

# The effect of pressure algometer in pain threshold

Alfiza khan<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Deepali Patil<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>UG SCHOLAR, Department of Musculoskeletal physiotherapy, Ravi Nair Physiotherapy College, Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences, Sawangi, Wardha, Maharashtra, India.

<sup>2</sup>Associate professor and HOD, Department of Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy, Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences, Sawangi Meghe, Wardha, Maharashtra, India.

Email: dvjphysio@gmail.com

DOI: 10.47750/pnr.2022.13.S06.373

## Abstract

Algometers are instruments that measure actual pressure and/or pressure that causing a pressure pain threshold to be surpassed. In pressure pain threshold studies, it has been discovered that the rate at which mechanical force is applied should be steady in order to offer the maximum precision. The accuracy and composite reliability of an algometer (1000-Hz sampling rate) were tested in this study by manually applying force to a maximum force (500-Hz sampling rate). The pressure level is the lowest amount of force (pressure) that causes discomfort. The pressures threshold metre (PTM) is indeed a strength measure with a 1cm<sup>2</sup> surface circular polymer applicator surfaces rubber disc, as well as the maximum stress measurement was examined using SEM and t-test. This device has proved beneficial in the treatment of deep muscular soreness, trigger points, fibrositis, and myalgia patches. PTM can identify arthritis activity as well as measure reduction in pain.

## INTRODUCTION

A pressure algometer is a tool that may be used to determine the stress and/or strength that is generating a pressure pain tolerance. Disability caused by musculoskeletal discomfort is a regular phenomenon with clinical and economic implications (1). Pain measurement becomes critical, and force algometry has shown beneficial for detecting tender regions and trigger points, as well as assessing therapy outcomes (1, 10, 11, 13–15, 18, 19). However noted that the reproducibility of sensory modality threshold measures may be lower than being recorded in most investigations (1). The pressure algometer was used for palpation, calculating pressure pain thresholds (PPTs), and contrasting its characteristics to that of a commercially available stress algometer (2). In this preliminary investigation, the force pain sensitivity and suprathreshold pressure pain tolerance were measured using a newly invented electronically driven algometer and contrasted to existing techniques (3). The algometer is a device used to measure somatosensory anomalies such as inflammatory-mediated pressure neuropathic pain. Pain measuring is required for therapeutic and pain assessment purposes. Sensitivity is one of the most prevalent side symptoms of muscular skeletal failure, and determining its severity is crucial in clinical diagnosis. The Pressure Pain Threshold (PPT) is the location during which a non-painful force sensory input converts into a painful pressure perception. Pressure algometry (PA) is a methodology was using to methodically analyse this PPT. This method of causing extreme experimental pain has been well and well-validated.(4). The pressure pain threshold (PPT), or the lowest sensory .The frequency with which a person experiences pain, was investigated in 30 people who suffer from chronic involuntary pain as in shoulder and arm region. Using a pressure algometer, 14 trigger sites along both upper and lower limbs were studied . Pressure algometer (PA) (dolorimetry) is a technique that quantify the examiner's subjective experience of tenderness by measuring pressure pain threshold (PPT). The use of pressure algometers is becoming more common in both clinical pain treatment and human research. This approach is used for statistical identification of painful disorders such as myofascial pain (MP), fibromyalgia (FMS), and inflammation-related discomfort.

Pressure pain threshold assessment has also been useful in documenting therapy outcomes: The pressure algometer identified and analysed the immediate effects of treatment, specifically varied injection procedures. The effectiveness of which was before blocks, which anaesthetize the sensitive, tender areas to be injected, can be monitored, and most importantly, the long-term outcome of treatment modalities, particularly needling and penetration of tender spots (TSs), trigger points (TRPS), and local pathology, which are the instantaneous cause of suffering, can be successfully documented by pressure algometer. Aside from

therapeutic uses, pressure algometers were used in research, such as the investigation of pathophysiological mechanisms implicated in musculoskeletal pain disorders.(5-16)

## DISCUSSION

The analysis is focused on the pathologic conditions and research of the pressure algometer. Patients with orofacial pain in headache, pain sensitivity tolerance across the cranio-cervical region, knee osteoarthritis, fibromyalgia syndrome, and the like are examples. This comprehensive study gives PPT value ranges for healthy controls, migraine, TTH, and CEH in the cranio-cervical area. This is significant considering the (17-25)

PPT inspection point explanations ranged from exceedingly accurate and reproducible to a basic enumeration of locations in the body (For example, the entire tendon without specifying the particular place). The variety of measures, durations, and effectiveness of each assessment varied between investigations.

At each visit, the number of measures ranged from one to five. The time between repetitions ranged from five seconds to fifteen minutes. Some research stated that the initial assessment was invalid due to its greater physical quantity and did not apply it for statistical evaluation, but others calculated rough approximations from all data.(26-30)

Therapeutic massage, according to moderate information, raised specific pain severity tolerances in musculoskeletal injuries immediately after the treatment. There was no continuous result on distant location force tolerance level. Thermal pain threshold levels did not change significantly much. The clinical significance among these outcomes remains inconsistent and so undetermined(8).

Generally, studies consistently indicate movement as an appropriate methodology of pain management. Clinical researchers can utilise this knowledge to find the ideal method and dose of movement to give maximum therapeutic benefit to patients with knee OA when exact pathophysiology of Osteoarthritis pain and also how movement may block particular pain signals to the brain are known(31-32)

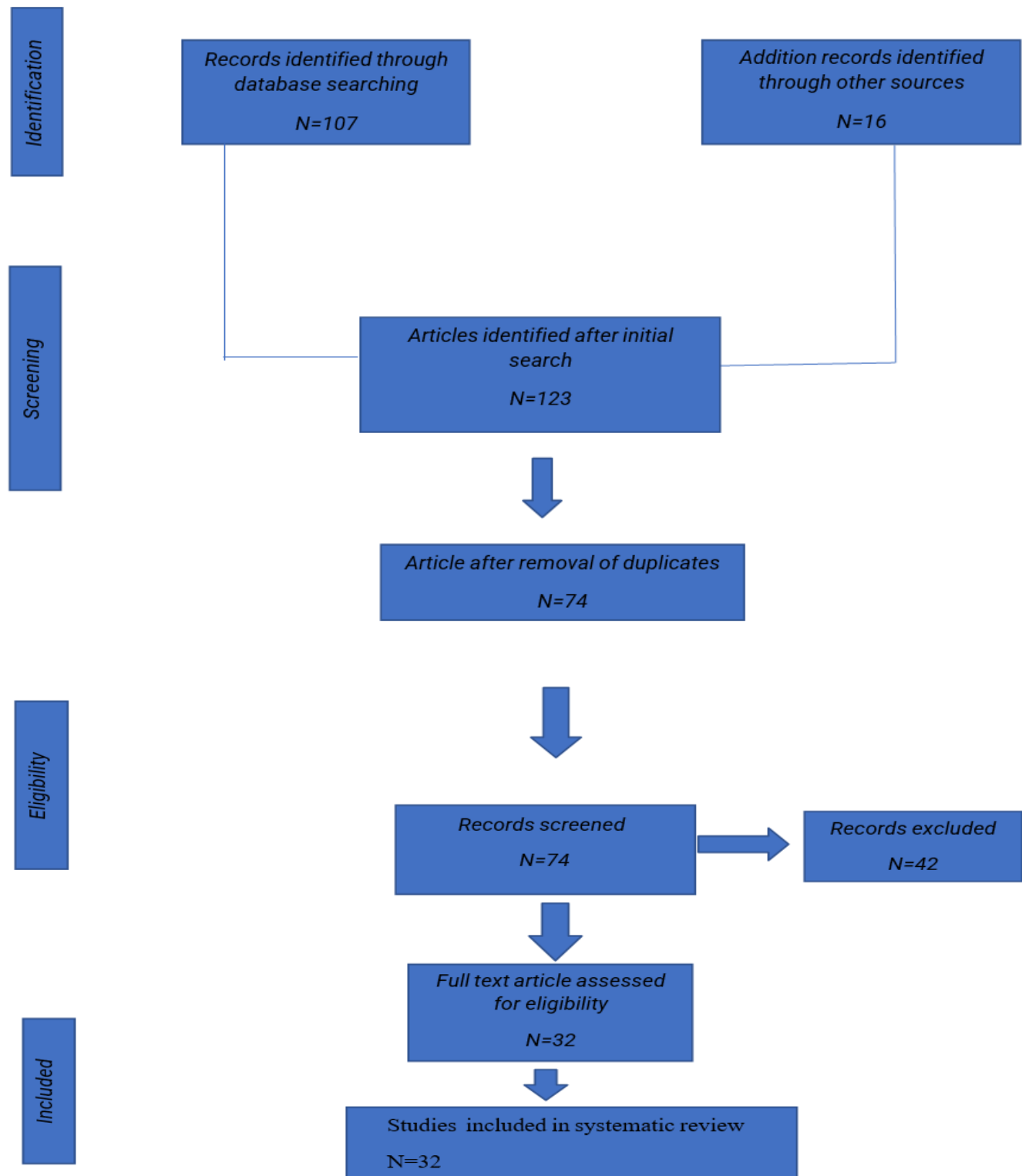
To the best of our knowledge, this may be the first study following demonstrate variations in physiological changes among RA patients compared to controls to immediate, conventional, non-tissue-damaging, unpleasant stimuli(10).

## Conclusions

Using pressure algometry, 14 trigger locations across both upper and lower limbs were studied. There were eight paravertebral sites assessed, and along with six locations around the shoulder and arm. Every place was examined twice. One observer analysed the patients.

For PPT assessments, digital pressure algometry demonstrated excellent interpersonal and inter consistency. The suggested approach for diagnosing myofascial trigger points has a pretty good accuracy but also a very reduced specificity. Pressure pain tolerance may be an order to provide value in analysing the effectiveness of therapies for Fascial pain disease and musculoskeletal problems based on a comparison of multiple study results, given that the precise conventional pain perception tolerances of , However, pressure pain threshold is not believed to be a useful technique for diagnosing or screening for myofascial trigger points.

Furthermore, it is expected that the pressure pain threshold cut-off parameters gathered from the study would be beneficial as fundamental information for future pressure algometer studies and treatment application.



## REFERENCES

1. Md FA, S T, Md GAL. Pressure Algometry in Healthy Subjects: Inter-Examiner Variability.
2. Bernhardt O, Schiffman EL, Look JO. Reliability and validity of a new fingertip- shaped pressure algometer for assessing pressure pain thresholds in the temporomandibular joint and masticatory muscles. *J Orofac Pain*. 2007;21(1):29–38.
3. Dagtekin O, König E, Gerbershagen HJ, Marcus H, Sabatowski R, Petzke F. [Measuring pressure pain thresholds. Comparison of an electromechanically controlled algometer with established methods]. *Schmerz Berl Ger*. 2007 Oct;21(5):439–44.
4. Pelfort X, Torres-Claramunt R, Sánchez-Soler JF, Hinarejos P, Leal-Blanquet J, Valverde D, et al. Pressure algometry is a useful tool to quantify pain in the medial part of the knee: An intra- and inter-reliability study in healthy subjects. *Orthop Traumatol Surg Res*. 2015 Sep 1;101(5):559–63.
5. Fischer AA. Introduction: Pressure Algometry in Quantification of Diagnosis and Treatment Outcome. *J Musculoskelet Pain*. 1998 Jan 1;6(1):1–3.
6. Castien RF, van der Wouden JC, De Hertogh W. Pressure pain thresholds over the cranio-cervical region in headache: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Headache Pain*. 2018 Jan 26;19(1):9.
7. Kamińska A, Dalewski B, Sobolewska E. The Usefulness of the Pressure Algometer in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Orofacial Pain Patients: A Systematic Review. *Occup Ther Int*. 2020 Jun 11;2020:5168457.
8. Voogt L, de Vries J, Meeus M, Struyf F, Meuffels D, Nijs J. Analgesic effects of manual therapy in patients with musculoskeletal pain: A systematic review. *Man Ther*. 2015 Apr 1;20(2):250–6.
9. Susko AM, Fitzgerald GK. The pain-relieving qualities of exercise in knee osteoarthritis. *Open Access Rheumatol Res Rev*. 2013 Oct 15;5:81–91.
10. Edwards RR, Wasan AD, Bingham CO, Bathon J, Haythornthwaite JA, Smith MT, et al. Enhanced reactivity to pain in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. *Arthritis Res Ther*. 2009 May 4;11(3):R61.
11. Mukherjee, S., T. Sebastian, and J. Gawai. “A Brief Review on Importance of Mental Health First Aid Kit for Depressed Adolescents.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, August 23, 2021, 201–8. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i41B32359>.
12. Mukherjee, S., T. Sebastian, and J. Gawai. “Effectiveness of Mental Health First Aid Kit for Depression and Psychological Well-Being in Adolescents.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, July 1, 2021, 122–28. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i34A31831>.
13. Muley, Parikshit Ashok, Dalia A. Biswas, and Avinash Taksande. “A Pilot Study Investigating the Effect of Glycemic Control on Electrodiagnostic Parameters in Type II Diabetic Patients.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, June 22, 2021, 146–53. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i32B31756>.
14. Muley, Sonal, Chetan Saoji, Nikhil Pande, and Shruti Sanghavi. “Awareness of Myopia amongst Parents of School Going Children in a Survey Done in a Tertiary Care Centre in Vidarbha Region, India.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, July 15, 2021, 1–6. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i37B31997>.
15. Mulye, Sachin, Revatdharma J. Meshram, and Krishnakumar Thakrani. “Impact of a Head Covering on Photo-Therapy Induced Hypo-Calcaemia in Full-Term Neonates with Hyper-Bilirubinemia.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, December 15, 2021, 102–7. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i58B34177>.
16. Murarka, Shriya Prakash, Sunita Shrivastav, Ranjit Kamble, Hamza Dargahwala, Prutha Khakhar, Zynul John, Purva Dhannawat, and Shruti Rathi. “Comparative Evaluation of Discomfort, Expectations and Functional Experiences during Treatment of Class II Malocclusion with Forsus Fixed Functional Appliance and Sharma’s Class II Corrector - A Questionnaire Based Survey.” *Journal of Evolution of Medical and Dental Sciences* 10, no. 8 (February 22, 2021): 474–78. <https://doi.org/10.14260/jemds/2021/104>.
17. Mutyalwar, Sunaina, Priyanka Paul Madhu, Amit Reche, Kumar Gaurav Chhabra, and Sayali Deshpande. “Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice of Dental Implants among Dental Post Graduates and Practitioners in Wardha District, Maharashtra: A Cross Sectional Study.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, December 11, 2021, 119–23. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i54B33772>.
18. Nagdive, Amit B., Ravi Singh Bhainsora, Rouchelle Fernandes, Prakash B. Behere, and Siddharth Sethi. “Pseudocyesis Leading to Folie-à-Deux.” *Journal of Neurosciences in Rural Practice* 12, no. 02 (April 2021): 419–23. <https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0041-1726615>.
19. Nagdive, Amit, Prakash B Behere, Rouchelle Fernandes, Aniruddh P. Behere, Debolina Chowdhury, and Richa Yadav. “Diseased Body and Diseased Mind: Mind Your Psychological Health during Lockdown.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, July 28, 2021, 287–94. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i38B32125>.
20. Nagore, Aditi N., Deepali S. Patil, and Om C. Wadhokar. “Effect of Myofascial Release Technique Verses Conventional Therapy in Tension Neck Syndrome: A Research Protocol.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, October 15, 2021, 409–13. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i46A32883>.
21. Nagtode, Tushar, Y. R. Lamture, Venkatesh Rewale, P. Tanveer, and Aditya Mundada. “Posterior Gastric Perforation – Rare Surgical Emergency: A Case Report.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, December 15, 2021, 143–46. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i58B34183>.
22. Naik, Srinivas, Satish Mahajan, Dhruv Talwar, and Gaurav Jagtap. “Acute Pancreatitis Complicating a Case of Dengue Fever: Double Trouble.” *Cureus*, November 13, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.19523>.
23. Naik, Srinivas, Dhruv Talwar, Sourya Acharya, Sunil Kumar, and Deepti Shrivastava. “Hyperemesis Gravidarum Presenting as Severe Hypokalemic Periodic Paralysis and Type II Respiratory Failure: A Different Form of Thyroid Storm?” *Cureus*, November 14, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.19566>.
24. Nandwana, Varsha, Jaskaranpreet Kaur, Ripudaman Singh, Sanobar Jaka, Gagan Kaur, Era Rawal, Keerthika Mathialagan, and Ozge C Amuk Williams. “Predictors of Hospitalization for Manic Episode in Alzheimer’s Dementia: Inputs From an Inpatient Case-Control Study.” *Cureus*, August 20, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.17333>.
25. Nanotkar, Payal, Vaishali Tembhare, Khushabu Meshram, Pooja Kasturkar, Savita Pohekar, Jaya Khandar, Samrudhi Gujar, and Achita Sawarkar. “Case Report on Sacrococcygeal (Teratomas) Germ Cell Tumor.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, October 29, 2021, 698–703. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i47A33063>.
26. Narang, Simran, Pratik Phansopkar, Laukik Vaidya, Neha Chitale, and Dushyant Bawiskar. “Bridging the Gap between Locking Compressive Plate, Skin Grafting and Rehabilitation for Tibia Fracture: A Case Report.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, July 15, 2021, 284–91. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i37A32010>.
27. Narayane, Madhavi Madhukar. “Benefits of Online Doctor Consultation During the Pandemic.” *Bioscience Biotechnology Research Communications* 14, no. 6 (June 15, 2021): 53–56. <https://doi.org/10.21786/bbrc/14.6.13>.
28. Nashine, Rupam R., Amit R. Nayak, Aliabbas Husain, Gargi D. Mudey, Hatim F. Daginawala, Lokendra Singh, and Rajpal S. Kashyap. “Development of an Improved Whole Blood Assay for Diagnosis of Latent and Active Tuberculosis Cases.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, July 27, 2021, 197–209. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i38B32115>.
29. Nathani, Harsh, Medhavi V. Joshi, and Pratik A. Phansopkar. “Impact of Early Rehabilitation in a Complex Case of Non-Union of Tibial Plafond Fracture with Osteosynthesis Associated Infection – A Case Report.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, November 24, 2021, 55–61. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i51B33511>.
30. Nayak, Sushanth Ramanath, Meenakshi Pate Yeola, Samatha Ramanath Nayak, Kratika Kamath, and Pratikshit Singh Raghuvanshi. “Role of Focused

Assessment with Sonography for Trauma in the Assessment of Blunt Abdominal Trauma – A Review.” *Journal of Evolution of Medical and Dental Sciences* 10, no. 1 (January 4, 2021): 45–50. <https://doi.org/10.14260/jemds/2021/9>.

31. Ngente, Elizabeth Remsangzuali, Vaibhav Chaudhari, Nita Fodekar, Pranali Gathe, Samiksha Ghume, Shruti Jambhulkar, and Kavita Gomase. “Protocol on Effect of Planned Teaching on Knowledge Regarding Menstrual Blood Banking among Nursing Students.” *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*, December 15, 2021, 220–24. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jpri/2021/v33i58A34109>.
32. Nikose, Sunil Sheshrao, Devashree Nikose, Shashank Jain, Aditya Kekatpure, Kiran Saoji, Rahul Chaudhary, and Gajanan Pisulkar. “Determinants of Regeneration and Strength of Hamstrings after Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction—Fate of Hamstring Tendon.” *International Orthopaedics* 45, no. 7 (July 2021): 1751–60. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00264-020-04932-z>.