



# CARDIORESPIRATORY FITNESS OF PRINTING WORKERS

MEGHNA SWAMI, BPT STUDENT

DR. AMBREEN FATIMA (PT)

Assistant Professor, Department of Physiotherapy,  
Galgotias University.

## ABSTRACT

**Background** - Cardiorespiratory fitness states to the capacity of the circulatory and respiratory systems to deliver oxygen to skeletal muscles during extended physical activity. The most essential statistic is VO<sub>2</sub>MAX. IN 2016, THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION released an official scientific statement claiming that cardiorespiratory fitness is a critical marker that should be assessed frequently in clinical practice.

**Materials & Methods:** A cross-sectional study was undertaken among the printing factory's employees. A total of 40 volunteers, both male and female, ranging in age from 18 to 45 years, took part in the study. The physical health facility in Delhi NCR conducted the research. The Astrand Treadmill Test was used to determine VO<sub>2</sub>max. The formula for calculating VO<sub>2</sub>max is  $VO_{2max} = (Time \times 1.444) + 14.99$ . Data was gathered using Google Forms and analyzed using SPSS 21 and MS Excel.

**Results:** The results are quite apparent and reveal that there is an influence on the printing industry's lung health since the VO<sub>2</sub> max is lower than it should be. (35-45 ml/kg/min > 27.4721.0381) Vo<sub>2</sub>max vs Age has a negative correlation of -.206 (Negative correlation), meaning that as age increases, the Vo<sub>2</sub> max level decreases, and Vo<sub>2</sub> max vs BMI has a negative correlation of -.148 (Negative correlation), meaning that as BMI rises, the Vo<sub>2</sub> max level decreases

**Conclusion:** As a result of the research, we can conclude that printing plant workers' lung health is affected and that their health is related to their age and body weight. Their gowns and pulmonary health must be addressed.

## INTRODUCTION

The ability of the circulatory and respiratory systems to provide oxygen to skeletal muscle mitochondria for energy synthesis during physical activity is referred to as cardiorespiratory fitness (CRF). CRF is a powerful, independent predictor of cardiovascular disease (CVD) and all-cause mortality in persons with a low or unhealthy CRF. (1) CRF is a predictor of a multitude of health indices in children and adolescents, including cardiometabolic health, CVD risk, academic achievement, and mental health. Unfortunately, only 40% of 12- to

15-year-olds worldwide are believed to have a healthy CRF at this time. CRF has also dropped over the last six decades, both in the United States and abroad. Obesity, more inactive time, lower levels of moderate to severe physical activity, and societal and economic changes may have all had a role in this drop, even though the causes are unknown(2).

The ability of the circulatory and respiratory systems to give oxygen to skeletal muscle mitochondria for energy synthesis during physical activity is referred to as cardiorespiratory endurance, cardiovascular fitness, aerobic capacity, and aerobic fitness. The body's ability to exert maximal force against an external resistance (muscular strength) or repeatedly under submaximal loads (muscular fitness) is the second component (i.e. local muscular endurance). Third, an individual's range of motion around a joint or collection of joints is referred to as flexibility. (3) Flexibility is required to avoid musculoskeletal injuries, preserve functional independence, and participate in sports and daily activities. Body composition or the percentage of total body mass made up of fat, fat-free tissue, and total body water is the fourth component(4).

Increased blood volume, myocardial contractility, ventricular compliance, and angiogenesis all lead to an increase in cardiac output, hence exercise-induced improvements in CRF may be explained by structural and functional modifications leading to a better oxygen delivery system. Rowland and colleagues observed that the cardiac index (cardiac output divided by body surface area) of trained juvenile cyclists was significantly higher than that of their non-trained peers. On the other hand, there appears to be little difference in maximal oxygen extraction between trained and untrained youth and it's unclear whether exercise-induced increases in stroke volume are due to changes in heart dimensions. Physical activity and CRF are two separate yet related concepts that are sometimes confused. (5) Physical activity is defined as skeletal muscle movement that results in energy expenditure. Exercise and training are a type of physical activity that aims to improve performance, health, or both. CRF can reflect a person's past physical activity as well as their ability to be physically active (a person with a higher CRF has more aerobic physical activity capacity), creating a virtuous cycle of an active-fit lifestyle. Physical activity is thus a habit (will do), whereas CRF is a measure of an individual's ability (can do) to engage in particular types of aerobic physical activity. (6)

## STATEMENT QUESTION

Is there any effect on the cardiorespiratory fitness of printing workers?

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main aim of the study is to find out cardiorespiratory fitness in printing workers.

The main objective of this study is to find out cardiorespiratory fitness in printing workers.

## HYPOTHESIS

NULL HYPOTHESIS: No lack of cardiorespiratory fitness of printing workers.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS: Lack of cardiorespiratory fitness of printing workers.

## TOOLS USED:

1. Astrand Treadmill Test

### Astrand Treadmill Test

**Description:** You can use the Astrand Treadmill Test to get a quick and accurate measurement of VO<sub>2</sub>max. The Astrand protocol maintains a constant running speed with a 2.5% increase in gradient every two minutes, until exhaustion. This test protocol was first described by Per-Olof Astrand (1952). (29)

## METHODOLOGY

Type of study: An Experimental Study

Sampling: Simple Random Sampling

Area of Project: Delhi NCR

Sampling Method:

- No of Sample:61
- Sample place: Multicentric Grounds

### Inclusion Criteria:

- 1} Age 30-50 years
- 2) Printing workers

### Exclusion Criteria:

- 1) Unhealthy workers
- 2) Involved in fitness training

### Instrumentation:

1. Clipboard and pen

## PROCEDURE

The volunteers who agreed to participate in the study were there. Everyone was assured that their information would be kept private. All participants completed the consent form and gave their consent for the study before filling out demographic information such as their name, age, height, weight, gender, and occupation. Following this, the following measures were implemented:

1. Consent Form: This form included information on the study's goal and proposed outcomes, as well as a way for participants to express their consent and participate anonymously. The subjects were assured that their information would be kept private and that they would not be compensated or given credit for their involvement in the study because it was voluntary.
2. Following the completion of the consent form, demographic information was collected, including name, age, gender, height, occupation, and address.
3. Then the subjects were asked to walk on treadmill speed is set to 5 miles/hr (8 km/hr)
4. The subject runs at this speed for three minutes, at 0% grade. The gradient is then increased to 2.5% while maintaining the same speed.

5. After every two minutes thereafter, the gradient is increased by 2.5% (keeping the same speed)
6. When the person is unable to continue, it was stopped the stopwatch and records the time.
7. The scores were calculated of the readings VO<sub>2</sub>max



FIG 3.1: SUBJECT PERFORMING ASTRAND TREADMILL TEST

## RESULTS

The results are quite apparent and reveal that there is an influence on the printing industry's lung health since the VO<sub>2</sub> max is lower than it should be. (35-45 ml/kg/min > 27.4721.0381) Vo<sub>2</sub>max vs Age has a negative correlation of -.206 (Negative correlation), meaning that as age increases, the Vo<sub>2</sub> max level decreases, and Vo<sub>2</sub> max vs BMI has a negative correlation of -.148 (Negative correlation), meaning that as BMI rises, the Vo<sub>2</sub> max level decreases.

**LIST OF TABLES:**

TABLE NO 1: DEMOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

	AGE	HEIGHT(cm)	WEIGHT	BMI
Mean	23.13	164.4434	65.05	23.874
N	61	61	61	61
Std. Deviation	1.812	10.52960	13.325	3.2038

TABLE NO 2: GENDER RATIO

		GENDER			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Female	33	54.1	54.1	54.1
	Male	28	45.9	45.9	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

TABLE NO 3: VO2 MAX(KG/ML/MIN) STATISTICS

	MEAN±SD	T-TEST	P-VALUE
vo2 max(kg/ml/min)	27.472±1.0381	206.684	P<0.005

TABLE NO 4. CORRELATION OF AGE VS VO2 MAX AND BMI

	VO2 MAX(KG/ML/MIN)
AGE	-.206
BMI	-.148

**DISCUSSION**

This study aimed at studying the pulmonary health in printing workers. This study was designed to see whether there are any effects on the lung's health of working in a printing factory. The results revealed that there are effects on pulmonary health of the workers working in printing factories. The study shows a lower Vo2max level in the workers.

This result is similar to the study by Ryan Donovan et al. published in 2009 that came to the same conclusion. The goal of this study was to document the levels of cardiorespiratory fitness and metabolic syndrome in firemen, as well as to see if there was a link between the two. In male firefighters, higher levels of cardiorespiratory fitness

are linked to a better metabolic profile. For firefighters' health and safety, comprehensive cardiovascular disease risk factor management and cardiorespiratory fitness enhancement are critical(6).

This study is likewise similar to the 2015 study by Orjan Ekblom et al. The researchers wanted to look at the independent relationship between cardiorespiratory fitness and physical activity pattern and the metabolic syndrome (MetS), as well as the predictive value of uniaxial and triaxial accelerometry. The discovery that different types of physical activity have independent relationships with the MetS opens up new avenues for behavior change, with an emphasis on both exercise and everyday life. It is recommended that tri-axial accelerometry be utilized when determining a patient's risk status(1).

M Karpansalo et al. published a study in 2002. To see if strong cardiorespiratory fitness can keep Finnish middle-aged men from retiring due to impairment. Physical fitness is adversely related to the likelihood of receiving a disability pension, particularly for those suffering from cardiovascular disorders(10).

#### LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY:

- 1}The sample size included in the study could have been more.
- 2}The physical activity performed could be more vigorous.

#### FUTURE RESEARCH:

- 1}The study can be used for other factory workers.
- 2}Further researches can be done with a properly structured exercise program.

#### **CONCLUSION**

As a result of the research, we can conclude that printing plant workers' lung health is affected and that their health is related to their age and body weight. Their gowns and pulmonary health must be addressed.

#### **REFERENCES**

1. Ekblom Ö, Ekblom-Bak E, Rosengren A, Hallsten M, Bergström G, Börjesson M. Cardiorespiratory fitness, sedentary behaviour and physical activity are independently associated with the metabolic syndrome, results from the SCAPIS pilot study. PLoS ONE. 2015;10(6):1–18.



2. Artins WARM, Onseca ROMCF, Unardi CLCL. BODY COMPOSITION IS STRONGLY ASSOCIATED WITH CARDIORESPIRATORY FITNESS IN A LARGE BRAZILIAN MILITARY FIREFIGHTER COHORT: THE BRAZILIAN FIREFIGHTERS STUDY. 2016;30(1):33–8.
3. Henriksson H, Henriksson P, Tynelius P, Ekstedt M, Berglind D, Labayen I, et al. Cardiorespiratory fitness, muscular strength, and obesity in adolescence and later chronic disability due to cardiovascular disease: A cohort study of 1 million men. *European Heart Journal*. 2020;41(15):1503–10.
4. Raghuvveer G, Hartz J, Lubans DR, Takken T, Wiltz JL, Mietus-Snyder M, et al. Cardiorespiratory Fitness in Youth: An Important Marker of Health: A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association. *Circulation*. 2020;E101–18.
5. Gill JMR. Physical activity, cardiorespiratory fitness and insulin resistance: A short update. *Current Opinion in Lipidology*. 2007;18(1):47–52.
6. Donovan R, Nelson T, Peel J, Lipsey T, Voyles W, Israel RG. Cardiorespiratory fitness and the metabolic syndrome in firefighters. *Occupational Medicine*. 2009;59(7):487–92.
7. Korshøj M, Krstrup P, Jespersen T, Søgaard K, Skotte JH, Holtermann A. A 24-h assessment of physical activity and cardio-respiratory fitness among female hospital cleaners: A pilot study. *Ergonomics*. 2013;56(6):935–43.
8. Lakka TA, Kauhanen J, Salonen JT. Conditioning leisure time physical activity and cardiorespiratory fitness in sociodemographic groups of middle-aged men in Eastern Finland. *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 1996;25(1):86–93.
9. Dugmore LD, Tipson RJ, Phillips MH, Flint EJ, Stentiford NH, Bone MF, et al. Changes in cardiorespiratory fitness, psychological wellbeing, quality of life, and vocational status following a 12 month cardiac exercise rehabilitation programme. *Heart*. 1999;81(4):359–66.
10. M Karpansalo, T A Lakka, P Manninen, J Kauhanen, R Rauramaa JTS. Cardiorespiratory fitness and risk of disability pension: a prospective population based study in Finnish men. 2003;(December 1989):765–70.
11. Kokkinos P, Myers J. Cardiorespiratory Fitness in Cardiometabolic Diseases. *Cardiorespiratory Fitness in Cardiometabolic Diseases*. 2019;1–9.
12. Després JP. Physical Activity, Sedentary Behaviours, and Cardiovascular Health: When Will Cardiorespiratory Fitness Become a Vital Sign? *Canadian Journal of Cardiology*. 2016;32(4):505–13.
13. Sawada SS, Lee IM, Naito H, Noguchi J, Tsukamoto K, Muto T, et al. Long-term trends in cardiorespiratory fitness and the incidence of type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes Care*. 2010;33(6):1353–7.
14. Leischik R, Strauss M, Dworrak B, Littwitz H, Lazic JS, Horlitz M. Physical activity, cardiorespiratory fitness and carotid intima thickness: sedentary occupation as risk factor for atherosclerosis and obesity. 2015;(September):3157–68.
15. Dankner R, Geulayov G, Farber N, Novikov I, Segev S, Sela BA. Cardiorespiratory fitness and plasma homocysteine levels in adult males and females. *Israel Medical Association Journal*. 2009;11(2):78–82.
16. Matsuo T, So R. 1126 A new practical procedure for assessing cardiorespiratory fitness in workplace health check-ups. In 2018. p. A168.2-A168.
17. Bachmann JM, DeFina LF, Franzini L, Gao A, Leonard DS, Cooper KH, et al. Cardiorespiratory Fitness in Middle Age and Health Care Costs in Later Life. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*. 2015;66(17):1876–85.
18. Baur DM, Christophi CA, Tsismenakis AJ, Cook EF, Kales SN. Cardiorespiratory fitness predicts cardiovascular risk profiles in career firefighters. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. 2011;53(10):1155–60.



19. Bernaards CM, Proper KI, Hildebrandt VH. Physical activity, cardiorespiratory fitness, and body mass index in relationship to work productivity and sickness absence in computer workers with preexisting neck and upper limb symptoms. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. 2007;49(6):633–40.
20. Christensen JR, Kongstad MB, Sjogaard G, Sogaard K. Sickness presenteeism among health care workers and the effect of BMI, cardiorespiratory fitness, and muscle strength. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. 2015;57(12):e146–52.
21. Tonello L, Reichert FF, Oliveira-Silva I, del Rosso S, Leicht AS, Boulosa DA. Correlates of heart rate measures with incidental physical activity and cardiorespiratory fitness in overweight female workers. *Frontiers in Physiology*. 2016;6(JAN):1–11.
22. Kokkinos PF, Holland JC, Pittaras AE, Narayan P, Dotson CO, Papademetriou V. Cardiorespiratory fitness and coronary heart disease risk factor association in women. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*. 1995;26(2):358–64.
23. Rappaport EB. METABOLIC SYNDROME IS INVERSELY RELATED TO CARDIORESPIRATORY FITNESS IN MALE CAREER FIREFIGHTERS. 2004;26(9):1–6.
24. Yook YS. Firefighters' occupational stress and its correlations with cardiorespiratory fitness, arterial stiffness, heart rate variability, and sleep quality. *PLoS ONE*. 2019;14(12):1–9.
25. Schilling R, Colledge F, Pühse U, Gerber M. Stress-buffering effects of physical activity and cardiorespiratory fitness on metabolic syndrome: A prospective study in police officers. *PLoS ONE*. 2020;15(7 July):1–21.
26. Pronk NP, Martinson B, Kessler RC, Beck AL, Simon GE, Wang P. The Association between Work Performance and Physical Activity, Cardiorespiratory Fitness, and Obesity. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. 2004;46(1):19–25.
27. Lang JJ, Tremblay MS, Ortega FB, Ruiz JR, Tomkinson GR. Review of criterion-referenced standards for cardiorespiratory fitness: what percentage of 1 142 026 international children and youth are apparently healthy? *British journal of sports medicine*. 2019;53(15):953–8.
28. Pakkala A, Sampath V. A physiological study of short term gutkha chewing on cardio-respiratory fitness in middle distance runners. *Saudi Journal of Sports Medicine*. 2013;13(1):34.
29. Liberati A, Altman D, Tetzlaff J, Mulrow C, Gotzsche P, Loannidis J, et al. Criterion validation of two submaximal aerobic fitness tests, the self-monitoring Fox-walk test and the Åstrand cycle test in people with rheumatoid arthritis [Internet]. Vol. 388, *Nature*. 2018. p. 539–47. Available from: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2474/15/305>