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INVESTIGATION OF THE CORRELATION BETWEEN KNEE ISOKINETIC STRENGTH AND STATIC-DYNAMIC LEG STRENGTH

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to investigate the correlation between knee isokinetic strength and leg static and dynamic strength in sedentary subjects. For this purpose, a total of 14 sedentary individuals (22.80 ± 1.48) participated in the study. Isokinetic measurements of the participants were performed with isokinetic dynamometer (CSMI Cybex Humac Norm, USA). Isokinetic tests were performed at 3 different motion angles (60os-1 / 180os-1 / 240os-1). Each movement angle was performed with 15 repetitions and 45 second rest intervals. Static leg strength was measured with a dynamometer. Dynamic leg strength was evaluated by vertical jump test. SPSS 20.0 package program was used for the analysis of the data. Significance level was accepted as $p < 0.05$. According to the results of research, significant correlation negatively between knee isokinetic strength at 60os-1 angular velocity including total work extension (nm), average power extension (W), time to peak torque values and dynamic leg strength ($p < 0.05$). No significant correlations between knee isokinetic strength 60os-1 angular velocity including peak torque flexion (nm), total work flexion (nm), average power flexion (W) and time to peak torque flexion (sec) values between static leg strength, and no significant correlations was detected between other angular velocity (180os-1 / 240os-1) between static and dynamic leg strength ($p > 0.05$). As a result, it can be said that there is a significant correlation negatively between knee isokinetic strength at 60os-1 angular velocity including total work extension (nm), average power extension (W), time to peak torque values and dynamic leg strength.

Keywords: isokinetic, strength, static, dynamic

1. INTRODUCTION

Isokinetic contraction is a muscle contraction in which the extremity moves continuously around a joint. The movement speed remains constant at the same speed with a special dynamometer. The resistance of the dynamometer is equal to the strength exerted at each angle during the movement. This method allows the measurement of muscular strength in dynamic movements and provides optimal load (Baltzopoulos and Brodie, 1989). In isokinetic studies, strength or velocity definitions are not appropriate. Instead, the term torque corresponding to angular velocity should be used. Strength around a point or axis is called torque and its unit is newtons / meters (Nm) or foot / pounds. Since the angular velocity cannot be mentioned in the closed kinetic chain, the term angular velocity is suitable for the open kinetic chain which is the open motion test (Dvir, 2004, Yılmaz, Kabadayı, Bostancı, Özdal & Mayda, 2019).

Strength can be defined as the nerve-muscle ability that overcomes internal and external resistances. The highest strength that an athlete can produce depends on the biomechanical properties of the movement and the contractile size of the muscle groups involved. During a physical activity that requires strength, a proper order must be found between the muscle groups involved. Muscles often participate consecutively in a certain sequence (Bompa, 2007). The capacity of the muscle to produce tension in all or part of the joint movement angle is known as dynamic contraction. A muscle can produce dynamic

tension either by shortening or lengthening. If joint movement exerts a strength opposite to gravity and the tension generated by the muscle exceeds the external resistance encountered, this is a shortened contraction, and a concentric contraction. If the joint movement is in the direction of normal power and the resistance encountered is above the muscle's capacity to produce tension, this is an eccentric contraction (Perrin, 1993; Özdal, Biçer & Pancar, 2019).

Muscle strength is one of the most important components of sport for high performance, injury prevention, and the effectiveness of injury rehabilitation in athletes (Impellizzeri, Rampinini, Maffiuletti & Marcora 2007; Metaxas, Koutlianos, Sendelides & Mandroukas, 2009). Muscle strength has two components: maximal and explosive which play a decisive role in many individual and team performance. Maximal strength sets the upper functional limit of the musculoskeletal system and is important for relatively slow movement tasks, while explosive strength is considered more important where time available to develop strength is limited in sports activities such as sprinting and jumping (Tillin & Folland, 2014; Tillin, Pain & Folland, 2012; Pancar, Biçer & Özdal, 2018). Thus, these movements are closely related to maximal strength and anaerobic power of the neuromuscular system (Billot, Martin, Paizis, Cometti & Babault, 2010. Ramírez-Campillo et al, 2013).

Jumping strength is defined as the jumping of the athlete as far as possible horizontally and vertically high (or both). The jumping strength is a combined ability and depends on the strength of the leg muscles, the explosive strength, the flexibility of the muscles involved in the jumping and the jumping technique (Günay, Sevim, Savaş & Erol, 1994). Isokinetic tests provide reliable information about the net strength of the muscles, weaknesses of muscles and the risk of disability in any way (Doğan at all., 2019; Gürol & Yılmaz, 2013). The aim of this study is to investigate the correlation between knee isokinetic strength and leg static and dynamic strength in sedentary individuals.

2. MATERIAL METHOD

2.1. Experimental Design and Participants

This study was designed according to the cross-controlled experimental design. A total of 14 sedentary individuals participated in the study. G Power 3.1 program was used to determine the number of subjects participating in the study. The subjects visited the laboratory three times in total. During the first visit, the participants were given detailed information about the measurements. In the second visit, isokinetic knee measurements were carried out. In the last visit, static and dynamic leg strength were measured. Our study was conducted according to the Declaration of Helsinki and the ethics committee permission was obtained from Gaziantep University Clinical Research and Ethics Committee.

Table 1. Descriptive Characteristics of the Participants

	Mean	Std. Deviation
Age (years)	22.80	1.48
Height (cm)	177.60	7.75
Weight (kg)	70.00	5.96
Static leg strength (kg)	79.75	19.46
Dynamic leg strength (cm)	39.70	4.47
60° peak torque extension (nm)	239.00	32.45
60° total work extension (nm)	1588.60	417.13
60° average power extension (W)	81.40	28.10
60° time to peak torque extension (sec)	0.55	0.13
60° peak torque flexion (nm)	98.50	19.76
60° total work flexion (nm)	1249.70	269.09
60° average power flexion (W)	73.00	15.56
60° time to peak torque flexion (sec)	0.60	0.15

Table 1. Descriptive Characteristics of the Participants

	Mean	Std. Deviation
180° peak torque extension (nm)	97.30	21.51
180° total work extension (nm)	1026.10	174.13
180° average power extension (W)	158.60	38.06
180° time to peak torque extension (sec)	0.24	0.04
180° peak torque flexion (nm)	85.90	35.14
180° total work flexion (nm)	831.70	104.35
180° average power flexion (W)	123.40	23.85
180° time to peak torque flexion (sec)	0.27	0.06
240° peak torque extension (nm)	79.70	11.81
240° total work extension (nm)	829.90	80.84
240° average power extension (W)	148.30	20.17
240° time to peak torque extension (sec)	0.20	0.05
240° peak torque flexion (nm)	65.40	9.25
240° total work flexion (nm)	704.70	66.86
240° average power flexion (W)	127.10	19.51
240° time to peak torque flexion (sec)	0.20	0.04

Table 1 shows that the descriptive characteristics of the participants. According to the table, the mean age of the participants was determined as 22.80 ± 1.48 years, height was 177.60 ± 7.75 cm, their weight was 70.00 ± 5.96 kg, static leg strength was 70 ± 19.46 , dynamic leg strength was 39.70 ± 4.74 .

2.2. Static and Dynamic Leg Strength Measurement

Static leg strength of the subjects was measured by a back and leg dynamometer (Takei- Back & Lift, Japan). After placing the legs on the dynamometer table with the knees ($130-140^\circ$), the arms were stretched, the back straight and the trunk slightly tilted forward, with the hands grasping the dynamometer bar vertically at the maximum rate, using the legs until the knees were extensible (Heyward, 2002). All strength measurements were repeated 3 times and the best grades were recorded as kg.

Dynamic leg strength was measured by vertical jump test (Sargent Jump) (Sevim and Şengül, 1987). In this measurement, the distance between the height at which the participant could reach to the standing and the point where he could jump and touch was measured in meters. Then, the dynamic strength calculation was made with the formula by using the body weights of the subjects (Garnbetta, 1989; Günay et al, 1994; Tamer, 1995).

2.3. Isokinetic Measurement

Isokinetic knee strength measurements were measured with an isokinetic dynamometer (CSMI Cybex Humac Norm, USA). Isokinetic tests were performed at 3 different motion angles (60°s^{-1} / 180°s^{-1} / 240°s^{-1}) and 15 repetitions at each angle. The measurement was made for the right side of the knee first, and the rest of the rest of the angular velocity was calculated as the sum of rest intervals isokinetic measurement of the left knee. 10 repetitive warm-up exercises were performed on an isokinetic dynamometer at 300°s^{-1} before testing at each angular velocity. The rest interval between each angular velocity was set to 45 seconds (Perrin, 1993).

2.4. Statistical Analysis

SPSS 20 program was used for statistical analysis. Pearson correlation analysis was used to examine the data in a correlational dimension. Values are presented as mean and standard deviation, and significance level is examined as 0.05.

3. RESULT

Table 2. Correlation Between 60° Isokinetic Knee Strength Values and Static-Dynamic Leg Strength

		Static	Dynamic
60° peak torque extension (nm)	r	.265	.196
	p	.459	.587
60° total work extension (nm)	r	-.112	-.671
	p	.758	.034
60° average power extension (W)	r	-.136	-.606
	p	.708	.043
60° time to peak torque extension (sec)	r	.476	-.605
	p	.164	.044
60° peak torque flexion (nm)	r	.209	-.365
	p	.562	.299
60° total work flexion (nm)	r	-.062	-.245
	p	.865	.496
60° average power flexion (W)	r	.235	-.174
	p	.514	.631
60° time to peak torque flexion (sec)	r	.268	.415
	p	.453	.233

Table 2 shows the correlation between the isokinetic strength values of the participants at 60°s⁻¹ and the static and dynamic leg strength. According to the table, there was a negative correlation between total work extension, average work extension and time to peak torque values and dynamic strength ($p < 0.05$). No significant correlation was found between the other values and static and dynamic leg strength ($p > 0.05$).

Table 3. Correlation Between 180° Isokinetic Knee Strength Values and Static-Dynamic Leg Strength

		Static	Dynamic
180° peak torque extension (nm)	r	.048	-.358
	p	.896	.310
180° total work extension (nm)	r	.159	-.342
	p	.662	.333
180° average power extension (W)	r	.128	-.323
	p	.724	.363
180° time to peak torque extension (sec)	r	.013	-.179
	p	.971	.621
180° peak torque flexion (nm)	r	-.493	-.002
	p	.148	.995
180° total work flexion (nm)	r	.148	-.143
	p	.683	.693
180° average power flexion (W)	r	-.041	-.238
	p	.911	.507
180° time to peak torque flexion (sec)	r	-.310	.386
	p	.384	.270

Table 3 shows the correlation between the isokinetic strength values of the participants at 180°s⁻¹ and the static and dynamic leg strength. According to the table, no significant correlation was found between isokinetic strength values and static and dynamic leg strength ($p > 0.05$).

Table 4. Correlation Between 240° Isokinetic Knee Strength Values and Static-Dynamic Leg Strength

		Static	Dynamic
240° peak torque extension (nm)	r	-.114	-.374
	p	.753	.287
240° total work extension (nm)	r	-.048	.229
	p	.895	.525
240° average power extension (W)	r	-.003	-.261
	p	.993	.466
240° time to peak torque extension (sec)	r	-.009	-.078
	p	.980	.830
240° peak torque flexsion (nm)	r	-.145	-.152
	p	.689	.674
240° total work flexsion (nm)	r	-.119	.207
	p	.744	.567
240° average power flexsion (W)	r	-.102	.050
	p	.780	.891
240° time to peak torque flexsion (sec)	r	-.283	.337
	p	.428	.341

Table 4 shows the correlation between the isokinetic strength values of the participants at 240°s⁻¹ and the static and dynamic leg strength. According to the table, no significant correlation was found between isokinetic strength values and static and dynamic leg strength ($p > 0.05$).

4. DISCUSSION

The aim of this study was to investigate the correlation between knee isokinetic strength and leg static and dynamic strength. For this purpose, a total of 14 sedentary individuals with a mean age of 22.80 ± 1.48 participated in the study. Isokinetic measurements of the participants were done with isokinetic dynamometer (CSMI Cybex Humac Norm, USA). Isokinetic tests were performed at 3 different motion angles (60°s⁻¹ / 180°s⁻¹ / 240°s⁻¹). Each movement angle was applied with 15 repetitions and 45 second resting intervals. Static leg strength was measured with a dynamometer. Dynamic leg strength was evaluated by vertical jump test. According to the results, knee isokinetic strength at 60°s⁻¹ angular velocity including total work extension (nm), average power extension (W) and time to peak torque values were found to be negatively correlated with dynamic leg strength ($p < 0.05$). There was no significant correlation ($p > 0.05$) between isokinetic knee strength at 60°s⁻¹ angular velocity including peak torque flexion (nm), total work flexion (nm), average power flexion (W) and time to peak torque flexion (sec) values and static strength and other angular velocity between static and dynamic leg strength. At the other angular velocities measured, there was no significant correlation between isokinetic knee strength and static and dynamic leg strength.

In a previous study, the correlation between lower jumping strength and vertical jumping and ball hitting performance was investigated. 19 elite football players were subjected to knee extension and flexion test at angular speeds of 60°s⁻¹, 240°s⁻¹ and 360°s⁻¹. Ball hit speeds were made by video analysis. As a result, no significant correlation was found between isokinetic knee strength and ball hit performance, and there was a low correlation between vertical jump and isokinetic strength. Strengthening of the knee joint muscles may develop jumping performance, but has no effect on impact performance (Saliba and Hrysomallis, 2001). The dynamic strength measured in our study was calculated by the vertical jump performance of the participants. According to the results of the study, a significant correlation was found between isokinetic strength values at 60°s⁻¹ angular velocity and dynamic leg strength values.

Previous studies have investigated the correlation between isokinetic strength generation and various performance values. In the results obtained from the studies, significant correlations were found between isokinetic strength values and performance related factors (Ermiş et al, Ermiş, Yılmaz, Kabadayı, Bostancı & Mayda, 2019; Frontera, Hughes, Lutz & Evans, 1991; Kale, Açıkkada & Yılmaz, 2008; Özkan & İşler, 2010; Şirin, İnce, Lök & Çağlayan, 2009). Isokinetic strength measurements and trainings of different sports branches and sporting performance according to the correlation between the

branch and the desired performance-specific angular velocity measurements can be done to improve sport performance and technical development can contribute (Tang and Shung, 2005).

A person's dynamic strength can be calculated by vertical jump. Vertical jump is a skill based on performance performed by maximal effort at one time (Sevim and Sengul, 1987). When we look at the results obtained, there is a significant correlation between dynamic leg strength and values measured at isokinetic 60°s^{-1} angular velocity. This can be attributed to the fact that the resistance at 60°s^{-1} is too high and the person exerts maximal or submaximal effort when performing the test.

In our study, the correlation between isokinetic strength and dynamic and static strength which is one of the performance indicators has been examined. According to the results of the study, a significant correlation was found between isokinetic knee strength and dynamic strength at 60°s^{-1} angular velocity. Determining such correlations may be especially important for having information about the performances of athletes in order to make more accurate and objective evaluations. Because isokinetic values provide direct information on muscle strength, the data obtained are important for achieving performance efficiency. As a result, it can be said that there is a significant correlation between 60°s^{-1} knee isokinetic strength and dynamic leg strength.

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