Evaluating the Effects of a Cardiac Rehabilitation Program Gender-tailored for Women with Coronary Artery Disease: A Systematic Review

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Background

- Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide¹⁻³
- Secondary preventions following a cardiac event are vastly underused by patients due to:^{3,5}
 - Lack of physician endorsement
 - Female gender
 - Higher levels of depression and anxiety
 - Lack of social support
 - Lack of transportation

Women in Cardiac Rehab

- Only 15-20% of women utilize CR services ⁴
- Compared with men, women are at a 2-fold increased risk of noncompletion of CR⁴
- Women exhibit higher levels of depression and anxiety compared to their male counterparts with CVD ^{4,5}

Implications

- There is a need for CR programs to address the needs of women (a gender-tailored approach)
- There is a need to look closely at those CR programs that are gender tailored (if any currently exist) to determine their effectiveness
- There is a growing need to determine which interventions not only improve mortality and morbidity, but also quality of life due to the importance of evidence-based medicine ⁴



 To evaluate the effectiveness of gender tailored cardiac rehabilitation (GTCR) vs. traditional cardiac rehabilitation (TCR) in women with coronary artery disease (CAD)

Methods

- Databases:
 - \circ PubMed
 - Academic Search Elite
 - Science Direct
 - CINAHL
 - \circ Ovid
 - Cochrane Library
- Two reviewers independently assessed each study
 - PEDro scale

Methods

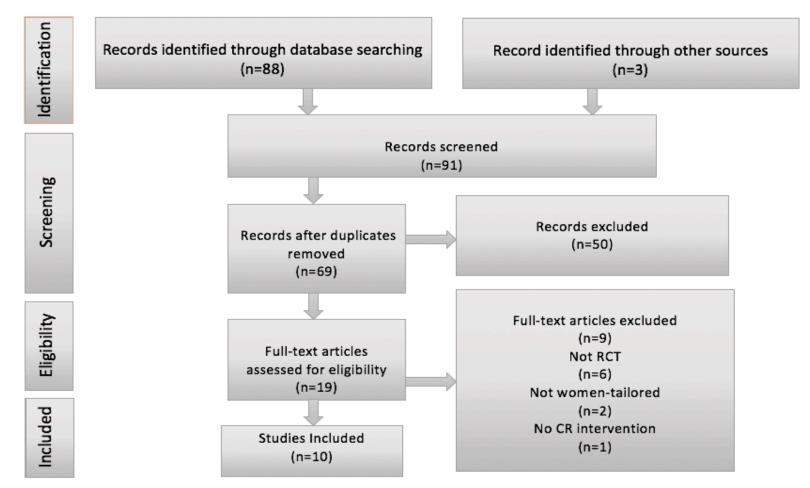
- <u>Search Terms</u>
 - (Cardiac Rehab* OR Cardiac Rehabilitation)
 - AND (Gender Tailored OR Gender Specific OR Sex Tailored OR Women Tailored)
- Search Limits
 - English, published 2007-2017, human subjects, and peer reviewed scholarly journals using RCT study design



Eligibility Criteria

- Adult women >18 years of age
- Attending cardiac rehab for CAD
- GTCR vs. TCR
- Must look at least one psychosocial or physiological outcome measure

PRISMA



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	PEDro Score
Beckie et al. (2013)	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	7
Beckie et al. (2010)-QOL	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	7
Beckie et al. (2010)-depression	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	8
Beckie et al. (2010)-attendance	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	6
Beckie et al. (2014)	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	7
Beckie et al. (2011)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	8
Andraos et al. (2015)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	7
Grace et al. (2016)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	8
Midence et al. (2015)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	7
Beckie et al. (2010)-METs	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	7
											Avg: 7.2

Results

• Traditional CR interventions included:

Stationary bicycle, treadmill, and walking at target heart rate

• Gender-tailored CR interventions included:

- Stationary bicycle, treadmill, and walking at target heart rate
- Motivational counseling based on the transtheoretical model (TTM)
- Educational sessions on co-morbidities commonly seen among women

Results

• Treatment parameters varied at:

- 1-2 sessions per week
- 60-150 minutes
- Moderate intensity exercise
- 12 weeks average duration
 - Treatment durations ranged from 12-26 weeks

TABLE 1

THE FOUR PROCESSES OF MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING

Phase	Description
Engaging	The provider and patient establish a working relation- ship. The provider makes it clear that he or she is not there to tell the client what to do.
Focusing	The patient-provider dyad settles on an agenda. The provider maintains patient autonomy by focusing on the patient's most pressing concern.
Evoking	The provider elicits the patient's personal reasons for change. When done successfully, the patient will be voicing the arguments for change.
Planning	This phase is marked by the shift from the "why" of change, to the "when" and "how." The provider guides the patient to come up with the best options for him- or herself.

Results

Primary Outcomes:

- Mood/Affect^{4-6,9,10}
 - Depression, anxiety, perception of health
- Adherence^{1,3,9,10}
- Quality of life^{4,9}
- Diet⁹

Secondary Outcomes:

- Functional capacity (FCE)^{1,2,7-10}
 - Metabolic equivalents (METS) and treadmill walking (TWT)
- Fasting lipid profile (FLP)²
- Blood pressure (BP)^{1,2,7-10}

Outcome Measures

Psychosocial Measures	Physiological Measures
 Anxiety and Depression Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale ^{5,9} State Anxiety Inventory (STAI-S)⁴ Center for Epidemiological Studies 	 Functional Capacity ^{1,2,7-10} Modified Bruce Protocol Treadmill Walking Time
Depression Scale ⁴	Fasting Lipid Profile ² Cholestech LDX system
Adherence ^{1,3,9,10}	
Percentage of Sessions Attended	 Blood Pressure^{1,2,7-10} Calibrated automated oscillometric
 Perception of Health SF-36 Health Survey^{4,6} Multiple Discrepancies Theory Questionnaire¹⁰ 	Monitor
■ Diet Habit Survey	
Quality of Life Patient Health Questionnaire⁹ Self-Anchoring Striving Scale (SASS)⁴ 	

Results

• Benefits of gender-tailored cardiac rehabilitation

- Eight studies found improvements in adherence^{1-6, 10}
- Three studies found improvements in quality of life^{1,2,9}
- Other significant improvements included:^{1,2,5,6}
 - Anxiety and depression, patient perceptions of health, diastolic blood pressure, diet

• Other statistically significant benefits of both CR programs included:

- Triglyceride levels^{1,10}
- Systolic blood pressure¹⁰
- Functional capacity^{1,10}

Conclusion

- Moderate→Strong evidence to support gender-tailored cardiac rehab among women with CAD
 - Due to high PEDro scores secondary to study design
- Findings showed higher reports of psychosocial outcomes and exercise adherence when in gender-tailored cardiac rehab
- Both programs yielded improvements in physiological outcomes

Limitations

- Select databases used
- Different psychosocial outcome measures used
- All women having access to health insurance
- Lack of ethnic diversity among women

Future Research

 Needed to determine the effects of psychosocial outcomes and adherence in women from different ethnicities and socioeconomic status

• I.e. Does gender-tailored cardiac rehab improve psychosocial outcomes and adherence in multiple ethnicities and those not covered by health insurance?

Clinical Relevance

- Physiological outcomes were comparable for both groups at:
 - \circ 12 weeks
 - \circ 1-2 sessions/week
 - \circ 60-150 minutes
 - Moderate-Intensity exercise
- Gender-tailored cardiac rehab is an efficient method to increase psychosocial outcomes and adherence among women with CAD
 - May consider implementing motivational strategies and educational sessions about co-morbidities

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