telephone contact alone did not reduce pain. It was concluded that a simple home based exercise programme can significantly reduce knee pain. The lack of improvement in patients who received only telephone contact suggests that improvements are just due to psychosocial effects because of contact with the therapist.

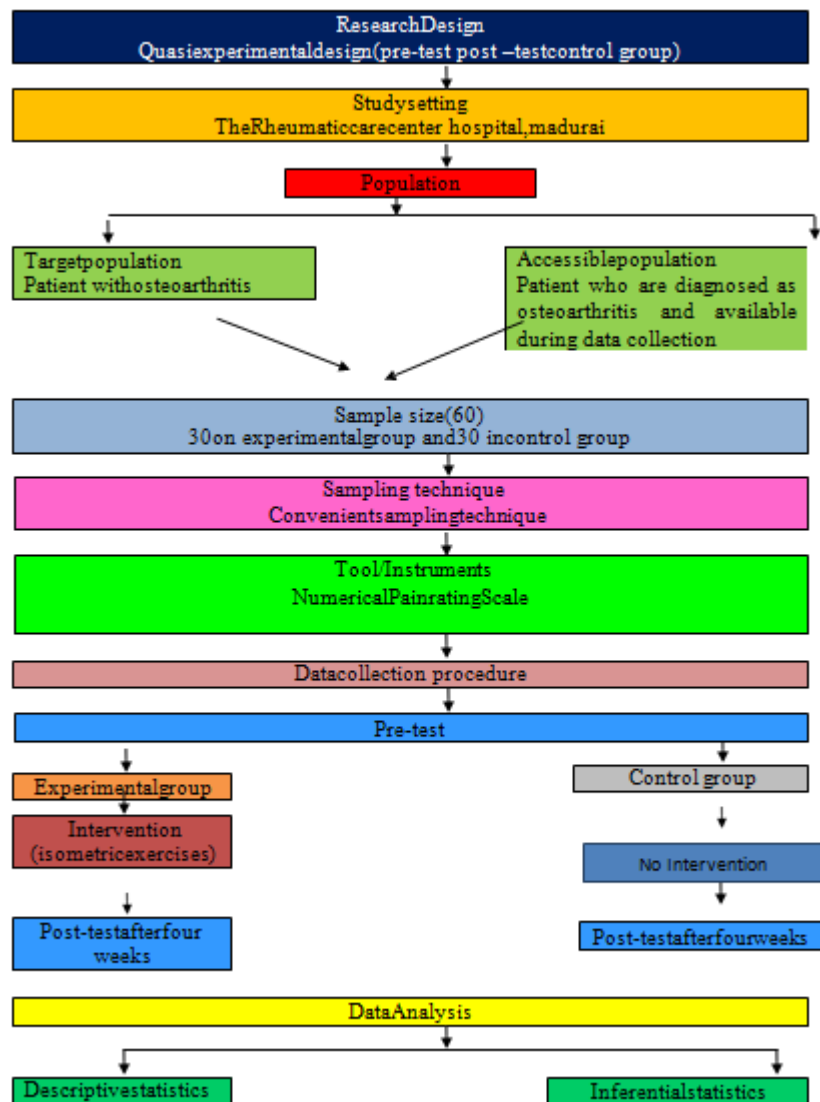


Fig-1.1 Schematic Representation of the Research Design

III. METHODOLOGY

Research methodology provides a brief description of the method adopted by the investigator in this study. This chapter includes the research approach, research design, the setting of the study, sample selection and it further deals with description of the tools, testing of the tool, procedure for data collection and plan for data analysis and pilot study.

3.1 Research approach:

The quantitative research approach was used in this study to determine the effectiveness of isometric exercises on pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis.

3.2 Research design:

The research design selected for this study was quasi-experimental design (pretest and post test control group design)



Table 3.1 The diagrammatic representation of the design is as follows:

Group	Before	Intervention	After
E	O1	X	O2
C	O1	-	O2

E-Experimental group

- O1 - Pre-assessment level of pain among the experimental group and control group
- X - Isometric exercises
- O2 - Post-assessment level of pain among the experimental group and control group
- C - Control group

3.3 Variables under the study

Dependent variables: level of Pain Independent variables: Isometric exercises

3.4 Study setting :

Study Setting is the physical location and condition in which data collection takes place. The study was conducted in the outpatient department as well as in the inpatient department of The Vasant Prabha Hospital, Vadnagar. This hospital consists of orthopedic ward, pharmacy, radiology department, biochemistry lab, physiotherapy unit. The hospital was chosen because of the researcher's familiarity with the setting.

3.5 Population:

Population is the aggregation of cases about which the researcher would like to make generalization. It refers to a group of individuals with some common characteristics and it is important to make distinction between the target population and accessible population.

The target population of this study includes patients with osteoarthritis and the accessible population are those who are diagnosed as osteoarthritis less than one year by a consultant orthopedician attending the outpatient department as well as admitted in the selected hospital and available during the time of data collection.



3.6 Sample:

Patients with osteoarthritis diagnosed as less than one year by consultant orthopedician

3.7 Samplesize:

The sample size consist of 60 newly diagnosed osteoarthritis patients, amongthat 30 of samples belongs to experimental group and 30 belongs to controlgroup.

3.8 Samplingtechnique:

Convenientsamplingtechniquewas used forthestudy.

3.9 CRITERIAFORTHE SELECTION:

INCLUSIONCRITERIA:

- ❖ Patientsbetweentheageof60-75years.
- ❖ Patientswho arediagnosedto haveosteoarthritislessthan oneyear.
- ❖ Patientswhoarewillingto participate.
- ❖ Thosewho presentat thetimeofdata collection.
- ❖ Patientswithunilateralorbilateralknee osteoarthritis.
- ❖ Bothmaleandfemalepatientsareincluded.

EXCLUSIONCRITERIA:

- ❖ Oldcasesofosteoarthritiswho participate inknee strengthening program.
- ❖ Patientswhohaverheumatoidosteoarthritis.
- ❖ Patientswhoarecriticallyill.

- ❖ Patientswithsystemicdiseaseslikehypertension,diabetesmellitus,cardiovascular disease.
- ❖ Patientswhohaveundergoneorthopedicsurgery.
- ❖ Patientswho arenotwillingtoparticipateinthisstudy.

RESEARCHTOOLANDTECHNIQUE

3.10 DATACOLLECTIONTOOL

The instruments used in this study are demographic and selected baseline variables.

3.11 METHODSOFDEVELOPMENTALOFTHETOOL

Thetool waspreparedafter reviewingtherelatedliterature such as journals, past experience and also from experts opinion.

PARTI:

Deals with demographic variables such as Age,Gender,Educationalstatus, Occupation, Family income ,Duration of illness, perception ofknee pain, Frequency of painand Taking treatment.

PARTII:

NumericalRatingScale forpain



3.12 DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL

This scale is used to assess the level of pain . Maximum score is 10 and the minimum score is 0-3.If the client have mild pain the score is given from 0-3,if patient have moderate pain the score is 4-6and for severe pain the score is from 7-10.Based on the obtained score the subjects are arbitrarily grouped in 4 groups as given below.

Table 3.2 Score interpretation

Numerical Rating Scale for pain	level of pain
0-3	Mild pain
4-6	Moderate pain
7-10	Severe pain

3.13 TESTING OF THE TOOL VALIDITY

Validity of the tool was established by submitting the tool to five experts in the field of medical surgical nursing, one expert in the field of physiotherapy, one clinical expert in the field of orthopedic . The tool was valued regarding the adequacy of the content. After establishing the validity, the tool was translated into Gujarati and again translated into English to validate the language.

RELIABILITY

The test-retest method was used to establish the reliability of the tool. By using coefficient formula the $r' = 0.8$, the tool was highly reliable.

3.14 PILOT STUDY

In order to find out the feasibility and practicability of the study, a pilot study was conducted. The researcher conducted pilot study in the Rheumatic care center hospital, outpatient department at Vadnagar . The study was carried out among six subjects (three subjects in experimental group, three subjects in control group) who fulfill the sampling criteria . It was conducted in same way as the final study . In order to test the feasibility and practicability of the tool, it was conducted after getting permission from the orthopedic and physiotherapist of selected orthopedic hospital and consent from the samples. Six patients were selected by Convenient sampling method. After proper explanation about the purpose of study, the demonstration and re demonstration of the following isometric exercises: straight leg raising, adduction isometric ball squeezing, quad sets, isometric hamstring sets, long arc quads, short arc quads, standing toe and heel raising, isometric quadriceps muscle strengthening was done to the samples in experimental group. Numerical Pain Rating Scale was used to analyze the score obtained by the samples before and after intervention . These subjects were excluded in the main study.

3.15 DATA COLLECTION:

The investigator obtained permission from the dissertation committee of Hemachandracharya North Gujarat University Patan, the college authorities and the orthopedic and physiotherapist of Vasant Prabhahospital, vadnagar . Data collection period was six weeks. The time scheduling for data collection was from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm. Convenient sampling technique was used to select samples and they were randomly allocated as 30 to experimental group and 30 to control group. The investigator initially establish rapport with the study subjects . The purpose of the study was explained to each subjects and consent was obtained. Ten patients (five belongs to experimental and five belong to control group) were assessed in a day . Each study subjects were assessed separately & privacy was maintained. During the assessment the patients were very cooperative. The patients in experimental group were taken to a separate unit by the researcher and demonstration, re demonstration of the following isometric exercises: straight leg raising, adduction isometric ball squeezing, quad sets, isometric hamstring sets, long arc quads, short arc quads, standing toe and heel raising, isometric quadriceps muscle strengthening was done to them. The time taken for each patient was 35-40 mins. These researcher instructed these samples to come to the out patient department for subsequent three days and to demonstrate the same isometric exercises, which was strictly supervised and their doubts were cleared. These samples received an exercise manual prepared by the investigator with instructions on how to perform the



isometric exercise at home and they were asked to record the time and frequency of exercises in the manual to make their practice beneficial. Researcher motivated the samples to do the isometric exercises with 10 repetitions of each exercises three times a day for six weeks period .The post test was conducted after six weeks,pain was measured by using NumericalRating Pain Scale.

3.16 DATA ANALYSIS:

The data was analyzed according to the objectives of the study by using the descriptive and inferential statistics such as

- ❖ Frequency and percentage distribution were computed for describing the sample demographic variables.
- ❖ Paired t -test was computed to compare the pretest and post test mean score of pain among experimental group and control group.
- ❖ Unpaired t- test was used to compare the post test mean score of pain among experimental group and control group.
- ❖ The Chi square test was computed to describe the association between the post test level of pain among experimental group control group and their selected demographic variables.

3.17 PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS:

The research proposal was approved by dissertation committee prior to pilot study and main study .Permission obtained from The Authorities of college and the selected hospital. Verbal consent and written consent was obtained from the study subject and data collection was kept as confidential .Assurance was given to the study subject that anonymity of each individual would be maintained.

IV. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

This chapter deals with analysis of the samples and interpretation of data to determine the effectiveness of isometric exercises on pain and functional disability among newly diagnosed osteoarthritis patients at selected hospital ,Madurai.

According to Polit (2007) analysis helps a researcher to make a sense of quantitative information. Statistical procedure enable researchers to summarize, organize, evaluate, interpret and communicate numeric information.

The obtained data has been classified, grouped and analyzed statistically based on the objectives of the study.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To assess the pre test and post test level of pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in both experimental and control group
2. To evaluate the effectiveness of isometric exercises on pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in experimental group.
3. To find out the association between post test level of pain in experimental group and their selected demographic variables.
4. To find out the association between post test level of pain in control group and their selected demographic variables

HYPOTHESES

- ❖ **H1:** There will be significant difference between the pretest and post test level of pain in the experimental group
- ❖ **H2 :** There will significant difference between the post test level of pain between the experimental and control group.
- ❖ **H3:** There will be significant association between post test level of pain in experimental group and their selected demographic variables.
- ❖ **H4:** There will be significant association between post test level of pain in control group and their selected demographic variables



Section-I

Distribution of samples according to their variables among experimental group and control group. selected demographic

Section-II

.Distribution of samples according to the level of pain among experimental group and control group.

Section-III

Comparison of pretest mean score and post test mean score of pain among experimental group.

Section-IV

Comparison of pretest mean score and post test mean score of pain among Control group

Section-V

Comparison of posttest mean score of pain among experimental group and control group

Section-VI

Association between the posttest level of pain in experimental group and their selected demographic variables.

Section-VII

Association between the posttest level of pain in the control group and their selected demographic variables.

SECTION I

DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLES ACCORDING TO THEIR SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES AMONG EXPERIMENTAL GROUP AND CONTROL GROUP.

TABLE 4.1: Distribution of samples according to their selected demographic variables among experimental and control group..

(N=60)

Demographic data	Experimental group		Control group	
	(n=30)		(n=30)	
	F	%	F	%
1.Age(in years):				
a. 60-65years	16	53.3	25	83.3
b. 66-70years	9	30	4	13.3
c. 71-75years	5	16.7	1	3.3
2.Gender				
a. Male	6	20	6	20
b. Female	24	80	24	80
3.Education:				
a. Illiterate	0	0	6	20
b. Primary education	5	16.7	5	16.7
c. Secondary education	8	26.7	7	23.3
d. Collegiate	17	56.7	12	40
4.Occupation:				
a. Employed	28	93.3	21	70
b. Unemployed	2	6.66	9	30
5.Family income:				
a. Below 5000	0	0	0	0



b.	5001-10000	4	13.3	0	0
c.	10001-15000	22	73.3	20	66.7
d.	Above 15001	4	13.3	10	33.3
6.Duration of illness:					
a.	2 months	8	26.7	15	50
b.	4 months	10	33.3	12	40
c.	8 months	11	36.7	3	10
d.	1year	1	3.3	0	0
7.perceptionofknee pain:					
a.	One knee	9	30	13	43.3
b.	Boththe knee	21	70	17	56.7
8.Frequencyofknee pain:					
a.	Allthetime	4	13.3	8	26.7
b.	Sometime	1	3.3	4	13.3
c.	Whiletakingrest	0	0	1	3.3
d.	Duringactivities	25	83.3	17	56.7
9.Takingtreatment:					
a.	Yes	5	16.7	5	16.7
b.	No	25	83.3	25	83.3

Table1:Showsthefrequencyandpercentagedistributionofdemovariables suchas age,sex,education,occupation,familyincome,durationofillness,perceptionofknee pain ,frequency of knee pain and any treatment. Total samples 60 were divided into 30 as control and 30 as experimental.

- ❖ Regardingagemajorityofthepatientsinexperimentalgroup16(53.35%) are at theagebetween60-65yearsandincontrolgroup25(83.3%) patients are at the age between 60-65 years .
- ❖ RegardingGendermajorityofthepatientsinexperimentalgroup 24(80%)areMalesandincontrolgroup24(80%)patientsareMale
- ❖ Withregardtoeducationmajorityofthepatientsinexperimentalgroup 17(56.7%)arecollegiate andincontrolgroup 12(40%) patients are collegiate .
- ❖ Regardingoccupationmajorityofthepatientsinexperimental group28(93.3%)areemployed,02(6.660%)areunemployedandincontrol group 21(70%) patients are employed.
- ❖ When considerthe totalincome of the family per monthmajority ofthe patientsinexperimentalgroup22(73.3%)areearning10,001-15,001andin controlgroup 20(66.7%)patients areearning 10,001-15,000 .
- ❖ Regardingduration of illness majority ofthe patientsinexperimental group11(36.7%)aresufferingfromjointpainfor8months andincontrol group 15(50%) patients are sufferingfromjointpainfor2 months .



- ❖ Regarding the perception of knee pain majority of the patients in experimental group 21 (70%) have bilateral knee pain and in control group 17 (56.7%) patients have bilateral knee pain.
- ❖ Regarding the frequency of knee pain majority of the patients in experimental group 25 (83.3%) have joint pain during activities and in control group 17 (56.7%) patients have joint pain during activities.
- ❖ Regarding treatment majority of the patients in experimental group 25 (83.3%) have no treatment and in control group 25 (83%) patients have no treatment.

■ Experimental group ■ control group

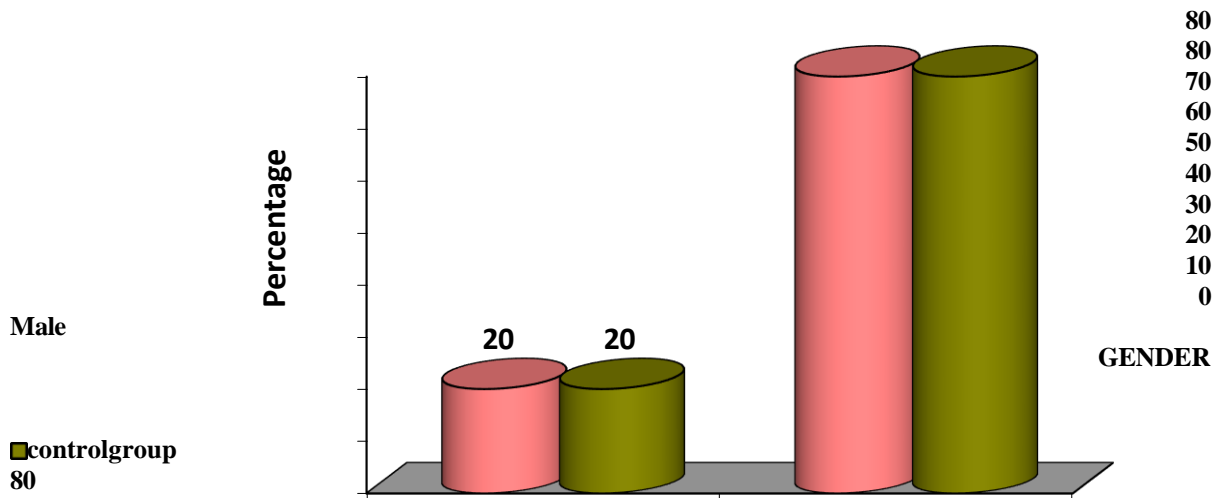
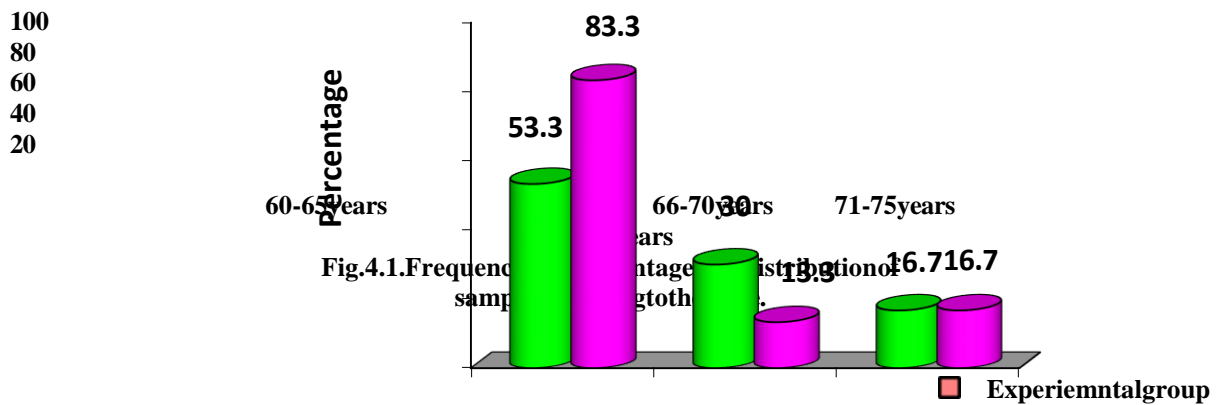




Fig-4.2: Distribution of samples according to their Gender

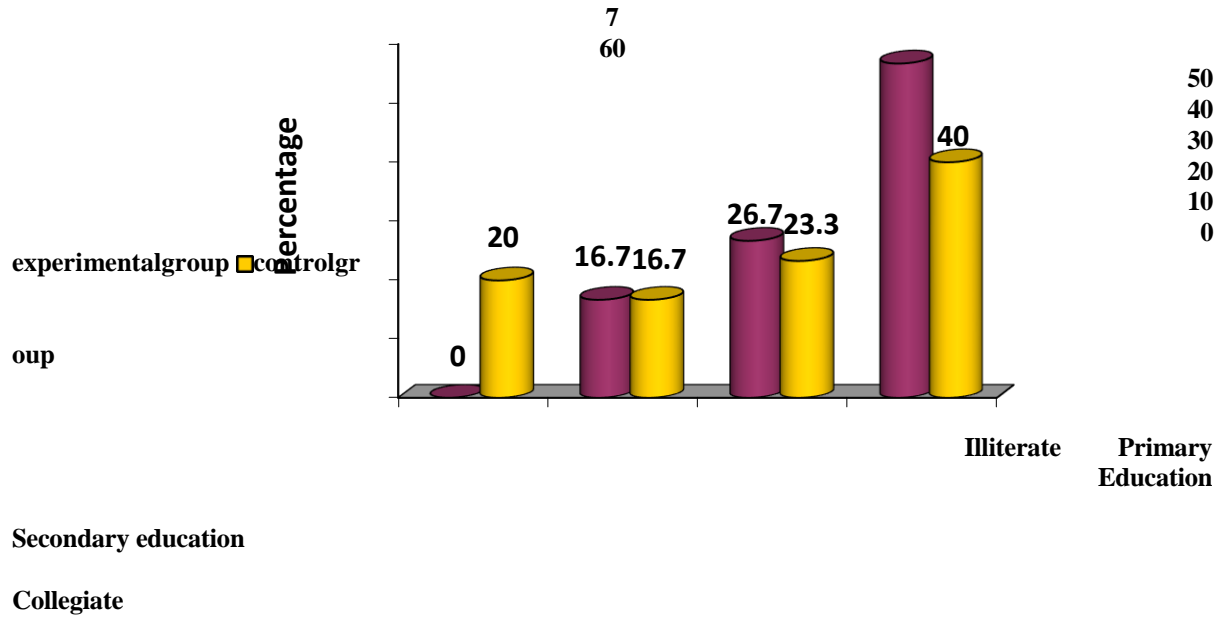


Fig-4.3: Distribution of samples according to their education.

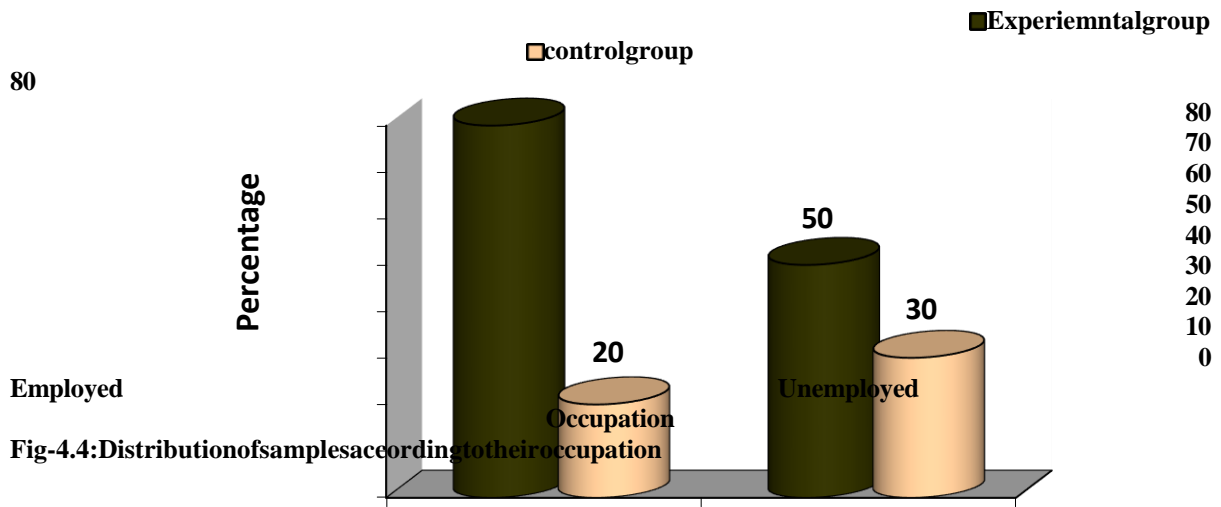
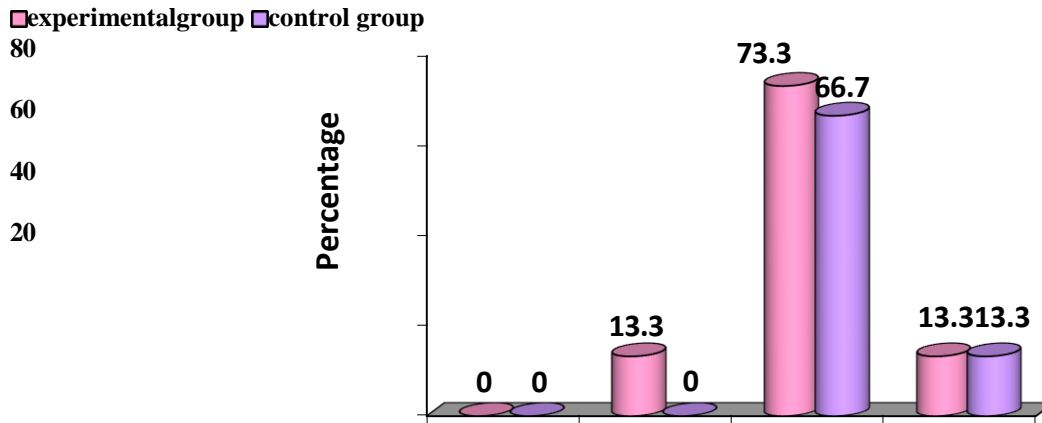


Fig-4.4: Distribution of samples according to their occupation





0
 Below 5000

5001-
 10000

10001-
 15000

SECTION II.

DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLES ACCORDING TO THE LEVEL OF PAIN AMONG EXPERIMENTAL GROUP AND CONTROL GROUP.

TABLE-4.2: Distribution of samples according to the level of pain among experimental group and control group

(N=60)

Level of pain	Experimental				control group			
	(n=30)				(n=30)			
	pretest		Posttest		Pretest		Posttest	
	f	%	F	%	f	%	f	%
Mild	-	-	21	70	-	-	-	-
Moderate	9	30	9	30	11	36.7	12	40
Severe	21	70	-	-	19	63.3	18	60

Table 4.2 shows, in Experimental group during pretest 9(30%) samples have moderate pain, 21(70%) samples have severe pain. And in the Control group 11(36.7%) samples have moderate pain and 19(63.3%) samples have severe pain

During post test 21(70%) samples have mild pain, 9(30%) samples have moderate pain. No one has severe pain in post test in Experimental group. And in control group 12(40%) samples have moderate pain and 18(60%) samples have severe pain



Fig-4.10: Distribution of samples according to the level of pain in pre test and post test among experimental a group

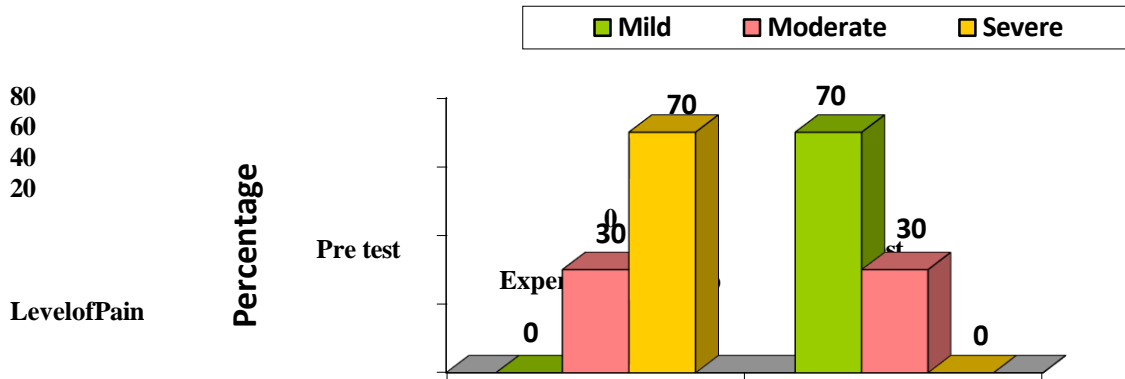
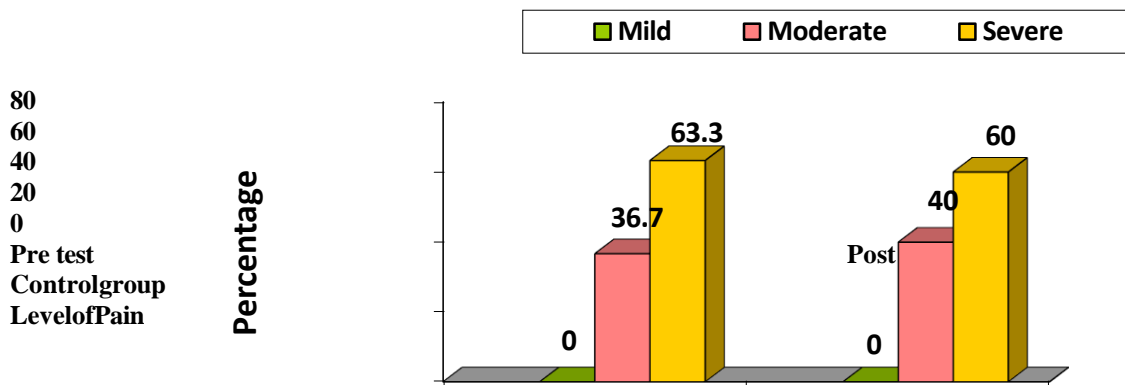


Fig-4.11: Distribution of samples according to the level of pain in pre test and post test among control group





SECTION-III

COMPARISON OF PRETEST MEAN SCORE AND POST TEST MEANS CORE OF LEVEL OF PAIN AMONG EXPERIMENTAL GROUP.

TABLE : 4.3 Comparison Of Pretest Mean Score And Post Test Mean Score Of Pain Among Experimental Group

(n=60)

Level of pain	Experimental		Experimental		t-value
	Pretest		post test		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
	6.7	0.59	2.53	0.82	26.104***

(*** significant at $p < 0.001$ level)

Table 4 .3 shows the comparison of pretest mean score and post test mean score of pain in experimental group. The Research hypotheses H1 stated as follows: There will be significant difference between the level of pain before and after intervention in the experimental group. As it states the above table depicts the pretest mean score of level of pain in experimental group is 6.7 (standard deviation 0.59) and the posttest mean score is 2.53 (standard deviation 0.82). The obtained 't' value 26.104 is highly significant at level of $p < 0.001\%$. By comparing the pretest mean and posttest mean score of level of pain in experimental group it was estimated that the post test score mean is lower than the pretest mean score. The researcher accepted the research hypothesis and rejected the null hypothesis.

SECTION IV

COMPARISON OF PRETEST MEAN SCORE AND POST TEST MEAN SCORE OF LEVEL OF PAIN AMONG CONTROL GROUP

TABLE: 4.4 Comparison of pretest and posttest level of pain among the control group (n=60)

Level of Pain	Control		Control		t-value
	pretest		post test		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
	7.1	0.92	6.93	0.87	2.41**

(** significant at $p < 0.01$ level)

Table 5 shows the comparison of pretest mean score and post test mean score of pain among control group. The pretest mean score of level of pain in control group is 7.1 (standard deviation is 0.92) and the posttest mean score is 6.93 (standard deviation is 0.87). The obtained 't' value 2.41 is highly significant at $p < 0.01\%$. By comparing the pretest mean and posttest mean score of level of pain in control group, it was estimated that posttest mean score is lower than the pretest mean score and this could be because of hospital routines.



SECTION-V
COMPARISON OF POSTTEST MEAN SCORE OF PAIN
AMONG CONTROL GROUP AND EXPERIMENTAL GROUP

TABLE 4.5 Comparison of mean and SD of experimental and control group

(n=60)

Level of Pain	Experimental		Control		t-value
	post test		post test		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
	2.53	0.82	6.93	0.87	20.18***

(***significant at $p < 0.001$ level)

Table 4.5 shows the comparison of Posttest mean score of among experimental group and control group.

The research hypothesis H2 states that there will be significant difference in the post test level of pain among both experimental and control group. As stated, the posttest mean score of level of pain scale in control group is 6.93, (standard deviation 0.87). The posttest mean score of level of pain in experimental group is 2.53, (standard deviation 0.82). The obtained 't' value 20.18 is highly significant at $p < 0.001$ %. By comparing the posttest mean score of functional disability and level of pain in experimental group and control group it was estimated that the post test mean score of functional disability and pain among experimental is lower than the control group. The researcher accepted the research hypothesis and rejected the null hypothesis.

SECTION-VI
ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE POSTTEST SCORE OF
LEVEL OF PAIN IN EXPERIMENTAL GROUP AND THEIR
SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES.

TABLE: 4.6 Association of demographic variables with post level of pain in experimental group

(n=30)

Demographic variables	Mild		Moderate		χ^2 value at the level of $p < 0.5$
	F	%	f	%	
1. Age (in years):					p-value = 0.99 (NS)
a. 60-65 years	16	53.3	6	66.6	
b. 66-70 years	9	30	3	3.33	
c. 71-75 years	2	7.4	0	0	
2. Gender:					p-value = 1 (NS)
a. Male	20	95	8	89	
b. Female	1	5	1	11	
3. Education:					



a.	Illiterate	0	0	0	0	p-value=0.82(NS)
b.	Primary education	5	16.7	0	0	
c.	Secondary education	8	26.7	6	66.6	
d.	Collegiate	8	26.7	3	3.33	
4.Occupation:						p-value=0.29(NS)
a.	Employed	26	93	6	66.6	
b.	Un employed	1	7	3	3.33	
5.family income:						p-value=0.99(NS)
a.	Below 5000	0	0	0	0	
b.	5001-10001	4	19	0	0	
c.	10001-15000	16	76	6	6.66	
d.	Above 15001	1	5	3	3.33	
6.Duration of illness:						p-value=0.99(NS)
a.	2 months	8	26.7	6	66.6	
b.	4 months	10	33.3	3	3.33	
c.	8 months	3	14	0	0	
d.	1 year	0	0	0	0	
7.Perception of knee pain:						p-value=1(NS)
a.	One knee	1	5	6	66.6	
b.	Both the knee	20	95	3	3.33	
8.Frequency of knee pain:						p-value=0.99(NS)
a.	All the time	4	13.3	6	66.6	
b.	Sometime	1	3.3	3	3.33	
c.	While taking rest	0	0	0	0	
d.	During activities	16	76	0	0	
9.Any treatment:						p-value=0.96(NS)
a.	Yes	1	5	6	66.6	
b.	No	20	95	3	3.33	



NS=Not significant *=significant

The above table 4.6 shows the association between the post test score of pain and their selected demographic variables of patients with osteoarthritis in experimental group. The result shows that the χ^2 value for level of pain is not significant. So, it is concluded that there is no significant association between the post test score of level of level of pain and the selected demographic variables such as age, gender, education, occupation, family income, duration of illness, perception of knee pain, frequency of knee pain and any treatment and the researcher accepts the Null hypothesis.

SECTION-VII

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE POST TEST LEVEL OF PAIN IN CONTROL GROUP AND THEIR SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

TABLE:4.7 Association of demov variables with post level of pain in control group

Demographic variables	Moderate		Severe		χ^2 value at the level of $p < 0.5$
	F	%	f	%	
1.Age(in years):					p-value =0.99(NS)
a. 60-65years	10	83.33	15	83.33	
b. 66-70years	2	16.6	3	16.6	
c. 71-75years	0	0	0		
2.Sex:					p-value=1(NS)
a. Male	11	91.6	17	94.4	
b. Female	1	8.3	1	5.5	
3.Education:					p-value=0.82(NS)
a. Illiterate	0	0	0	0	
b. Primary education	5	41.6	2	11.11	
c. Secondary education	6	50	6	33.3	
d. Collegiate	1	8.3	10	55.5	
4.Occupation:					p-value=0.29(NS)
a. Employed	11	91.6	15	83.3	
b. Un employed	1	8.3	3	16.6	
5.family income:					



a.	Below5000	0	0	0	0	p-value=0.99(NS)
b.	5001-10001	4	19	0	66.6	
c.	10001-15000	17	76	15	3.33	
d.	Above 15001	1	5	3	0	
6.Duration of illness:						
a.	2 months	2	26.7	15	66.6	
b.	4 months	10	33.3	3	3.33	
c.	8 months	0	14	0	0	
d.	1year	0	0	0	0	
7.Perceptionof knee pain:						p-value=1(NS)
a.	One knee	1	5	15	66.6	
b.	Boththe knee	11	95	3	3.33	
8.Frequencyofknee pain:						p-value=0.99(NS)
a.	Allthetime	4	13.3	15	66.6	
b.	Sometime	1	3.3	3	3.33	
c.	Whiletakingrest	0	0	0	0	
d.	During activities	7	76	0	0	
9.Anytreatment:						p-value=0.96(NS)
a.	Yes	1	5	3	33.3	
b.	No	11	95	13	66.6	

NS=Not significant *=significant

The above table 4.7 shows the association between the post test level of pain and the selected demographic variables of patients with osteoarthritis in control group. The result shows that the χ^2 value is not significant. So, it is concluded that there is no significant association between level of Pain and the selected demographic variables such as age, gender, education, occupation, family income, duration of illness, perception of knee pain, frequency of knee pain and any treatment. Hence The researcher accepts the Null hypothesis.



DISCUSSION

The aim of the study was to assess the effectiveness of isometric exercises on pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis at selected hospital, Vadnagar. The methodology of the study was a quasi experimental pretest posttest control group design. The study was conducted in the outpatient department as well as the inpatient department of the Vasant Prabha Hospital, Vadnagar. It is a 150 bedded hospital, the outpatient department census per day is approximately 100. The sample size was 60, among that 30 belong to control group and 30 belong to experimental group.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY WERE:

- ❖ To assess the pretest and posttest level of pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in both experimental and control group.
- ❖ To assess the effectiveness of isometric exercises on pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in experimental group.
- ❖ To find out the association between post test level of pain and their selected demographic variables in experimental group
- ❖ To find out the association between post test level of pain and their selected demographic variables in control group

DEMOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLES

- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 16(53.35%) are at the age between 60-65 years and in control group 25(83.3%) patients are at the age between 60-65 years.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 24(80%) are females and in control group 24(80%) patients are females.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 17(56.7%) are collegiate and in control group 12(40%) patients are collegiate.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 28(93.3%) are employed, 2(6.66%) are unemployed and in control group 21(70%) patients are employed and 9(30%) are unemployed
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 22(73.3%) are earning 10,001-15,001 and in control group 20(66.7%) patients are earning 10,001-15,000.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 11(36.7%) are suffering from illness for 8 months and in control group 15(50%) patients are suffering from illness for 2 months.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 21(70%) have bilateral knee pain and in control group 17(56.7%) patients have bilateral knee pain.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 25(83.3%) have joint pain during activities and in control group 17(56.7%) patients have joint pain during activities.
- ❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 25(83.3%) have no treatment and in control group 25(83%) patients have no treatment.

The first objective is :To assess the pretest and post test level of pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis in both experimental and control group

Table 4.2 shows, in Experimental group during pretest 9(30%) samples have moderate pain, 21(70%) samples have severe pain. And in the Control group 11(36.7%) samples have moderate pain and 19(63.3%) samples have severe pain

During posttest 21(70%) samples have mild pain, 9(30%) samples have moderate pain. No one has severe pain in posttest in Experimental group. And in control group 12(40%) samples have moderate pain and 18(60%) samples have severe pain

The above study findings revealed, the posttest level of pain is lower than the pretest level of pain among experimental group.

These findings are strengthened by **Sheila CO'Reilly et al (2009)**, conducted a study to assess the effect of a home based exercise programme, designed to improve quadriceps strength, on knee pain and disability. 191 men and women with knee pain aged 40-80 were recruited from the community and randomized to exercise (n=113) or



no intervention (n=78). The exercise group performed strengthening exercises daily for six months. The primary outcome measure was change in knee pain (Western Ontario McMaster Osteoarthritis index (WOMAC)). Secondary measures included visual analogue scales (VAS) for pain on stairs and walking and WOMAC physical function scores. WOMAC pain score reduced by 22.5% in the exercise group and by 6.2% in the control group. VAS scores for pain also reduced in the exercise group compared with the control group ($p < 0.05$). Physical function scores reduced by 17.4% in the exercise group and were unchanged in controls ($p < 0.05$). The study concluded that a simple programme of home quadriceps exercises can significantly improve self reported knee pain and function.

The second objective is: To assess the effectiveness of isometric exercises among newly diagnosed patients with osteoarthritis in experimental group

Table 4.3 reveals the pretest mean score of level of pain in experimental group is 6.7, [SD 0.59] and the posttest mean score is 2.53, [SD 0.82]. The obtained 't' value 26.104 is highly significant at the level of $P < 0.001$.

By comparing the pretest mean and post test mean score of pain in experimental group it was estimated that the post test mean score of pain is lower than the pre test mean score of pain. The researcher accepted the research hypothesis and rejected the null hypothesis.

The above study findings were supported by **Hinman et al (2007)** to evaluate the effects of isometric exercises on reduction of pain, 71 volunteers were participated. The participants were randomly revised exercise therapy on 6 weeks. The result showed that a total of 72% of participants reported improvement in pain. 84% of participants continued exercise therapy independently.

The above study finding was lined with **Md. A. Shakoor et al (2006)** study on 'Effects of isometric quadriceps muscle strengthening exercise on chronic osteoarthritis of the knee'. A total of 64 patients of osteoarthritis of the knee joints were studied to observe the effects of isometric quadriceps muscle strengthening exercise plus non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) on osteoarthritis of knee joints. Another 75 patients were treated with NSAIDs as control. They were assessed by visual analogue scale, OMAC scale and range of motion of the knee joints and followed-up weekly for six weeks. Improvement was found in both groups ($p = 0.001$) after treatment. In comparison, more improvement was found in the exercise group after four weeks ($p = 0.009$). Then improvement was gradually increased day by day and finally there was highly significant improvement ($p = 0.001$). This

study suggests that isometric quadriceps muscle strengthening exercise has its beneficial role to reduce symptoms in osteoarthritis knee.

The post test mean score of level of pain in control group is 6.93, standard deviation is 0.87. The posttest mean score of level of pain in experimental group is 2.53, (standard deviation is 0.82). The obtained t value 20.18 is highly significant at the level of $p < 0.001$

The study findings were supported by **McCConnell (2008)** conducted a study to determine the effectiveness of isometric exercises in improving daily activities and reduction of pain. Randomized controlled trials were used. 320 participants included for the study. The result confirmed the isometric exercises were effective in improving physical function and reduce the pain

Pister MF et al (2009) did a study to determine the long term effectiveness of exercise therapy on pain, physical function among osteoarthritis patients. Both randomized and controlled clinical trials were used. The assessment was done by 2 reviewers about 6 months. The result revealed exercise therapy was benefited in reducing the level of pain and improve the function among osteoarthritis patients.

The third objective is : To find out the association between posttest level of pain in experimental and their demographic variables.

Table :4.6 Show that there is no significant association between posttest level of pain in experimental group and their selected demographic variables such as age, sex, education, occupation, family income, duration of illness, perception of knee pain, frequency of knee pain and any treatment.

The fourth objective is : To find out the association between post test level of pain in Control and their demographic variables.

Table :4.7 Show that there is no significant association between posttest level of pain in Control group and their selected demographic variables such as age, sex, education, occupation, family income, duration of illness, perception of knee pain, frequency of knee pain and any treatment.



CHAPTER-VISUMMARY,FINDINGS,IMPLICATIONS RECOMMENDATIONS,LIMITATIONS ANDCONCLUSION

This chapter presents the summary of the study, findings and its implications for nursing and health care services and ends with recommendations for further research on this field.

6.1 SUMMARY OF THE STUDY:

The purpose of the study was to assess the effectiveness of isometric exercises on pain among patients diagnosed with osteoarthritis at selected hospital, Vadnagar.

The quasi experimental study pretest and post test control group was designed by the researcher. The Convenient sampling technique was used to select 60 samples. The tool was developed and adopted after reviewing the relevant literature, Numerical pain rating scale was used to assess the level of pain. The data were collected and analyzed using both inferential statistics based on the objectives of the study. The study tested and accepted the hypotheses. The data collected were statistically analyzed and represented as tables and graphs in previous chapter.

6.2 MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 16(53.35%) were at the age between 60-65 years and in control group 25(83.3%) patients were at the age between 60-65 years.

❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 24(80%) were females and in control group 24(80%) patients were females.

❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 17(56.7%) were collegiate and in control group 12(40%) patients were collegiate.

❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 28(93.3%) were employed, 02(50%) were unemployed and in control group 21(70%) patients were employed and 9(30) were unemployed.

❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 22(73.3%) were earning 10,001-15,001 and in control group 20(66.7%) patients were earning 10,001-15,000.

❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 11(36.7%) were suffering from joint pain for 8 months and in control group 15(50%) were suffering from joint pain for 2 months.

❖ Majority of the patients in experimental group 21(70%) have bilateral knee pain and in control group 17(56.7%) patients have bilateral knee pain.

❖ Majority of the population in experimental group 25(83.3%) have joint pain during activities and in control group 17(56.7%) patients have joint pain during activities.

❖ Majority of the population in experimental group 25(83.3%) have no treatment and in control group 25(83%) patients have no treatment.

❖ In experimental group during pretest 9 (30%) samples have moderate pain, 21(70%) samples have severe pain. During post test 24(80%) samples have mild pain, 6(20%) samples have moderate pain.

❖ The pretest mean score of pain in experimental group is 6.7 [SD 0.59] and the posttest mean score is 2.53 [SD 0.82], (t value 26.104). The study findings revealed that, in experimental group the post test mean score of pain is lower than the pre test mean score of pain.

❖ The post test mean score of pain in Experimental group is 2.53 [SD 0.82] (t value 20.18). The post test mean score of pain in control group is 6.93 [SD 0.87] (t value 20.18). The study findings revealed that the post test mean score of pain in experimental group who received isometric exercises is lower than the control group.

❖ The study findings revealed that there is no significant association between posttest level of pain in experimental group and control group with their selected demographic variables such as age, sex, education, occupation, family income, duration of illness, perception of knee pain, frequency of knee pain and any treatment.

6.3 IMPLICATIONS

Nursing is a dynamic process, which involves quality based practice, scientific body of knowledge and dissemination of research knowledge into practices. Nursing professionals find the health promotion very relevant, because it applies across the span and use in a variety of settings. So the present study adds major implications into various areas of nursing care to the patients.



Physical therapy is a branch of rehabilitative health, that uses special designed exercises and equipment to help patients regain/improve their physical ability. Therapist can design and individualized program that emphasis active and passive range of motion exercises, muscle strengthening and joint production principles. In addition modalities such as ultra sound, massage, hot application, electrical stimulation are available for uses if needed.

Nursing practice:

- ❖ Motivate the aged and adult to do the exercises.
- ❖ Encourage the client to know the benefits of exercises.
- ❖ Encourage the client to modify daily activities.
- ❖ The training program must be given to health care team members about osteoarthritis and exercises to treat them.

Nursing education:

- ❖ Management of orthopedic problems such as osteoarthritis, osteoporosis etc can be included in depth in basic curriculum
- ❖ The study helps student to gain knowledge about the benefits of exercises.
- ❖ The nurse educator encourage the students nurses to conduct health education program among adults with osteoarthritis.
- ❖ Nurse educator can conduct workshop, seminar and conferences on exercises to improve their daily activities among people with musculoskeletal problems.
- ❖ Students can be encouraged to prepare IEC materials regarding exercises.
- ❖ Students are encouraged to do the project work in the non focused area in the management of osteoarthritis.

Nursing administration:

- ❖ Nurse administrator can plan and organize in service education program for health personnel to renew their knowledge.
- ❖ Nurse administrator can promote efficient team work. They also make a plan for manpower, money, materials and method to conduct health education program regarding exercises.
- ❖ Nurse administrator can appoint skillful nurses for caring patients with Osteoarthritis.
- ❖ Nurse administrator insists the nurses to teach the exercises with the care of patients with Osteoarthritis.

Nursing researcher:

This study can be a baseline for further studies to build up on,

- ❖ To identify in depth knowledge and various management on Osteoarthritis patients.
- ❖ The study can encourage student nurses to conduct the major project regarding Osteoarthritis.
- ❖ The study paves the way to identify the newer method of impacting the health information that will be empirically tested.

6.4 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made based on the findings of the study:

On the basis of present study the following recommendations are made

- ❖ A similar study could be done with large samples.
- ❖ A study can be done to assess the quality of life among patients with osteoarthritis.
- ❖ A comparative study between the effects of isometric quadriceps exercise and isometric quadriceps exercise along with ultrasound in osteoarthritis of knee.
- ❖ Mass media can be used to popularize the importance of exercises among patients with osteoarthritis.

6.5 LIMITATIONS

- ❖ The convenient sampling technique was used for the study. Hence the study was limited to generalization.



❖ The study could be effective when the isometric exercises are given along with other exercise like aerobic exercises and isokinetic exercises

6.6 CONCLUSION

“If you work hard enough, you probably don't need any doctor”

- BRUCE CHATWIN

Osteoarthritis is a progressive degenerative disease that affects the joint cartilage, subchondral bone, synovial and joint capsule. Pain is the dominant symptom of osteoarthritis. Pain along with the joint stiffness, instability, swelling and muscle weakness lead to physical and physiological disability and impaired quality of life. Nurses are key persons for providing care to patients. As for this research is concerned, the intervention study proved that there is a significant reduction of pain among patients with osteoarthritis. The following conclusions are drawn from the findings of study. The result of this study reveals that the effectiveness of isometric exercises can help to reduce the pain. Thus the practice of isometric exercises in physical therapy for patients with osteoarthritis should be encouraged to individual and society, through programme and mass media or health education program to lead a healthy life. The isometric exercises form the effective non pharmacological intervention to reduce pain among osteoarthritis patients also it proved to be non invasive and no side effects are reported. The findings of this study agree with the findings of previous clinical study, regarding isometric exercises technique.

QUADSETS

Sit upright in a chair, straighten your leg, tighten your thigh and pull your toes back



- Hold for 10 seconds and repeat up to 20 times. The more you tighten your muscles, the better results you'll get from this exercise
- You may feel a stretch behind your knee during the exercise. For a greater challenge, straighten both legs at the same time, or do this exercise with an adjustable ankle weight up to 5 pounds



STANDING TOES RAISES AND HEEL RAISES



START

END

- Stand with a secure support in front of you to hold on to
- Raise your toes up
- Return to starting position and repeat



START

END

- Stand with a secure support in front of you to hold on to
- Raise your heel off the ground
- Return to starting position and repeat

ISOMETRIC STRENGTHENING EXERCISES

- Ask the patient to sit comfortably in a chair with the hips and knees in 90° of Flexion, with ankles crossed.
- The ankles are pressed against each other to contract the quadriceps and contralateral Hamstrings for a series of contractions. 10 repetitions are recommended. Then, the ankles are crossed in reverse fashion, and the opposing quadriceps and hamstrings are cocontracted.