



## Original Research

# Relationship between Active Physical Exercise And Sleep Quality With Physical Fatigue in Elderly

Ramdhany Ismahmudi<sup>1</sup>, Alfi Ari Fakhrurizal<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Universitas Muhammadiyah Kalimantan Timur, Indonesia

### Article Info

#### Article History:

Accepted March 30th, 2020

#### Keywords:

Physical Exercise; Sleep Quality; Physical Exhaustion; Elderly

### Abstract

Physical exercise is any form of activity carried out by an individual, especially the elderly, to improve physical fitness and physical conditions, with the main objective being to increase strength, cardiorespiratory endurance, speed, skills, and flexibility. In the elderly, physical training aims to improve the quality of life, so they can get through their old days in a fit. The purpose of this study is to find out how the relationship between active physical activity and sleep quality with physical fatigue that occurs in the elderly in the working area. This research is a descriptive qualitative study using a cross-sectional study approach. Sampling is done by the method of Total Sampling, where all respondents will be involved in research activities, with a total sample of 125 respondents. The research activity was carried out for approximately 1 month starting from July 23-August 24, 2019 at the Harapan Baru Health Center in Samarinda. The result of this research showed a significant relationship between physical activity with fatigue.

## INTRODUCTION

Elderly experienced setbacks in various aspects, especially physical abilities that caused the occurrence include physical abilities that disrupt meeting the needs of life to increase dependence on others. Physical activity has a big impact on health. Some effects are well established; as a major component of energy expenditure, physical activity has a major influence on energy balance and body composition. It is also recognized that physical activity is a major, unmodifiable risk factor that has a protective effect against heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, colon, and breast cancer, and is also associated with other important health outcomes such as mental

health, injury, and falls<sup>1</sup>. Some physical activity that is suitable and suitable for elderly people to do such as aerobic exercise, muscle strengthening, and flexibility exercises. When doing physical exercise several things that affect the physical activity of the elderly include body composition, flexibility, muscle strength, and endurance of the pulmonary heart<sup>2</sup>. Some studies also explain that the prevalence of sleep disorders in the elderly is quite high at around 67%<sup>3</sup>. The elderly often report having difficulty falling asleep to be able to fall asleep while in bed. Sleep quality is a condition where sleep experienced by an individual produces freshness and fitness when waking up from sleep. Sleep quality that includes

Corresponding author:

Ramdhany Ismahmudi

dhanyfikes@umkt.ac.id

South East Asia Nursing Research, Vol 2 No 1, March 2020

ISSN:2685-032X

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26714/seanr.2.1.2020.11-15>

quantitative aspects of sleep, such as duration, sleep retention, and subjective aspects, such as deep sleep and rest. Changes in sleep patterns in the elderly are caused by changes in the nervous system that are physiologically where this results in the function of neurotransmitters in the nervous system decreases<sup>4</sup>. In research on sleep disorders in which the researchers found that sleep disturbance and lack of activity negatively influence each other<sup>5</sup>.

The phenomenon found by researchers in the Harapan Baru Health Center Elderly Service Room is a complaint of illness that is always associated with physical fatigue of elderly patients. Patients complain of headaches associated with lack of sleep, unable to sleep, sleep soundly because this condition causes him to experience physical fatigue and even unable to do physical activity that is too heavy. Information obtained from interviews with Puskesmas staff holding the elderly health program is a problem that is always complained of by the elderly when they come for treatment or visits both at the Puskesmas and at the posyandu where the disorders complained of when they arrive are always related to problems related to physical fatigue. Some of the elderly also said that they also participated in active physical activities at the Posyandu, and they said that with these activities they never felt any physical fatigue. Improved physical quality in the elderly will also affect general health, such as blood pressure and pulse to stay within normal limits when the elderly are at rest. Based on this background, researchers are interested in examining the purpose of seeing the extent of the relationship between active physical activity and sleep quality in an elderly person with physical fatigue in the elderly in the work area of the Harapan Baru Health Center in Samarinda to improve the living standards of the elderly.

## METHODS

This study was conducted for approximately 1 month starting from 23 July - 24 August 2019 at the Harapan Baru Health Center in Samarinda, with the sampling method being a total sampling with a total sample of 125 elderly people who were active in the Posyandu Elderly. All respondents who participated in the data collection activity actively answered and responded to the questions asked by the Research team. Data obtained in research activities were analyzed computerized using statistical software. The data in this study were analyzed with 2 models, namely univariate and bivariate analysis. Univariate analysis is directed to describe the frequency distribution of the variables analyzed using descriptive statistical methods, after which the data will be presented in the form of frequency distribution tables to find out the proportions of each variable. The bivariate analysis of the researchers used the chi-square test with the significance of  $p < 0.05$  to find out the extent of the relationship between the dependent and independent variables of this study or in other words to see the extent of the relationship between physical activity undertaken by the elderly and sleep quality with physical fatigue.

## RESULTS

After conducting research activities, a univariate analysis was performed for each variable and the results can be seen in the table below

Table 1  
Characteristic of the respondents

Research Variable	n	%
Physical activity		
High	71	57
Low	54	43
Sleep Quality		
Good	68	54
Poor	57	46
Physical Fatigue		
Not fatigue	72	58
fatigue	53	42

In table 1 above shows that of 125 respondents for the variable physical activity shows that the majority of respondents are in the high category with the number of respondents as many as 71 people (57%), for the sleep needs of 125 respondents indicate the majority of good sleep needs with the number of respondents as much 68 people (54%), and for the variable physical fatigue the majority of respondents are in the category of Tired with the number of respondents as many as 72 people (58%). For bivariate analysis for each variable can be seen in Table 2 below:

Table 2  
Crosstabulation of Fatigue with The Physical Activity and Sleep Quality of the respondent

Indicators	Fatigue		Total	p
	Fatigue	Not Fatigue		
Physical activity				
High	28	43	71	0,025
Low	25	29	54	
Sleep Quality				
Good	35	33	68	0,442
Poor	18	39	57	

In table 2 above it can be seen that between physical activity and fatigue where 43 out of 71 respondents (34%) did not experience fatigue after doing physical activity, the statistical test found that the P-Value 0.025 < 0.05, so it can be stated that there is a relationship Significant between physical activity with fatigue experienced by the elderly, for the value of OR = 2,298 shows that although the elderly who are active in physical activity will not experience fatigue.

## DISCUSSION

Physical activity is human behavior characterized by body movements from skeletal muscle that produce energy expenditure<sup>6</sup>. An experimental study of how active physical exercise can modulate brain-derived peripheral neurotrophic factors (Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor / BDNF). In this study, in which the research subjects were grouped into 5 control groups and 5 treatment groups, the results showed

that 5 groups had very significant differences between groups doing active physical activity in the form of aerobic exercise with changes in peripheral neurotrophic factors, in other words, could the conclusion is that good physical activity in the elderly will affect changes in brain quality and will certainly reduce the occurrence of problems related to brain disorders such as dementia<sup>7</sup>.

This is also appropriate with other studies that examine physical exercise in the elderly have an impact on increasing changes in the brain structure of the elderly, wherein this study observation was made on the elderly who were actively exercising continuously without any disturbance indicating a change in the structure of the brain where it changed in the structure of the left hippocampus and the bilateral brain nucleus<sup>8</sup>. Certain sports can be useful to overcome sleep disorders, one of which is insomnia. One of the sports that can improve the fulfillment of sleep needs is regular elderly exercise<sup>9</sup>. Based on other research shows there is a positive relationship between regular gymnastics elderly with the fulfillment of elderly sleep needs<sup>10</sup>. The frequency of exercises that are useful for maintaining and improving physical fitness is done at least once a week and as much as five times a week with a duration of 15 minutes<sup>11</sup>. It can be concluded that good physical activity in the elderly will affect their physical fitness so that to do other activities the elderly can continue to do it.

For the sleep needs variable of 39 people (31%) of respondents with the problem of lack of sleep do not experience fatigue, the statistical test obtained a P-Value of 0.442 > 0.05, so it can be stated that there is no significant relationship between sleep needs and fatigue experienced by an elderly person. The OR = 0.755 shows that even the elderly who have adequate sleep will not affect the occurrence of physical fatigue. According to research that examines sleep health, lifestyle, and mental health in the

elderly in Japan where the results of the study show short naps (30 minutes between 1300 and 1500 hours of sleep) and moderate sports activities such as walking are very important in efforts to maintain and improve sleep quality in the elderly. In this study, the variables studied were the effects of short naps and offset moderate physical activity carried out for 4 consecutive weeks showing a significant change in the quality of health of the elderly themselves, in addition to physical health as well as mental health<sup>12</sup>. These results indicate that this intervention is very effective in improving sleep quality and daily activities in the elderly. From this, it can be concluded that the need for sleep can affect physical fatigue that is experienced by the elderly so that the more adequate sleep a person, the better the level of physical and psychological fitness.

## CONCLUSION

From the conclusions obtained from the variable physical activity and sleep, needs can affect the physical undertaken by the elderly. The more physical activity and the elderly, the better the level of physical and psychological fitness.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Expression Thank you for the financial assistance provided by the Indonesian Ministry of Education's Directorate of Higher Education for the financial assistance that has been provided through the Program Penelitian Dosen Pemula (PDP) in 2019 so that this research activity can be carried out as expected. Do not forget also to all those who have provided assistance to support data collection activities in research, especially the Samarinda Harapan Community Health Center.

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Neither of the authors has any conflicts of interest that would bias the findings presented here.

## REFERENCES

1. Miles(2007).*Physical Activity and Health*. Journal compilation British Nutrition Foundation Nutrition Bulletin,32, 314–363.
2. Ambardini RL. 2009. *Aktivitas Fisik pada Lanjut Usia*. Yogyakarta: UNY
3. Amir, N. (2007).Gangguan Tidur pada Lanjut Usia. Diagnosis dan Penatalaksanaan, dalam Cermin Dunia Kedokteran (hlm.196-206). Jakarta. Grup PT. Kalbe Farma
4. Khasanah dan Hidayati(2012).Kualitas Tidur Lansia Balai Rehabilitasi Sosial “MANDIRI” Semarang. Jurnal Nursing Studies, 1(1) : 189-196.
5. Hemalova garmas, F. U. (2010). *Sleep disorders and activities in long term care facilities a vicious cycle?*.<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20603298>. accessed 5 December 2018 2.00 pm WITA.Jurnal Kesehatan Psychology
6. Caspersen CJ, Powell KE, Christenson GM. Physical activity, exercise, and physical fitness: definitions and distinctions for health-related research. Public Health Rep 1985;100:126-31.
7. Coelho, F. G. de M., Gobbi, S., Andreatto, C. A. A., Corazza, D. I., Pedroso, R.V., & Santos-Galduróz, R. F. (2013, January). *Physical exercise modulates peripheral levels of brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF): A systematic review of experimental studies in the elderly*. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.archger.2012.06.003>
8. Boyke, J.,Driemeyer, J. Et.al(2008). Training-Induced Brain Structure Changes in the Elderly. The Journal of Neuroscience, July 9, 2008•28(28):7031–7035
9. Yanuarita, A.F. (2012),*Memaksimalkan Otak Melalui Senam Otak (Brain Gym)*,Yogyakarta: CV. Solusi Distribusi.
10. Mahardika, J., Haryanto, J., & Bakar, A. (2011) *Hubungan Keteraturan Mengikuti Senam Lansia Dan Kebutuhan Tidur Lansia Di UPT Surabaya*: Keperawatan Universitas Airlangga.
11. Maryam, S et all. (2008). *Mengenal Usia Lanjut dan Perawatannya*. Jakarta: Salemba Medika.

12. Tanaka, H. & Shirakawa, S. (2004) Sleep health, lifestyle and mental health in the Japanese elderly ensuring sleep to promote a healthy brain and mind. *J. Psychosom. Res.*, 56, 465-477