



## WALKING EXERCISE AS A CHOICE IN LOWERING BLOOD PRESSURE IN HYPERTENSIVE PATIENTS: SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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ABSTRACT	Keywords
<p>Hypertension is a health condition that affects 26% of people worldwide. The World Health Organization (WHO) in "Global NCD Target Reduce High Blood Pressure" explains that an increase in blood pressure causes the death of 9.4 million people and is a major risk factor for global death. Uncontrolled hypertension results in various complications, even death in a person. Therefore, complex pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapy management is needed to repair various organs. Walking exercise is a non-pharmacological method to control blood pressure. Objective: To determine the effect of walking exercise on changes in blood pressure in hypertensive patients. Methods: Search for articles through PubMed, Science Direct, and EBSCO databases. The article inclusion criteria used were: 1) research studies using quantitative methods, 2) studies conducted on patients with hypertension based on hypertension criteria according to two, 3) study with walking exercise intervention as an independent intervention or intervention combined with other interventions. The appraisal study used the critical appraisal skills program (CASP), and the synthesis method used modified PICOS. Result: 17 journals were analyzed. The results of a review of 17 journals showed that walking exercise was effective in reducing blood pressure in hypertensive patients. Conclusion: A walking exercise which is done routinely can reduce systolic and diastolic blood pressure in hypertensive patients. Walking exercise can be included as an independent nursing intervention through health education to control blood pressure in hypertensive patients.</p>	<p><i>walking exercise, blood pressure, and Hypertension</i></p>

### INTRODUCTION

Hypertension is a condition, where a person has systolic blood pressure  $\geq 140$ mmHg and diastolic blood pressure  $\geq 90$ mmHg (Haldar, 2013). Hypertension is a health condition that affects 26% of people worldwide (Busse & Miranda, 2018). World Health Organization (WHO) in "Global NCD Target Reduce High Blood Pressure"

explained that an increase in blood pressure caused the death of 9.4 million people and was a major risk factor for global death. Several conditions, such as alcohol consumption, being overweight, lack of physical activity, high sodium intake, contribute to the increase in the incidence of hypertension globally. So it is necessary to monitor or control blood pressure on a

regular basis with several therapy and counseling programs (WHO, 2016)

Hypertension is the most important risk factor for cardiovascular disease. Increasing blood pressure from normal limits can increase the risk of kidney, heart and blood vessel disorders, vision loss, permanent disability, stroke, and death. (Mirdha & Dr. Mishra, 2015). Uncontrolled blood pressure causes various problems in several organs of the body. The progressive increase in systolic and diastolic blood pressure can cause an increase in the load on the left ventricle. The increased ventricular load can result in left ventricular hypertrophy and increased O<sub>2</sub> requirements so that in a long time there can be a decrease in function in the cardiovascular system (Patil et al., 2017). Hypertension also affects decreasing microvascular structure and function. One of them is a decrease in the microcirculation in the retina. The increase in blood pressure results in the narrowing of the arterioles in the retina, resulting in decreased blood circulation in the retina. This situation can lead to blindness in a person. Retinal constriction is also found in clients with stroke and kidney disease (Chua et al., 2019).

Blood pressure is increasingly uncontrolled and results in various complications, even death in a person. Therefore, complex pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapy management is needed to repair various organs, especially the cardiovascular system. Exercise is one of the non-pharmacological methods in controlling the increase in blood pressure. Regular exercise can lower systolic and diastolic blood pressure and reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease. The results showed that increasing exercise capacity was able to reduce the risk of death in patients with hypertension (Farinatti et al., 2016). One of the exercises that can be applied to patients with hypertension is

walking exercises. Walking exercises can improve a person's fitness. Based on several research results, it is known that walking exercises carried out regularly can improve the function of the cardiovascular system with blood pressure stability, improve lipid profile, reduce body fat ratio, and improve one's emotional condition. (Othman & Temur, 2018).

This study aimed to conduct a systematic review of the effect of walking exercise on blood pressure in hypertensive patients. In this study, the authors identified a research publication journal about the use of walking exercises in hypertensive patients. The results of this systematic review are expected to apply to health services, especially nursing. This systematic review is presented in the form of articles consisting of; abstract, introduction, methods, results and discussion, conclusions, and bibliography.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The literature study in this article is a systematic review. The effect of walking exercise on changes in blood pressure in hypertensive patients will be reviewed, including how the sample is taken and the variables measured. Reviewers conducted database searches and article screening independently by following the requirements in fulfilling the inclusion criteria

### **1. Inclusion criteria**

#### **1) Study Characteristics**

Research publications that are included in the inclusion criteria in this systematic review are quantitative research types with randomized control trial (RCT) and quasi-experimental approaches that provide independent walking exercise interventions, or walking exercises in combination. The limitation of publication is research in the last 10 years of publication (2010- 2020).

#### **2) Respondent Characteristics**

This systematic review focuses on the use of research journals with the criteria of respondents in patients with hypertension based on WHO hypertension criteria, patients in the age range (17 years-80 years), patients in stable condition.

3) Intervention type walking

Intervention walking exercise is a regular walking exercise, whether done in the form of an independent intervention or combination with other interventions.

**2.Exclusion Criteria**

Literature exclusion criteria were researched with the qualitative method of research, as well as quantitative research on the use of walking exercise therapy for respondents who did not have hypertension. An outcome study that did not include blood pressure as the independent variable.

**3.Literature search strategy**

*Systematic review* This is done by tracing published articles in the database: Pubmed, ScienceDirect, and Ebsco with the keywords Walking exercise OR Exercise training AND Hypertension OR Blood Pressure AND randomized control trial OR Quasy Experiment. Literature search strategy using the PICOS method and creating research questions.

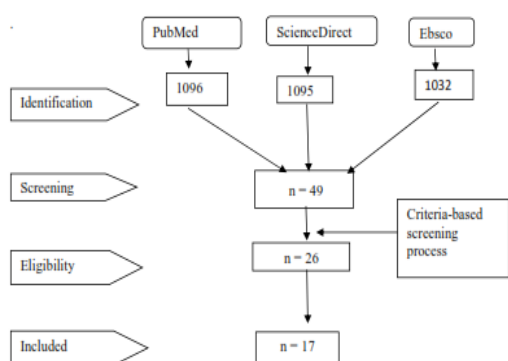


Figure 1. Flow Chart of the Review Process.

Quantitative studies must meet the PICOS criteria, in which the population used is hypertension patients based on WHO criteria. The patient is stable. The intervention used was a walking exercise. Comparison or comparison in the study consists of at least 1 group, namely the intervention group or the placebo group and the intervention group, the resulting outcomes are systolic and diastolic blood pressure. All studies use English. From the total journals, there were 26 journals and after further examination, 17 international journals were selected for review.

**Research question:** "Is walking exercise effective in lowering blood pressure in hypertensive patients? If so, will it have a significant impact? "

**1.Study Quality Assessment Methods**

The process of analyzing articles is carried out according to the criteria using the critical appraisal tool for the randomized control trial research design. The review of articles is carried out by one person, namely the reviewer using the critical appraisal skills program (CSAP) measurement tool. The resulting data were analyzed and then extracted and synthesized according to the objectives.

**2.Data extraction method**

The data obtained from the literature that meets the inclusion criteria are then reviewed one by one in a way arranged in a table to facilitate the review process. The table contains the author's name and research year, research design, experimental and control groups, intervention, and measurement results. The extraction process is carried out by one person, namely the reviewer. The data extraction results are attached.

### 3. Data Synthesis

Making a Systematic Review is done by analyzing research journals based on predetermined inclusion and exclusion criteria, namely hypertensive patients. The research design analyzed was the Randomized Control Trial and Quays Experiment. The type of intervention carried out on the respondent was light exercise therapy, namely walking exercise. The intervention is independent, namely only walking exercise or a combination of other therapies. Article research is carried out using the PICOS framework approach, by providing a time frame or limit for the review of articles, namely 2010-2020. Publication tracking strategies in the database: Pubmed, ScienceDirect, and Ebsco with the keywords Walking exercise OR Exercise training AND Hypertension OR Blood Pressure AND randomized control trial OR Quasy Experiment. The article was carried out with data extraction in the form of making a table to make it easier to study the journal with details, namely: author's name and research year, research design, experimental and control groups, intervention, and measurement results. The method used to criticize journal articles used is the Critical Appraisal Skills Program (CASP) instrument. This instrument identifies literature through screening questions. This method is to reduce the existing bias in this systematic review study. The form of synthesis that will be presented in the systematic review is identification, screening, eligibility, and included. The method used to critique journal articles used is the Critical Appraisal Skills Program (CASP) instrument. This instrument identifies the literature through screening questions. This method is to reduce the existing bias in this systematic review study. The form of synthesis that will be presented in the systematic review is identification, screening, eligibility, and included. The method used to criticize journal articles used is the Critical Appraisal Skills Program (CASP) instrument. This

instrument identifies literature through screening questions. This method is to reduce the existing bias in this systematic review study. The form of synthesis that will be presented in the systematic review is identification, screening, eligibility, and included.

## RESULTS

### Characteristics of the Systematic Review Literature

Based on the review results of 17 journals, data collection was carried out in the United Nation of America as many as 2 journals, North Korea 1 journal, Brazile3 journals, India 2 journals, Pakistan 1 journal, China 1 journal, Japan 1 journal, Turkey 1 journal, Poland 1 journal, Italy 1 journal, and Indonesia 1 journal. The total of all respondents in the literature is 1360 respondents. The research design consisted of 15 journals with randomized control trial and 2 journals with *quasi-experiment*

#### 1. Intervention walking exercise

Review results From 17 research journals, walking exercise is applied by several methods. The walking exercise was done alone at the respondent's house with a duration of 30 minutes per exercise with a frequency of 3 times per week. The walking exercise begins with stretching exercises (Farinatti et al., 2016). In another study, walking exercise techniques were performed at home for 15-20 minutes per day for 5 weeks. In addition to walking exercises, hypertensive patients are also advised to consume a hypertensive diet based on the recommended DASH diet (Paula et al., 2015). In a study conducted by Othman, S. T H., & Temur, B., in 2018 suggested that the treatment technique was carried out on respondents, namely by guiding walking exercises in a park with a frequency of 3 times per week for 2 months (Othman & Temur, 2018).

Research conducted by He, Li, *at al* applies aerobic exercise and walking exercise with a duration of 60 minutes. Exercises carried out for 12 weeks with a frequency of training 3 times per week. Exercises are carried out in the hospital corridor along the 30 meters. Each exercise of the respondent was accompanied by a health worker and was carried out in stages(He et al., 2018). Meanwhile, Simona M., et al in their research applied walking exercises that were carried out every day for respondents. The exercise is carried out gradually, with a duration of 15 minutes to 30 minutes during the first month. Whereas in the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th months the duration of the exercise increases and remains to be 50-70 minutes. In his research, the respondents were divided into 3 groups, namely the slow walking exercise group (4 km/hour), moderate walking exercise (4-5 km/hour), and fast walking exercise > 5 km/hour (Mandini et al., 2018).

Research conducted by Mirdha M., & Mishra applied fast walking exercises with a duration of 30 minutes per day, with a frequency of 6-7 exercises per week. After that, the respondents are advised to take part in the next training session, namely the yoga pranayama technique and Shavasana (Mirdha & Dr. Mishra, 2015). While research conducted by Ohta Y., *at al* applied walking exercises at home which were carried out every day by respondents with a duration of 30-60 minutes with a target of 100,000 steps for 4 weeks (Ohta et al., 2015).

Walking exercises performed on the Sushma T. research, *at al* is a 30-minute walking exercise. Before starting the exercise, the respondents followed a 5-minute warm-up procedure. After the exercise is over, respondents are advised to follow the cooling procedure for 5 minutes. Apart from that, the respondents also followed training procedures for boat

breathing, anuloma-villoma, and deep slow breathing for 15 minutes (Sushma et al., 2011).

Rehana Mushtaq R., and Khan ZT, conducted a study to lower blood pressure in hypertensive patients. In this study, respondents in the treatment group applied walking exercises on a treadmill with a frequency of 4 times per week, with a duration of 60 minutes of exercise. Exercise walking on a treadmill begins with a 10-minute warm-up session, a 40-minute walking workout, and 10 minutes of cool down(Mushtaq & Khan, 2010). Meanwhile, Busse P., & Miranda J., J in their research applied walking exercises with a duration of 30 minutes without stopping. Exercise is done 3 times a week (Busse & Miranda, 2018).

## **2.Measuring instrument**

The clinical symptoms analyzed by this systematic review were changes in systolic and diastolic blood pressure. Changes in blood pressure were measured using a sphygmomanometer. Based on the results of a review of 17 journals using a sphygmomanometer to measure changes in blood pressure. Changes in blood pressure were measured before and after the walking exercise treatment. Respondents first had their blood pressure measured both systole and diastole and identified according to the inclusion criteria. After that, the respondents were treated with walking exercises. The second blood pressure measurement is completed within the specified period. A post-test was performed to determine any changes in systolic and diastolic blood pressure.

## **3.Effect of walking exercise on changes in blood pressure**

The results of the journal analysis show that walking exercise can effectively control

blood pressure in hypertensive patients. Based on the analysis of 17 journals that have been reviewed, it is known that 16 research journals prove that walking exercise techniques have a significant effect on reducing blood pressure in systole and diastole ( $P < 0.05$ ). Meanwhile, 1 journal stated that walking exercise techniques did not significantly affect the decrease in systolic and diastolic blood pressure ( $P > 0.05$ ).

Table 1. Analysis of research journals

No	Researcher	Aim	Respondent Criteria	The walking exercise method	Results of change in blood pressure after the intervention
1	(Fari natti et al., 2016)	Analyze the influence of a home-based exercise program upon blood pressure, blood metabolic profile, and physical fitness	1) T he intervention was performed in patients with hypertension who had discontinued pharmacologic therapy for the past 6 months. 2) T he hypertensive patient is stable, has no bone disorders, and is not diagnosed with	Exercise method: Exercise walking relaxed accompanied by a stretching stage. Frequency: exercise 3 times per week. Duration: 30 minutes per session. Duration of training: 16 months.	There was a significant change in systolic and diastolic blood pressure between the intervention group and the control group (p-value <0.05). The results showed that there were significant differences in the mean difference between the

			diabetes, myocardial infarction, heart failure, ischemic heart disease, or unstable angina in the previous two years;		intervention group and the control group at the first 8 months and the second 8 months (p-value <0.05).
2	(Paula et al., 2015)	evaluate the effect of the DASH diet associated with increased walking on ABPM	1) T he intervention was carried out in hypertensive patients with blood pressure $140/90 \leq$ mmHg - $<180/120$ mmHg). 2) b ody mass index (BMI) $\leq$ 40 kg / m <sup>2</sup> , and serum creatinine $<176$ mmol / L. 3) $\leq$ 40 kg / m <sup>2</sup> , and serum creatinine $<176$ mmol / L. 4) H as no physical disabilities.	Exercise method: Exercise walking leisurely done at home independently. Exercise frequency 5 times per week. Duration of 15-20 minutes per session. exercise is done regularly for 4 weeks. Besides, respondents also received the DASH diet program.	The results showed that there was a significant difference in changes in systolic blood pressure (p-value 0.021), as well as differences in changes in diastolic blood pressure (p-value 0.013) between the control group and the intervention group.
3	(De Moura Rebo)	evaluate the effects of	1) p atients had a mean	Exercise method:	There was a significant

redo et al., 2010)	supervised aerobic exercise training on physical functioning, blood pressure, quality of life, and laboratory data in hemodialysis patients	age of 47.6 ± 11.4 years 2) Hypertensive patients with systolic blood pressure ≤ 200 mmHg 3) diastolic blood pressure ≤ 120 mmHg 4) The patient is stable 5) The patient has muscular skeletal disorders	starting with stretching for 10 minutes of aerobic exercise and continued with 6 MWT (6 minutes of walking exercise) with 30 meters on a flat area. Frequency: 3 times per week Duration of exercise: 12 weeks	change in systolic blood pressure of 12 mmHg, and a change in diastolic blood pressure of 5 mmHg when compared with the control group. Besides, from 18 patient s, 8 patient s were known to no longer receive anti-hypertensive drug therapy, 1 patient received a reduction in the dose of antihypertensive drugs, and 9 patients received pharmacological therapy with a fixed-dose.	over some blood parameters	2) The patient is in stable condition	jogging for 90 minutes. Frequency: 3 times per week Duration of exercise: 8 weeks	after the intervention (p = 0.00). Based on the results of the study, it was found that the difference in pre-post test systole blood pressure was 28.31 mmHg, while the difference in pre-post test diastolic blood pressure was 7.401 mmHg.		
4 .	(Othman & Temur, 2018)	investigate the effects of walking and running exercises	1) patients were in the age range of 48.05 ± 2.30 years	Exercise method: doing exercise walking leisurely and	There were significant changes in systole and diastole blood pressure	5 . (He et al., 2018)	Whether aerobic exercise programs with different intensities could reduce the magnitude of BP rise.	1) patients in the age range of 50-60 years 2) The patient is in stable condition 3) Blood pressure 140mmHg ≤ SBP < 160mmHg, and / or DBP < 99mmHg	Exercise method: Exercise brisk walking for 60 minutes Frequency: 3 times per week Duration of exercise: 12 weeks	The results showed that there were differences in changes in blood pressure between the control group and the intervention group. The difference in change s in systole blood pressure was significant with p = 0.035.

					Meanw hile, change s in diastoli c blood pressur e were conside red insignif icant.					diastoli c blood pressur e was observ ed after the interve ntion for 6 months . The decreas e in DBP was more signific ant in the group with DBP> 160 mmHg.
6	(Man dini et al., 2018 )	assess the effects of walkin g on the blood pressur e in sedent ary adults with differi ng degree s of systoli c blood pressur e (SBP).	1) P atients with SBP> 140 mmHg 2) T he patient is in stable conditi on	Exerci se metho d: walki ng exerci se starts with moder ate intensi ty, which is 15 to 30 minut es. The distan ce and walki ng speed are progre ssivel y increa sed accord ing to the respon dent's ability to reach 50-70 minut es for each trainin g sessio n. Frequ ency: 5-6 times per week Durati on of exerci se: 6 month s	After the interve ntion, it was found that there was a signific ant decreas e in systolic blood pressur e. In the group of respon dents with SBP> 160 mmHg there was a decreas e of 21.3 mmHg, in the group with SBP 150- 159 mmHg there was a decreas e of 11.8 mmHg, the group with SBP 140- 149 mmHg there was a decreas e of 7.5 mmHg. The decreas e in					
7	(Mir dha & Dr. Mish ra, 2015 )	Knowi ng the effect of walkin g exercis e and relaxat ion on hypert ension control	1) H yperten sive patients with an age range of 30- 65 years 2) T he patient receiv ed constan t pharma cologic al therapy during the interve ntion 3) B MI 20- 30	Metho ds of exerci se: doing yoga prana yama relaxa tion techni ques and asanas guide d by an instru ctor and 30 minut es of brisk walki ng. Frequ ency: 5-6 times per week Durati on of trainin g: 4 month s	The results showed that there were signific ant differen ces in blood pressur e change s betwe n the interve ntion group and the control group (p- value <0.01). The decreas e in mean SBP in the interve ntion group after 2 months was 11.46 mmHg, after 4 months there was a decreas e in the mean					





		ation reduce s ambula tory blood pressur e (ABP) in prehyp ertensi ve men and women .	patients with SBP 120- 139mm Hg, DBP 80-89 mmHg.	during work and 6 hours after work Frequ ency: 5-6 times per week	mmHg during the exercis e period. After the interven tion was comple ted, all respon dents were able to reach systole blood pressur e <120m mHg, while DPB seemed to decreas e after treatme nt, howev er, 14% of respon dents still had DBP> 90mm Hg.
1 1 .	(Park et al., 2011 )	Knowi ng the effect of healthy aging and happy aging progra ms that are integra ted with health educati on and exercis e progra ms for elderly people with hypert ension	Elderly hypertensive patients with age $\geq$ 65 years A patient diagnosed with hypertension $\geq$ 1 year	Exerci se metho d: Evalu ate the ability to walk casual ly by warmi ng up 15 minut es, and coolin g down 5 minut es. Frequ ency: 2 times per week	The healthy aging and happy aging progra m integrat ed with health educati on and exercis e were signific antly effectiv e in reducin g systole blood pressur e in elderly people with hyperte nsion

					Durati on of exerci se: 12 weeks	(P 0.004).
1 2 .	(Mus htaq & Khan , 2010 )	Knowi ng the effect of exercis e on the risk of health proble ms	1) H ypertensiv e patients with systolic blood pressure> 160 mmHg 2) a nd diastole> 95 mmHg.	Exerci se metho d: exerci se walki ng on a tread mill for 50- 60 minut es with the stages of warm- up time (5-10 min), fat- burnin g period (10 min), aerobi c exerci se (15 min) the main perfor mance with tread mill exerci se (15 min) and a cool- down period (10 min). Frequ ency: 4 times per week Durati on of exerci se: 10 weeks	Interven tions carried out on respon dents were able to signific antly reduce systole blood pressur e (P 0.023) in all ethnicit ies, except for Baloch . Meanw hile, diastoli c blood pressur e decreas ed signific antly in all ethnic groups (P, 001).	

13	(Silva et al., 2015)	Knowing the effect of walking exercise on hypertensive patients	1) Hypertensive patients with mean age 55.2 ± 15.49 years 2) The patient is in stable condition	Exercise method: practice walking for 60 minutes in each session. Respondents walked around the area as far as 367.05 m. Frequency: 5 times per week. Duration of exercise: 2 months.	The walking exercise intervention was able to reduce systole blood pressure significantly (p < 0.05), with an average reduction of 12.7 mmHg. Diastolic blood pressure also decreased significantly after the intervention (P < 0.005), with a mean reduction of 4.9 mmHg.
14	(Kucio et al., 2017)	Analyzing the application of Nordic walking in hypertensive and obese patients	1) Hypertensive patients with obesity 2) Hypertensive patients with the blood pressure < 139/89 mmHg 3) The patient is male	Method of exercise: Running exercise that begins with the warm-up method for 10 minutes, in the first week the respondents in the control	The Nordic walking intervention did not show a significant difference in blood pressure reduction between the intervention group and the control group (P > 0.05)

15	(Bakar et al., 2020)	Analyzing the effect of walking exercise on blood pressure and quality of life of elderly patients with hypertension	1) Hypertensive patients aged 60-74 years 2) Hypertensive patients without comorbidities	Exercise method: The walking exercise begins with a 5-minute warm-up procedure, then does a 20-minute walking exercise, and closes with a 5-	After the intervention, there was a significant difference in systolic blood pressure reduction between the control group and the intervention group (P = 0.00), and a significant difference
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						minute could own. Frequency: 5 times per week	nce in diastoli c blood pressur e change s betwee n the interve ntion group and the control group (P = 0.0031 ).
1 6	(Man dini et al., 2020 )	Analyz ing the effect of walkin g exercis e for 1 year on the reducti on of blood pressur e in hypert ensive patient s	1) Hyperten sive patient with age 63.9 ± 8.3 years. 2) Hyperten sive patients with systolic blood pressur e ≥ 130 mmHg	H Exerci se metho d: exerci se walki ng on the groun d for 15-30 minut es. Frequ ency: 5 times per week Durati on of exerci se: 12 month s.	After doing walkin g exercis es for 1 year, there was a signific ant decreas e in systolic and diastoli c blood pressur e (P = 0.0001 and P = 0.037). Systole blood pressur e decreas ed to <140 mmHg. Diastol ic blood pressur e also decreas ed signific antly to <80 mmHg. Decrea ses in systolic and diastoli c blood pressur e also occurre d in respon dents who		

						were resistan t to antihyp ertensi ve drugs.
1 7	(Lato sik et al., 2014 )	Analyz ing the effect of Nordic walkin g exercis e for 8 weeks on blood pressur e systole	Hypertensive patient w / systolic blood pressure (SBP ≥ 140 mmHg and diastolic blood pressure (DBP <90 mmHg	Exerci se metho d: Nordi c walki ng exerci se is done in an open area with a 10-12 minut e warm- up phase, a 45- minut e work phase, closed with 10 minut es. Durati on of exerci se: 8 weeks of superv ised exerci se.	Superv ised Nordic walkin g exercis e has been shown to reduce systole Blood pressur e in Hypert ensive Postme nopaus al Wome n. There was a signific ant differe nce in the reducti on in systole blood pressur e betwee n the interve ntion group and the control group (P <0.05).	

## DISCUSSION

This systematic review identifies a light exercise technique to control blood pressure in hypertensive patients. The type of exercise analyzed is walking exercise. *Walking exercise* is a body movement that involves the movement system, namely bones and muscles. This movement can stretch and flex the muscles of the body, so

that muscle strength increases. When doing physical exercise, such as walking, will decrease the activity of the sympathetic nervous system (John Edward Hall, 2014).

*Walking exercise* has proven to be able to reduce blood pressure systole and diastole in hypertensive patients. Research conducted by Farinatti, P, et al proved that walking exercises performed by hypertensive patients for 16 weeks were able to reduce systolic and diastolic blood pressure. Based on statistical tests, it is known that there is a significant difference between the treatment group and the control group, with a p-value <0.05 (Farinatti et al., 2016). Walking exercise is one type of physical activity that is included in the primary prevention of controlling hypertensive patients. This exercise is highly recommended to be done regularly (Zhu et al., 2019). Walking sports activities involve several body organs, namely the musculoskeletal system, cardiovascular and respiratory systems. So that walking exercises that are carried out regularly can increase muscle strength and contraction, as well as hemodynamic stability and body metabolism (Cornelissen & Smart, 2013).

Walking exercise is a type of physical activity that can improve the vasodilation process of blood vessels that depend on the endothelial system. Walking exercise interventions can stimulate the release of nitric oxide, causing muscle relaxation and a role in regulating blood pressure and blood circulation in the body. Nitric oxide prevents platelet aggregation and adhesion, as well as aids oxygen transport by relaxing venous walls. Regular walking exercise is a form of non-pharmacological therapy that affects the stimulation of nitric oxide release and increases endothelial function (Bakar et al., 2020). The mechanism of decreasing blood pressure with walking exercise interventions can also occur due to a decrease in

sympathetic activity, an increase in vagal tone, causing a decrease in peripheral resistance and norepinephrine by about 30%. And causes the release of vasodilating substances such as endorphins, decreased insulin resistance, and reduction of renin in plasma (Mandini et al., 2020).

Research conducted by Paula. TP, et al proved that the physical exercise walking exercise was able to significantly control systolic and diastolic blood pressure with p-value <0.05. Blood pressure is also better controlled with the application of a healthy life including the DASH diet (Paula et al., 2015). Walking exercise lowers the risk of hypertension and cerebrovascular disease, heart failure, and cardiac dysrhythmias. By doing regular walking exercises, excess energy can occur and reduce the occurrence of plaque on the coronary arteries to prevent myocardial infarction. The myocardium that gets better oxygenation makes the contractions stable so that the systolic and diastolic blood pressure is controlled (Williams & Thompson, 2013).

Routine walking exercises can reduce blood lipid levels, increase VO<sub>2</sub> max, and provide anti-hypertensive effects. Walking exercise can reduce vagal activity and peripheral resistance. Also, there was a decrease in norepinephrine levels by about 30%. This reduction goes hand in hand with a decrease in blood pressure (He et al., 2018). Research conducted by Simona M., et al. Proved that walking exercises that were carried out routinely for 6 months were able to significantly reduce blood pressure with the results of statistical tests p value <0.001 (Mandini et al., 2018). When walking exercise is done regularly, it will increase the higher energy expenditure. This is in line with the increase in oxygen consumption used for muscle activity, including the myocardium, so that consumption of VO<sub>2</sub> max can occur. VO<sub>2</sub> max is an indicator that

the human body's organ systems can distribute oxygen to activate muscles as a biomarker of one's health (Rivera-Brown & Frontera, 2012).

Research conducted by Meena M., & Mishra AK, proves that walking exercise can reduce systolic and diastolic blood pressure in patients with hypertension, with a p-value <0.05 (Mirdha & Dr. Mishra, 2015). Walking exercises that are done regularly can increase muscle strength, energy, and exercise capacity. This is related to decreased sympathetic nerve activity (Cardoso et al., 2010). Besides, walking stimulating exercises can provide benefits for the cardiovascular system. Regular exercise can reduce risk factors for diseases that affect the cardiovascular system, such as weight loss in obese patients, lowering low-density lipoprotein cholesterol while high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, increasing insulin sensitivity, and reducing endothelial dysfunction. (Dimeo et al., 2012). Physical activity that is carried out regularly has been shown to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease in a person. The results showed that moderate exercise was able to reduce the risk of complications from uncontrolled hypertension, such as cerebrovascular disease, heart failure, and dysrhythmias. Based on the results of data collection of research respondents, it is known that there are 20% of deaths from 122 cases of heart failure, and 9% of deaths from 260 cases of dysrhythmias (Williams & Thompson, 2013).

## CONCLUSIONS

A systematic review from Exercise Walking as a choice in lowering blood pressure in hypertensive patients found that the application of walking exercise was able to provide positive improvements in hypertensive patients by controlling blood pressure. After regular walking exercises, there was a decrease in systolic and diastolic blood pressure in hypertensive patients. This

is certainly very effective when applied to hypertensive patients, namely as a non-pharmacological technique in controlling blood pressure. A walking exercise which is done routinely can control the occurrence of several risk factors for cardiovascular disease, which is the main cause of mortality in the world.

The results of a literature review in several journals in this systematic review show that walking exercise interventions can reduce systolic and diastolic blood pressure in patients with prehypertension to stage 2 hypertension, namely with asystole blood pressure range > 120mmHg- <180 mmHg. Meanwhile, diastolic blood pressure is in the range > 80 mmHg- <120 mmHg. The type of walking exercise therapy that is independently proven to lower blood pressure is if it is done routinely for > 6 months. The results also showed that walking exercise for 4 weeks was able to lower blood pressure when combined with other therapies.

The walking exercise procedures that can be used as a reference are walking exercises that begin with ± 15 minutes of warm-up, 30 minutes of core walking exercises, and ± 10 minutes of stretching or cooling procedures. Walking exercises that are effective in lowering blood pressure are exercises that are done regularly at least 3-5 times/week, with a minimum exercise duration of 30 minutes in each training session.

The nursing implication based on this systematic review is blood pressure control in hypertensive patients. Walking exercise can be applied to providing nursing care to hypertensive patients. This can be included in the nursing care plan by providing health education to patients, namely about how to do walking exercises and their benefits in hypertensive patients. Nurses can evaluate the success of walking exercise and changes in blood pressure.

It is necessary to conduct similar research on the implementation of walking exercise for hypertensive patients by increasing the number of respondents, the frequency of exercise, and the duration of the intervention application. Also, it is necessary to combine other techniques in implementing walking exercises to add a more positive effect on hypertensive patients so that disease complications do not occur due to uncontrolled blood pressure.

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