

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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Title: Effects of exercise training on diastolic and systolic dysfunction in patients with chronic heart failure

Reviewer's code: 05476066

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MSc, PhD

Professional title: Academic Fellow, Assistant Professor, Physiotherapist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Saudi Arabia

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Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Overall the paper is sound and discuss good aspect in exercise training for people with chronic heart failure. There are some points and suggestion need to be considered 1- The STROPE checklist is not the one appropriate for this type of papers. Instead, the CONSORT is the correct one to be used for RCT. 2- Since this a clinical trial, it should be registered with one of the international registries, as the one provided doesn't seem to be an online registration. 3- Abstract: -The methods section need to be re-written as no information about the grouping is mentioned (I suggest putting the names of the groups used in the manuscript). Also there is a need to define what was measured during this study in the methods what were the main outcome measures? -Results section need some clarification such as what is GRADE mean. and in the statement "A significant difference was observed between these groups of patients, considering grade at baseline ($p<0.05$)" the significant difference in what? -What were the other DD variables? 4-Methods -There is a need to write how randomization occur in the groups how the participant was allocated to either group. -In the exercise training program, please identify what is resistance maximum test (do you mean the maximum voluntary contraction test?) Also need to mention the venue of the exercise training program and the time of session during the day. -Was there any familiarization period before the actual test? -How VCO₂, VO₂, VE were measured via online system? The machine used for the breath-by-breath analysis did not provide these information? mentioned in methods, why not mentioned in table 1? 5-Results I suggest a table for the main demographic characteristics (age, sex, height, weight, and resting HR, maximum HR) of the participants which is needed in such studies