
*An Oral Form of Cetylated Fatty Acids versus Meloxicam
for Knee Osteoarthritis: A Randomised Clinical Trial*

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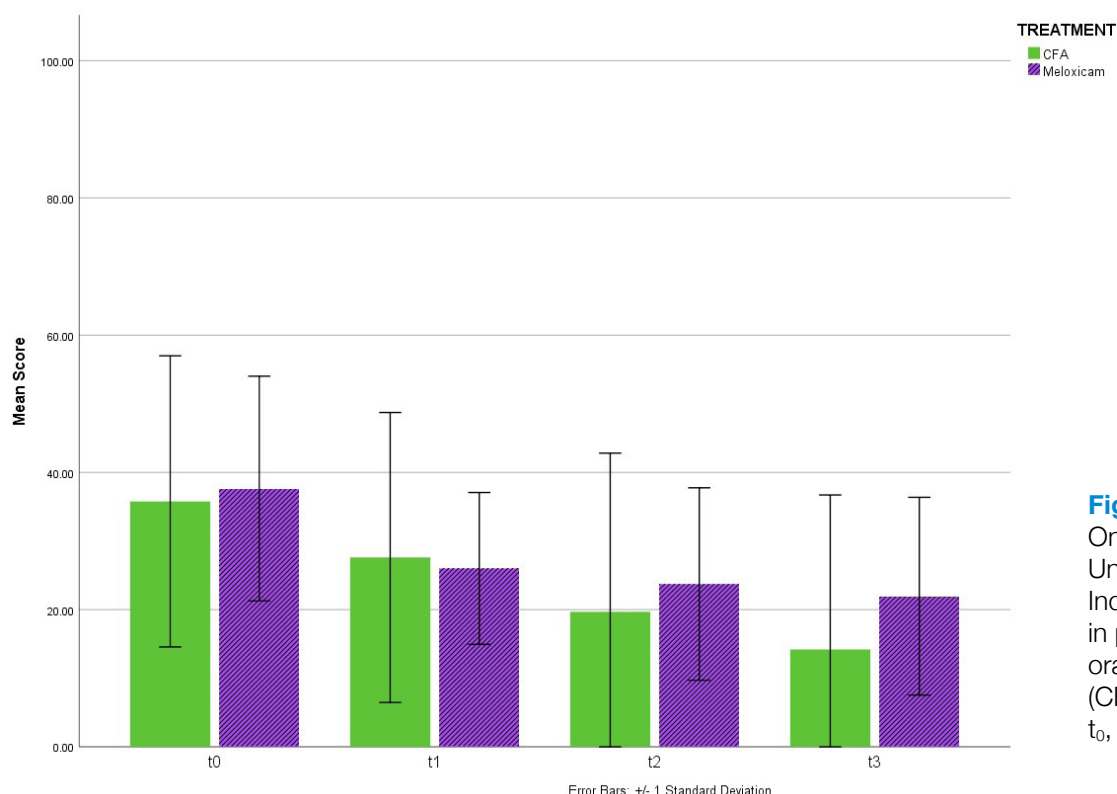


Figure 4. Western Ontario and McMaster University Osteoarthritis Index (WOMAC) scores in participants using oral cetylated fatty acids (CFA) or Meloxicam at t_0 , t_1 , t_2 , and t_3 .

benefit patients with knee OA.

TRIAL REGISTRATION

This study was registered at the Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials as a clinical trial with the registration code: IRCT20180629040282N1 on 4/18/2019.

PARTICIPANTS

Patients referred to the physical medicine and rehabilitation clinics of Emam Reza Clinic in 2019 were recruited for the study. The clinics are academic centres affiliated with Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran.

Ethical Considerations

This study was registered at the Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials (available at <https://irct.ir/trial/33476>) as a clinical trial with the registration code: IRCT20180629040282N1. The Medical Ethics Committee of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences (SUMS) approved the study under reference number "ir.sums.med.rec.1397.238". The researcher obtained written informed consent and explained the study's objective to each participant before enrolment in the trial. Participation was voluntary, and the patients were allowed to withdraw from the trial at any stage. The methods and design of the study were unchanged after the commencement of the trial. Acetaminophen was prescribed as a rescue drug to be used in case of severe pain.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors contributed substantially to the work, drafted, or revised the paper for important intellectual content, approved the final version of the manuscript, and agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work. Hamid Reza Farpour supervised the study, contributed to the study concept and design, and provided administrative, technical, and material support. Sana Sadat Khoshnazar and Sepide Mohebi contributed to data acquisition, analysis, and interpretation. Kayvon Seyed Dehghanian contributed to the statistical analysis and interpretation of data. The authors have confidence in the integrity of the contributions of their co-authors.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare they have no conflicts of interest. The authors certify that there are no financial or non-financial