

Reduced endurance of the cervical flexor muscles in patients with concurrent temporomandibular disorders and neck disability.

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Abstract

Subjects with temporomandibular disorders (TMDs) have been found to have clinical signs and symptoms of cervical dysfunction. Although many studies have investigated the relationship between the cervical spine and TMD, no study has evaluated the endurance capacity of the cervical muscles in patients with TMD. Thus the objective of this study was to determine whether patients with TMD had a reduced endurance of the cervical flexor muscles at any level of muscular contraction when compared with healthy subjects. One hundred and forty-nine participants provided data for this study (49 subjects were healthy, 54 had myogenous TMD, and 46 had mixed TMD). There was a significant difference in holding time at 25% MVC between subjects with mixed TMD when compared to subjects with myogenous TMD and healthy subjects. This implies that subjects with mixed TMD had less endurance capacity at a lower level of contraction (25% MVC) than healthy subjects and subjects with myogenous TMD. No significant associations between neck disability, jaw disability, clinical variables and neck flexor endurance test were found. Copyright © 2010 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

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