



## Research Article

# General Recuperation of Elderly People through Regular Physical Training on Simulators

Stepanova ON<sup>1</sup>, Shmeleva SV<sup>1\*</sup>, Golenkov AV<sup>2</sup>, Seselkin AI<sup>1</sup> and Savin SV<sup>1</sup>

### Abstract

A very affordable option for general improvement of older members of society is the use of physical exercises during their leisure activities in the gym. In this connection the goal is to assess the overall health of effective exercise on simulators in the elderly. Conducted recreational activities carried out by the author's method allowed achieving more preferable results. After 6 months observations in the experimental group achieved a balance of sympathetic and parasympathetic influences, close to the state of vegetative equilibrium. As a result of using the author's method of training on simulators, the observed elderly people managed to normalize the weight-to-growth ratio, reducing it by 42,7%. This was accompanied in the persons of the experimental group by a decrease in the intensity of adaptation of the circulatory system (by 25,8%) to the level of satisfactory adaptation. As a result of a comprehensive assessment of overall physical development in the experimental group, it was possible to establish its output at a high level against the background of the author's version of recovery. Taking into account the results of the influence of the developed scheme of recovery on the simulators on the dynamics of registered of integral indices, there is advantage of elderly people before a regular but unsystematic visit to the gym.

### Keywords

Elderly age; Exercise; Simulators; Rehabilitation; Prevention

## Introduction

One of the most important indicators of the welfare of society in economically developed countries is the level of health of its citizens of advanced age [1,2]. It is known that it depends not only on their medical care, but also on the level of their motor activity [3]. The complexity of this issue is due to the fact that the elderly age is often burdened by many chronic diseases [4,5]. Their course often has a progressive character and is difficult to compensate [6,7]. The cardiovascular pathology occupies a prominent place, which very often leads to disability and death of older persons [8,9].

The leading direction of comprehensive health promotion in old age should be considered the use of physical exercises of a different nature [10,11]. It is recognized that the regular dosage of regular muscular activity within the framework of rational exercise can

provide, including in the elderly, a preventive and healing effect in relation to many variants of pathology [12,13].

Modern medicine has an acute need to continue improving the complexes of physical exercises and programs aimed at comprehensive recovery in old age [14-16]. Accessible options for the correction of the condition of older people are physical exercises in the framework of leisure activities in the gym. In this connection, the goal is to assess the overall health effect of regular physical exercises on simulators in the elderly.

## Materials and Methods

The study was approved by the local ethics committee of the Russian State Social University on September 15, 2016 (protocol No. 9). The study was conducted on the basis of the "Impulse" gym in Protvino, Moscow Region. The study took 62 elderly people who had not been systematically attended gyms. There were formed control group and experimental group which were observed for six months. The criterion for inclusion in the study was the absence in the elderly of clinical manifestations of atherosclerosis, heart failure, metabolic, oncological and allergic diseases. Those included in the study were allowed to have arterial hypertension no higher than 1 degree.

The control group consisted of 31 people (17 men and 14 women). Their average age was  $64,2 \pm 1,2$  years. This group was formed from people who had the opportunity to attend classes in the gym once or twice a week, but could not adhere to the proposed scheme of exercises in the author's methodology.

The experimental group included 31 people, 16 men and 15 women of elderly age. Average age in the experimental group was  $65,0 \pm 1,3$  years. Engaged in the experimental group who attended the classes in the gym strictly three times a week? For their training, block-type simulators were used, which made it possible to regulate the load by changing the weights and to include in the work alternately different muscle groups.

Exercise complexes used in the experimental group had sacral-occipital direction of influence on the muscular system [17,18]. As a part of the used complexes asymmetric, symmetric and dedicational exercises were applied [19,20]. There was used method of standard - repeated exercise during compiling exercise complexes on simulators [21].

The method of repeated efforts was used to select the level of weights on the simulators. Weight of cargo was selected depending on the number of repetitions (15-20 times). The level of load was maintained until the adaptation to it occurred: an increase in the amplitude of movements in the joints, an increase in the strength indicators for this exercise. Only after this, the load level increased. Exercises were performed in 2 approaches with an emphasis on the conceding (eccentric) regimen with prolonged exhalation.

To assess the condition of the examined in the outcome and six months of training on the simulators, the following methods were used in the work:

Assessment of the functional state of the circulatory system was carried out by the method of [22]. Measure the height and body

\*Corresponding author: Shmeleva Svetlana Vasilievna, Director of the Department of Adaptive Physical Culture and recreation Russian State Social University, Moscow, Russia, Tel: +7-915-147-98-32; E-mail: smelevasv@mail.ru

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weight; determine the pulse rate and the level of blood pressure. To quantify the level of the functional state (FS) of the circulatory system in points, the following formula is used:  $PS = 0,011 (HR) + 0,014 (SBP) + 0,008 (DBP) + 0,014 (Rev.) + 0,009 (MT) - 0,009 (DT - 0,27)$ , Rev. - age in years; SBP and DBP - systolic and diastolic blood pressure in mmHg; Heart rate - heart rate in bpm; MT - body weight in kg; DT - body length in cm. The evaluation of the level of adaptation of the circulatory system in the examined subjects was evaluated according to the scale below (Table 1).

The functional state of the autonomic nervous system (vegetative Kerdo index) [22] was calculated using the formula:  $(1-DD / HR) \times 100$ , where DD is the diastolic blood pressure; Heart rate - heart rate. The following criteria were used for evaluation. The magnitude of the vegetative index of Kerdo ranges from -15 to +15 indicates a balance of sympathetic and parasympathetic influences.

The value of vegetative index Kerdo above + 15 indicates the predominance of the sympathetic tone of the autonomic nervous system. The value of the vegetative index of Kerdo is less than - 15, indicating the predominance of the parasympathetic tone of the autonomic nervous system. With the value of the vegetative Kerdo index, there is a vegetative equilibrium.

Evaluation of the weight-growth index [23]. The weight-growth index is an integral characteristic of development and reflects the formed level of metabolic processes. The criteria for its evaluation are presented in Table 2.

Assessment of the level of general physical development of the elderly (indicators of the vegetative-vascular system) [24]. A number of simple definitions of indicators were used, which were introduced into the following formula:

$Y = -0,615 \times X1 + 0,259 \times X2 - 0,322 \times X3 - 0,124 \times X4 + 0,148 \times X5 - 0,023 \times X6 + 54,21$  where Y is the general physical state; X1 - age, years; X2 - body length, cm; X3 - body weight, kg; X4 - Heart rate at rest, bpm; X5 - systolic blood pressure, mmHg; X6 - diastolic blood pressure, mm Hg. The evaluation criteria are presented in Table 3.

The results of the study were mathematically processed with the calculation of the arithmetic mean (M), the error of the arithmetic mean (m) and the level of reliability in the t-test of the Student ( $p < 0.05$ ).

## Results of the Study

The data on the status of the indicators taken into account among the elderly surveyed are systematized in Table 4.

Conventions: p - reliability of differences in baseline values and values at the end of the observation in both groups; p1 - reliability of differences in indicators at the end of observation between groups. The reliability of differences between groups in terms of outcomes was not obtained.

In the initial state, an increase in the weight-to-height ratio was noted in the examinees who made up the control and experimental group, which was aggravated by the initial manifestations of the unsatisfactory adaptation of the circulatory system in them. This was followed in all examined by the prevalence of sympathetic influences over parasympathetic ones. In addition all those surveyed at the time of taking under supervision had a low level of general physical development (in control  $37,1 \pm 0,62$  points, in the experimental group  $37,5 \pm 0,59$  points).

The beginning of training on simulators in both observation groups led to a change in the level of indicators taken into account. As a result of training on simulators 1-2 times a week, according to the free schedule (control group), the Kerdo index decreased by 70,3%, which indicated an equilibrium between sympathetic and parasympathetic influences in the body. This was accompanied by a decrease in the weight-to-weight ratio by 12,0%, which indicated their transition from the category of overweight to the category of persons with increased body weight [25]. Also, in the control group after six months of visiting the gym, the value of the functional state of the circulatory system decreased by 8,9%. The dynamics found indicated the exit of their circulatory system from the state of unsatisfactory adaptation and the attainment of the level of tension of the adaptation mechanisms by it. After six months of observation, the control group noted an increase in the level of general physical development by 25,6%. This indicated that the persons who formed the control group reached the average level of general physical development.

The health measures carried out by the author's method allowed achieving better results in the experimental group than in the control. So after 6 months, Observations in the experimental group achieved a more stable balance of sympathetic and parasympathetic influences than in people in the control group. After six months of classes in the experimental group, their balance approached the state of vegetative equilibrium (Kerdo index  $3,6 \pm 0,23$  points). As a result of using the author's methodology, the elderly people of the experimental group managed to reduce the weight-growth ratio by 42,7%, thereby ensuring its normalization.

This was accompanied by a more pronounced decrease in the intensity of the adaptation of the circulatory system (by 25,8%), which ensured that it reached a level of satisfactory adaptation [26], indicating a marked strengthening of the cardiovascular system in them [27]. A comprehensive assessment of the overall physical development made it possible to establish a more pronounced positive dynamics in the experimental group by the end of the observation. The achieved result prevailed over the control values by 12,9% and indicated the achievement by the experimental group of a high level of general physical development.

**Table 1:** Scale for assessing the functional state of the circulatory system.

Nº	Adaptation status	Values of FS in points
1	Satisfactory adaptation	to 2,60
2	The tension of adaptation mechanisms	2,60-3,09
3	Unsatisfactory adaptation	3,10-3,60
4	Disruption of adaptation	above 3,60

**Table 2:** The scale of body weight in old age by weight-growth index.

Weight-growth index (g / cm)	Body weight estimation
<310	Deficit
310-369	Reduced
370-480	Norm
481 - 540	Increased
>540	Excess

**Table 3:** Scale of assessment of general physical condition.

The level of general physical development	Values in points
High	More than 51
average	38-51
Low	Less than 38

**Table 4:** Results of the assessment of the health status of persons taken into the study.

indicators	Observation groups			
	Control group M ± m, n=31		Experimental group, M ± m, n=31	
	outcome	at the end of observation	outcome	at the end of observation
Autonomic Kerdo index, points	17,2 ± 0,34	10,1 ± 0,28 p<0,01	17,5 ± 0,27	3,6 ± 0,23 p<0,01 p <sub>1</sub> <0,01
Weight-growth index, g/cm	551,8 ± 3,16	492,6 ± 2,88 p<0,05	549,6 ± 2,99	385,1 ± 2,55 p<0,01 p <sub>1</sub> <0,01
Functional state of the circulatory system, points	3,15 ± 0,45	2,89 ± 0,36 p<0,05	3,17 ± 0,48	2,52 ± 0,32 p<0,01 p <sub>1</sub> <0,05
General physical development, scores	37,1 ± 0,62	46,6 ± 0,50 p<0,05	37,5 ± 0,59	52,6 ± 0,43 p<0,01 p <sub>1</sub> <0,05

Thus, systematic and metered exercises with physical exercises on the simulators are able to bring in the elderly a pronounced health-improving effect that surpasses the effectiveness of training in the gym on a free schedule.

## Conclusion

The problem of preserving and restoring the health of elderly people is becoming increasingly important in developed countries due to the increase in their share in the population structure. For this contingent, the decrease in motor activity becomes common, which increases the number of dysfunctions and complex pathology in it. In this regard it becomes necessary to further search for rational forms of therapeutic and preventive and health-improving work in the elderly with the help of physical exercises. When assessing the impact of the health improvement scheme developed by the authors on the simulators with the help of integral indices, its advantages were shown before a haphazard visit to the gym. After 6 months observations in the experimental group achieved a more stable balance of sympathetic and parasympathetic influences and normalize the weight-to-height ratio. This was accompanied in the experimental group by the achievement of a satisfactory adaptation of the circulatory system and a high level of general physical development. Based on the conducted research, it can be said that systematic and metered exercises with physical exercises on the simulators are able to bring in the elderly a pronounced health-improving effect that surpasses the effectiveness of training in the gym on a free schedule.

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#### **Author Affiliations**

[Top](#)

<sup>1</sup>Russian State Social University, Moscow, Russia

<sup>2</sup>Federal State Budget Educational Institution of Higher Education "Chuvash State University named after I.N. Ulyanov", Russia