

**RESEARCH PROJECT ON**  
**EFFECTS OF HAND THERAPY: A COMPARATIVE**  
**STUDY WITH TETRAPLEGIC PATIENTS**

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## ABSTRACT

This is a quantitative type research and the design is classic experimental. The objective of the study is to determine the effect of hand therapy, which improves functional independence (feeding) for tetraplegic patients. Setting of the study is the Occupational therapy department of the Centre for the rehabilitation of the paralyzed in Bangladesh. In this study ten-tetraplegic sample were selected randomly. Five participants were in experimental group and other five were in control group. Six weeks treatments were applied for the experimental group. Treatments were given one hour daily and six days in a week. And in control group treatments were not provided, passive range of movement was only given for the hand to prevent contracture and maintain normal range of movement. At the beginning of the study both group's (experimental and control group) performance on feeding ability were assessed (pre test) by the Functional Independence Measure and Hand function scale (hand function ability). After giving six weeks treatment to the experimental group, assessment were done again as a post test on the same group's performance by the same scales and compare change between pre & posttest of the both groups (experimental & control).

✓ In this study, data were analyzed by using unrelated 't' test. Results are significant. Therefore, hypothesis can be proved that hand therapy is effective for tetraplegic patients to improving feeding abilities.