

Relax in a Sauna, Hammam or SPA

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Disclosure Statement of Financial Interest

I currently have, or have had over the last two years, an affiliation or financial interests or interests of any order with a company or I receive compensation or fees or research grants with a commercial company:

Speaker's name: Lisa Richard, Saint-Orens-De-Gameville

✓ I do not have any potential conflict of interest



- « Sanitas per aquam »
- City of Spa, Belgium: thermal center since XVIth century
- Establishment promoting well-being and relaxation
- By aquatic activities
- Hot water baths, hydromassage, sauna, hammam
- Rest area



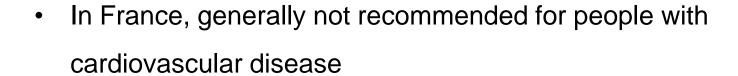






- Traditional activity in Finland for 2000 years
- Increasingly widespread around the world

- Stimulates circulation and breathing
- Reduces muscle tension
- Rejuvenates skin and body through sweating





- Exposure to dry heat (70-90 ° c)
- during 5 to 20 min
- Alternating with cooling periods
- following with consumption of liquids +++



- Small piece of unpainted wood (spruce, pine)
- Dry heat (wood stove, electric stove)
- Humidity 10-20%, temporarily increased by throwing water on the hot rocks
- Temperature 80 ° C (face), 30 ° C (floor)





Finnish sauna: Physiological effects on the cardiovascular system

Effect	Direction	Magnitude	
Skin temperature	1	Within a few minutes up to 40°C	
Rectal temperature	1	By 0.2°C at 72°C for 15 minutes	
		By 0.4°C at 92°C for 20 minutes	
		By 1.0°C at 80°C for 30 minutes	
Sweating	1	Sweat is secreted at a rate of 0.6 to 1.0 kg/hour at	
		80° to 90°C, with an average total secretion of	
		0.5 kg during a typical sauna bath	
Skin blood flow	↑	From 5%–10% to 50%–70% of cardiac output	
		(from about 0.5 to 7 L/minute)	
Blood flow to internal organs	\downarrow	Renal blood flow is decreased by 0.4 L/minute	
		Splanchnic blood flow is decreased by	
		0.6 L/minute	
Blood flow to muscles		By 0.2 L/minute	
Heart rate		Up to 100 beats per minute during moderate	
		sauna bathing in accustomed subjects	
		Up to 150 beats per minute during intense sauna	
		bathing or in unaccustomed subjects	
Cardiac output		From 5–6 L/minute up to 9–10 L/minute	
Cardiac stroke volume		Unchanged	
Systolic blood pressure		Unchanged	
		Or decreased by 8 to 31 mm Hg	
		Or increased by 9 to 21 mm Hg	
Diastolic blood pressure		Unchanged	
		Or decreased by 6 to 39 mm Hg	



Cardiovascular benefits of sauna bathing

- Prospective cohort study, follow-up 20,7 years, Finland
- 2315 men (42-60 y.o), mean temperature of sauna 79°c

	Sudden Cardiac Death	Fatal Coronary Heart Disease	Fatal Cardiovascular Disease	All Cause Mortality
Frequency of Sauna (multivariable adjusted)	RR	RR	RR	RR
2-3 times /week	-22%	-23%	-27%	-26%
4-7 times /week	-63%	-48%	-50%	-40%
Duration of Sauna Bathing	RR	RR	RR	RR
11-19 min	-7%	-10%	-8%	-9%
> 19 min	-52%	-36%	-24%	-17%

- Increased frequency of sauna bathing is associated with a reduced risk of SCD, CHD, CVD, and all-cause mortality
- Limits:
 - confoundings: socioeconomic status and lower CV risk
 - > Caution with participants with poor cardiorespiratory fitness and pre-existing disease

Cardiovascular benefits of sauna best bathing

	Type of study	Results	References		
Cardiovascular mortality	 prospective cohort study: 1688 participants, mean age 63, women 51.4%, follow-up 15 years 	 CVD mortality linearly with increasing sauna sessions per week and duration of session In both men and women 	• Laukkanen et al, BMC Med, 2018; 16: 219.		
Hypertension	 Prospective cohort 1261 men, 42-60 yo, follow up 24,7 years 16 patients, untreated hypertension 	 RR of hypertension (-17 to 47%) Exercise followed by sauna session: decrease SBP short term and 24 h 	 Zacchardi et al, American Journal of Hypertension, 2017 Gayda et al, Jnl of clinical Hypertension 2012 		
Coronary Heart Disease /CV risk factor	 25 men with at least one coronary risk factor 117 post-myocardial infarction patients, 82% regular sauna bath , follow up 10 years 	 † vascular endothelial function High tolerance, no ischemic event or arrhythmia 	 Imamura et al, JACC, 2001 Luurila et al, Ann Clin Res 1988 		
Heart Failure	• 20 patients, sauna 60°c daily, 2 weeks	↑ vascular endothelial function, ↓ symptoms, ↓ BNP	Kihara et al, JACC 2002		
	 30 patients, sauna 60°c daily, 2 weeks 	 ↓ ventricular arrythmia, ↑ HR variability, ↓ BNP 	Kihara et al, Circ J 2004		
Stroke	 Propective cohort study: 1628 men and women, mean age 63, median follow up 15 years Without history of stroke 	 ↓ RR 14% (2-3 sessions /week) ↓ RR 61% (4-7 sessions /week) 	Kunutsor et al, Neurology, 2018		

General recommendations for patients with CVD



• Death related to sauna bathing is rare+++ (alcohol ++, undiagnosed CVD, hyperthermia..)



- Low risk: stable angina, controlled hypertension, compensated heart failure
- People already accustomed to sauna bathing
- Short duration of sauna bathing, temperature 60 °to 80 °C



- Acute decompensation heart failure
- Aevere aortic stenosis
- Uncontrolled hypertension, orthostatic hypotension
- People who consumed alcohol in large quantities



Specific recommendations for patients with CVD

- Temperature should not be too hot: 60°c 80°c
- First sit on the lower benches for 2-3 minutes, as an adaptation period
- Make short sessions in the sauna (5 -10 minutes)
- After exposure, it is recommended to be well hydrated to avoid hypotensive reactions.
- Avoid immersing yourself in cold water
- Avoid entering in a jacuzzi after the session
- Depending on the level of comfort and energy, the sauna / rest sessions can be repeated 2 to 3 times
- Sauna sessions can be extended from 5 min to 15 min after some adaptation
- Rest periods should last 10 to 15 minutes.
- Avoid sauna bath alone, avoid consumption of alcohol before
- Leave immediately if it is uncomfortable















Hammam



- Soft and warm steam bath
- Temperature 45-50°c, 100% humidity
- Deep relaxation promoting sleep , ↓ muscle tension, purifies the skin
- CV effects: vasodilatation, ↑ FC, ↑ cardiac output...
- Less efficient thermoregulation compared to sauna

 => ↑ temperature, , ↑ risk of hypotension, ↑ tachycardia
- Contraindications: similar to sauna bath
- Recommandations:
 - Short periods of time to start (5-10 min)
 - Alternated with cooling periods and rest
 - Leave immediately if it is uncomfortable
 - Not alone for the first time







Balneotherapy





Specific effects of water immersion

Temperature

Thermoneutrality 32-34°c Analgesic and muscle relaxant effect

Archimede's principle

Reduced body weight 90%

Obesity, osteoarticular pathologies ++

Hydrostatic pressure

depends on the water height++

↑ preload,↑ Rap , ↑Pcap

↓ PR, ↓ HR, ↓ post charge, ↑ SV



Body position

↑Pcap lying down in water



activity in water

e.g: water aerobics

↑ resistance with speed of movement



Relax





- Excellent anti stress activity
- Sauna: clinical studies have showed cardiovascular benefits
- Sauna, hammam, SPA are safe:
 - => no contraindication for patients with stable cardiovascular disease
- Respecting specific recommendations +++



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION