Bibliographic identification

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Abstract

The thesis Monitoring of Postural and Respiratory Changes in Patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease summerises knowledge of etiology, etiopathogenesis and pathophysiology of the chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. It also contains chapters dealing with pathophysiology and changes of the breathing mechanics in COPD patients, changes of the spirometry results within the disease, chapters following posture and postural functions, dysfunctional breathing and alterations of the function of postural muscles and an increase of the work of breathing.

In the practical part of the thesis, 18 patients was involved in kinesiological assessment, dynamic tests of the movement of the spine, an assesment of the pathological barriers of the cervical, thoracic spine and ribs according to Lewit, tests of the deep stabilizing system and tests of the quality of life – CAT and SGRQ. These data were statistically processed together with the spirometrical data of the patients. There were three groups of patients compared according to the GOLD stage criteria for classifying stages of the COPD – stages I and II, III and IV. Not all hypotheses were confirmed, but the presumptive tendency was noticed when there was a comparison applied to the data from all the groups using statistical graphs. Concerning the patients with COPD, the attention should be focused on the mobility of the thorax, because it was found out to be the most frequent limitation assessed during functional tests, and also on a decrease in breathing amplitude and restriction of the movement in the segments of the thoracic spine. During therapy, we can target the limitations of daily life activities and breathing symptoms as cough, breathlessness and hypersecretion of the sputum according to the results of the health and quality of life related questionnaires. In any case, it would be necessary to improve the education and awareness among chronically respiratory ill patients suffering from respiratory diseases and provide them with enough information about the possibilities and limits of contemporary physiotherapy and respiratory physiotherapy.
Keywords

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, posture, postural changes, spirometry, rehabilitation