

博士学位論文内容の要旨

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学位論文題名	Immediate Effects of Thoracic Spine Self-mobilization in Patients With Mechanical Neck Pain: A Randomized Controlled Trial (頸部痛患者に対する胸椎セルフモビライゼーションの即時効果：ランダム化比較試験)
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【論文の内容の要旨】

Study Design: Randomized controlled trial.

Background: Thoracic spine self-mobilization is performed after thoracic spine thrust manipulation to augment and maintain its effects. To the best of our knowledge, no study has investigated the effects of thoracic spine self-mobilization alone in individuals with mechanical neck pain.

Objectives: To investigate the immediate effects of thoracic spine self-mobilization in patients with mechanical neck pain.

Methods: Fifty-two patients (39 females) with mechanical neck pain were randomly allocated to a thoracic spine self-mobilization group or a placebo thoracic spine self-mobilization group. Outcome measures were collected at pre-intervention and immediately after intervention, including the Neck Disability Index, visual analogue scale, and active cervical range of motion (ROM). The immediate effect of the intervention was analyzed using two-way repeated measures analysis of variance (ANOVA).

Results: The group \times time interactions for cervical flexion active ROM ($P = .005$) and cervical extension active ROM ($P = .036$) were significant. The tests of the simple main effect in cervical flexion active ROM (6° [95% CI: 3.7, 8.3], $P < .0001$) and cervical extension active ROM (5.8° [95% CI: 3.0, 8.6], $P < .0001$) showed a significant difference before and after intervention in the thoracic spine self-mobilization group.

Conclusion: Patients with mechanical neck pain who carried out thoracic spine self-mobilization showed increases in active cervical flexion and extension ROM.