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Evaluation of the effect of HFRT on the anthropometric obesity parameters in patients of chronic heart failure-a retrospective analysis

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Statement of the Problem: Chronic heart failure (CHF) is a common cause of mortality and morbidity. Obesity influences the CHF development and prognosis. This study was conducted to assess effect of Heart failure reversal therapy (HFRT), a combination of panchakarma and allied therapies, on anthropometric parameters in CHF patients.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: This retrospective study was conducted on data of patients who visited Madhavbaug clinics in Maharashtra, India between July-December 2018. Selection was based upon the availability of complete baseline (day 1 of HFRT) and follow-up data (day 30 of HFRT) of CHF patients who were admitted for minimum five days for HFRT.

Findings: Out of 147 patients, 74.15% were males with mean age 59.15+10.28 years. There was statistically significant decrease (p<0.05) in both mean BMI and abdominal girth at day 30 of HFRT. 42 of 147 patients (28.57%) had hypertension (HTN) with CHF, 22 patients (14.97%) had diabetes mellitus (DM) and 61 patients (41.49%) had both HTN and DM. In all these sub-groups, mean BMI and abdominal girth was significantly decreased (p<0.05) at day 30. Strong positive correlation was found between BMI and abdominal girth on day 1 (R=0.9, P<0.05) and day 30 (R=0.83, P<0.05) by Pearson's correlation. Similar correlation was found between the two parameters in subsets of CHF patients having HTN or DM or both DM and HTN (p<0.05).

Conclusion & Significance: HFRT decreased BMI and abdominal circumference significantly in CHF patients, irrespective of the presence of HTN or DM. Both the anthropometric parameters correlated strongly in all comorbidity subsets of CHF patients.