

INPLASY PROTOCOL

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Conflicts of interest: None.

Effectiveness of exercise, electroacupuncture and electrical stimulation in the management of peripheral neuropathy in people living with HIV/AIDS

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Review question / Objective: What is the effectiveness of exercise, electroacupuncture and electrical stimulation in the management of peripheral neuropathy in people living with HIV/AIDS?

Condition being studied: Peripheral neuropathy in people living with HIV/AIDS.

Information sources: Pubmed, The Cochrane Library, Emcare, Cinahl, PsycInfo, Amed, Medline and Embase

INPLASY registration number: This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 30 September 2020 and was last updated on 30 September 2020 (registration number INPLASY202090106).

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective: What is the effectiveness of exercise, electroacupuncture and electrical stimulation in the management of peripheral neuropathy in people living with HIV/AIDS?

Condition being studied: Peripheral neuropathy in people living with HIV/AIDS

METHODS

Search strategy: (((HIV patients OR HIV/AIDS patients OR HIV positive patients OR people living with HIV/AIDS OR people

living with HIV OR HIV infections OR acquired immune deficiency syndrome OR HIV/AIDS OR HIV OR AIDS OR HIV seropositive patients OR PLWH OR PLWHA OR HIV-1 NOT HIV-2)) AND (exercise intervention OR physical exercise OR exercise training OR aerobic exercise OR progressive resistance exercise OR strength training exercise OR resistance exercise OR exercise OR home based exercise OR supervised exercise OR isometric exercises OR remedial exercises OR endurance exercises OR rehabilitative exercises OR electroacupuncture OR electrical acupuncture OR multiple acupoint stimulation OR acupuncture points OR electrical stimulation OR electric stimulation OR Scrambler therapy OR electrical stimulations OR functional electrical stimulation OR transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation OR tens)) AND (peripheral neuropathy OR peripheral nervous system disease OR peripheral nerve disease OR peripheral nervous system disorder OR pns diseases).

Participant or population: People living with HIV/AIDS.

Intervention: Exercise, Electroacupuncture and Electrical stimulation.

Comparator: No intervention or other interventions other than the interventions listed above.

Study designs to be included: Randomized controlled trials.

Eligibility criteria: The studies must be published in English Language. The review includes only RCTs of the effectiveness on exercise, electroacupuncture and electrical stimulation in the management of peripheral neuropathy in PLWHA. Any RCT that contains any of the three interventions is eligible. Adults (>18 years) with HIV-related peripheral neuropathy, which are either on HAART or HAART-naïve. Exercise (both aerobic and resistance exercises) -Electroacupuncture (a form of acupuncture where a small electric current is passed between pairs of acupuncture needles) and -Electrical Stimulation

(Comprises of Electrical muscle stimulation and Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulator(TENS)) peripheral neuropathy.

Information sources: Pubmed, The Cochrane Library, Emcare, Cinahl, PsycInfo, Amed, Medline and Embase.

Main outcome(s): Peripheral neuropathy.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis: Risk of bias assessment in the individual studies will be carried out using the PEDro Scale which is a scale for quality appraisal of clinical trials. It will be used to appraise the quality and the risk of bias in the included studies. The PEDro scale will be based on the Delphi list developed by Verhagen and colleagues at the Department of Epidemiology, University of Maastricht (Verhagen et al, 1998). This scale was developed by the Physiotherapy Evidence Database and consists of a checklist of 10 scored yes or no questions pertaining to the internal validity and statistical information provided in the study. Poor quality= ≤ 3 ; fair/moderate quality= 4-5; high quality= 6-10. Poor quality study means that the study has a high risk of bias, while high quality study means the study have a low risk of bias (Table 4.1). Two reviewers will make judgments regarding the risk of bias independent of each other. Areas of differences will be resolved by discussion and reflection, or in consultation with the third reviewer. Appraisal of the quality of the included studies will be carried out after study selection is completed, and during data extraction and synthesis.

Strategy of data synthesis: I will do Title screening, Abstract screening and then the screening of the texts. Those that meet up with the inclusion criteria will be included in the review.

Subgroup analysis: None.

Sensibility analysis: Test for heterogeneity will be conducted to determine the impact of studies with high risk of bias on the overall estimate of effect of the intervention across the included studies.

Language: English language only, is eligible.

Country(ies) involved: Nigeria.

Keywords: Exercise, Electroacupuncture, Electrical stimulation, Peripheral neuropathy and PLWHA.

Contributions of each author:

Author 1 - Obinna Ogbonna - Formation of search strategy, screening and data extraction.

Author 2 - Sam Ibeneme - came up with the research topic, supervising the review procedures.

Author 3 - Franklin Irem - He will search the databases.