

The Results are: A comparatively long period of external counter-pulsation has helped myocardial capillary to proliferate and myocardia to grow well. The subjects' left ventricle of the heart has been added in a different degree of weight and volume. More blood return with the help of external counter-pulsation) may raise the preload and initial length of myocardial systolic, many indexes as stroke volume, ejection fraction are transforming favourably.

The results suggest that, before the full development of juvenile hearts, external counter-pulsation could help the endurance athletes' heart to grow well, enlarge ventricular volume and stroke volume. Thus, it is practical to take external counter-pulsation as the supplementary means to improve the endurance athletes' cardiac pumping function so as to increase their abilities in sports.

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Extreme Altitude: Neurological Symptoms and Brain MRI Changes

Clinical history, neurological examination and brain MRI were obtained from a group of 26 climbers who ascended over 7300 m without supplementary oxygen, and the results were compared with a control group (n = 21) of healthy subjects.

The climbers (age 25-42 years) were divided in two groups, depending on the time elapsed since they reached the maximal altitude (7300-8500 m): up to two months (n = 10), and 6 to 36 months (n = 16).

All the climbers had neurological symptoms during or after the expedition being more frequent headache, insomnia, nausea/vomit and hypoactivity in high altitude, and amnesia, confusion, emotional disorders after at sea level. Neurological examination was normal.

Almost half of the mountain climbers showed MRI abnormalities (46 %), most frequently cortical atrophy parenchymal increased signal intensity images predominant in ventricular horns.

This MRI findings were related to total accumulated time of extreme altitude exposure, except for those cases in which cortical atrophy was observed.

We don't find clear correlation between the neurological symptoms and brain MRI images.

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Sports Activities in Persons With Idiopathic Scoliosis

Most often athletic activities in persons with idiopathic scoliosis are either limited or prohibited. The aim of this study was to verify the correctness of such an attitude. For this purpose examinations of the spine have been carried out on 353 male and 188 female students of the Faculty of